CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

B.A. in COMMUNICATION STUDIES
Suggested 4-Year Academic Flowchart

2022-2026 Catalog

Updated 5/2/2022

FRESHMAN Fall	FRESHMAN Winter	FRESHMAN Spring	SOPHOMORE Fall	SOPHOMORE Winter	SOPHOMORE Spring	JUNIOR Fall	JUNIOR Winter	JUNIOR Spring	SENIOR Fall	SENIOR Winter	SENIOR Spring
Introduction to the COMS Major **COMS 100 (2)**		*Performance, Literature, & Culture* **COMS 208 (4)[1]** (GE Areas A1 & A2 w/min C-) [C1]		*Media Studies* **COMS 215 (4)** (GE Area A w/min C-. Recom: COMS 100)				*Undergraduate Seminar* **COMS 460 (1)** (Jr Standing; COMS 312 or 313; COMS 332 or 385)			
	Rhetorical Studies **COMS 205 (4)** (GE Area A w/min C-. Recom: COMS 100)		*Small Group Communication* **COMS 217 (4)** (GE Area A1 w/min C-)			Research Methods in Communication Studies: **COMS 312 or 313 (4)** (Jr Standing; COMS 206; STAT 217 or 218)			*Senior Project* **COMS 461 (3)** (COMS 460)		
	Communication Theory **COMS 206 (4)** (GE Area A w/min C-)		*Forensic Activity* **COMS 250 (2)** (GE Area A1 w/min C-)			*Upper-Division COMS elective* **COMS 300-400 level (4)[3,4]** *			*Upper-Division COMS elective* **COMS 300-400 level (4)[3,4]** *		
Oral Communication **COMS 101 or COMS 102 (4)**** [A1]		*Interpersonal Communication* **COMS 211 (4)[1]** (GE Area A1 w/min C-) [E]			*Intercultural Communication* **COMS 316 (4)[1]** (Jr Stdg; GE A, B4, & 1 Lower-Div D) [Upper-Div D] [USCP]				*Upper-Division COMS elective* **COMS 300-400 level (4)[3,4]** *		
Expository Writing **ENGL 133 or ENGL 134 (4)**** [A2]		*Organizational Communication* **COMS 213 (4)** (GE Area A2 w/min C-)			Criticism: **COMS 332 or 385 (4)** (Jr Standing; GE Area A w/min C-. Recom: COMS 205 & 215/330)				**Focus Area Elective (4)[2]** *		
						Focus Area Elective (4)[2] *			**Focus Area Elective (4)[2]** *		
						Focus Area Elective (4)[2] *			**Focus Area Elective (4)[2]** *		
Statistics: **STAT 217 or 218 (4)[1]*** [B4]			**GE (4)** **			**Focus Area Elective (4)[2]** *					
			GE (4) **			**GE (4)** **					
Free Elective (4) Recommend Foreign Language 101	**Free Elective (4)** Recommend Foreign Language 102	Modern Language 103-Level **Refer to Catalog (4)** Can be taken anytime during Freshman Year	**GE (4)** **			**GE (4)** **			**GE (4)** **		
			GE (4) **			**GE (4)** **			**Free Elective (4)** **		
			GE (4) **			**Free Elective (4)** **			**Free Elective (4)** **		
Reasoning, Argumentation, & Writing **COMS 126, 145, ENGL 145, 147, ES 145, PHIL 126, or WGQS 145 (4)[6]**** (Completion of GE A2 with a C- or better) [A3]			**GE (4)** **						**Free Elective (4)** **		
			GE (4) **			**Graduation Writing Requirement GWR*** (Students can attempt to fulfill the requirement after 90 earned units; students should complete the requirement before senior year)			**Free Elective (4)** **		
GE (4) **			**Free Elective (4)** **						**Free Elective (4)** **		
Yearly Total		**46**			**46**			**45**			**43**
										TOTAL:	

Notes:

MOST GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES CAN BE TAKEN IN ANY ORDER AS LONG AS PREREQUISITES ARE MET

* Refer to current catalog for prerequisites.

**One course from each of the following GE areas must be completed: A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, Upper-Division B, C2, Lower-Division C Elective, Upper-Division C, D1, D2, Lower-Division F, and GE Electives (8). Upper-Division B and Upper-Division C should be taken only after Junior standing is reached (90 units).

Upper-Division C cannot be fulfilled with COMS courses.

Refer to online catalog for GE course selection and Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR).

[1] Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

[2] Students should consult with a faculty advisor to make a course plan for the focus area of their choice.

[3] Only 4 units of supervised instruction, including COMS 400, 450, and 485, may be counted here.

[4] Courses taken to meet the focus area cannot double count as a COMS Elective.

[5] 8 units of free electives may need to be at the 300-400 level to ensure completion of the required minimum of 60 units of upper-division. If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

[6] COMS 126 is the recommended A3 course for COMS majors.

Legend:

Course Title
Course # (Units)
(Prerequisite)
[GE Area]

- **Major (84)**
- **Support (8)**
- **General Ed. (56)**
- **Free Electives (32)[5]**