

Health Science and Communication Studies, BS

The combined Bachelor of Science degree program in health science and communication studies offers an interdisciplinary approach to public health communication. Students combine courses from health sciences and communication studies to learn about health and illness and the important role of communication in shaping the public's understanding of health issues. The interdisciplinary curriculum is enhanced by experiential learning opportunities and is designed to prepare students for challenging careers that involve crafting messages about health, developing strategies for promoting healthcare services, and specific applications such as disease awareness and prevention.

Program Requirements

- Concentrations and course offerings may vary by campus and/or by program modality. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for the course availability each term at your campus or within your program modality.
- Certain options within the program may be *required* at certain campuses or for certain program modalities. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for requirements at your campus or for your program modality.

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Communication Studies Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 1101	Introduction to Communication Studies	4
COMM 1112	Public Speaking	4
or COMM 2301	Communication Research Methods	

Code	Title	Hours
Foundation Course		
Complete one of the following:		4
COMM 1210	Persuasion and Rhetoric	
COMM 1225	Communication Theory	
COMM 1231	Principles of Organizational Communication	
COMM 1255	Communication in a Digital Age	

Cluster Course		
Complete one of the following:		4
COMM 1131	Sex, Relationships, and Communication	
COMM 2303	Global and Intercultural Communication	
COMM 2304	Communication and Gender	
COMM 2501	Communication Law	
COMM 2551	Free Speech in Cyberspace	

Writing-Intensive		
Complete two of the following:		8
COMM 3200	Mobile Communication	
COMM 3201	Health Communication	
COMM 3230	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 3304	Communication and Inclusion	
COMM 3320	Political Communication	
COMM 3415	Communication Criticism	

COMM 3445	Public Relations Principles
COMM 3500	Environmental Issues, Communication, and the Media
COMM 3501	Free Speech: Law and Practice
COMM 3530	Communication and Sexualities
COMM 3532	Theories of Conflict and Negotiation
COMM 4535	Nonverbal Social Interaction
COMM 4605	Youth and Communication Technology
COMM 4631	Crisis Communication and Image Management

Communication Studies Electives

Complete three additional COMM courses. 12

Health Science Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Public Health Core		
PHTH 1260 or PHTH 1261	The American Healthcare System Comparative Healthcare Systems	4
PHTH 2210	Foundations of Biostatistics	4
PHTH 2300 or PHTH 2301	Communication Skills for the Health Professions Communication Skills for the Health Professions—Global	4
PHTH 2350 or PHTH 2351	Community and Public Health Community and Public Health - Global	4
PHTH 2515	Healthcare Policy and Administration	4
PHTH 4120	Global Perspectives on Discrimination and Health	4
PHTH 4202	Principles of Epidemiology in Medicine and Public Health	4
PHTH 4540	Health Education and Program Planning	4
Life Sciences		
BIOL 1111 and BIOL 1112	General Biology 1 and Lab for BIOL 1111	5
BIOL 1113 and BIOL 1114	General Biology 2 and Lab for BIOL 1113	5
CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163	General Chemistry for Science Majors and Lab for CHEM 1161 and Recitation for CHEM 1161	5
MATH 1241	Calculus 1	4
PSYC 1101	Foundations of Psychology	4

Other Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Intro to College		
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000	College: An Introduction Communication Studies at Northeastern	1
Professional Development		
HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000	Professional Development for Bouvé Co-op Professional Development for Co-op	1
Writing		
ENGW 1111	First-Year Writing	4
ENGW 3306	Advanced Writing in the Health Professions (or other Advanced Writing course)	4

Electives

Complete 28 semester hours of electives. 28

Capstone and Integrative Course

Code	Title	Hours
Complete this program's integrative course requirement through a capstone course, a capstone project, or through an Honors Project.		3-4

Capstone Course Options

COMM 4102	Health Communication Campaigns
HINF 5301	Evaluating Health Technologies
PHTH 4515	Critical Issues in Health and Public Health Policy
PHTH 4616	Addressing Rural Health Inequities
PHTH 5214	Environmental Health
PHTH 5230	Global Health
PHTH 5236	Food, Nutrition, and Health
PHTH 5603	Qualitative Methods

Capstone Project Options

HSCI 4720	Health Science Capstone—Service (must complete 0-credit HSCI 4700 as prerequisite)
HSCI 4730	Health Science Capstone—Research (must complete 0-credit HSCI 4700 as prerequisite)

Health Science Honors Project Option

Must meet GPA requirement and complete both courses:*

HSCI 4970 and HSCI 4971	Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 and Junior/Senior Honors Project 2
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*HSCI 4970 will count as 4 semester hours toward general electives.

Health Sciences Major Requirement

A grade of C or higher is required for all BIOL, CHEM, HLTH, HSCI, MATH, and PHTH courses.

Communication Studies Major Requirement

No more than two grades below a C in COMM courses may be used to fulfill degree requirements.

Program Requirement

133 total semester hours required

Plan of Study

Sample Plans of Study

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SPRING/SUMMER 1

Year 1								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
BIOL 1111		4 BIOL 1113		4 PHTH core		4 Vacation		0
BIOL 1112	1	BIOL 1114		1 Elective		4		
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000		1 CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163		5				
MATH 1241	4	ENGW 1111		4				
PHTH 1260	4	Elective		4				
PSYC 1101	4							
	18		18		8			0
Year 2								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
COMM 1101		4 Co-op		Co-op		ENGW 3306		4
COMM 1112 or 2301	4	Elective		4		Elective		4
HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000	1							
PHTH 2210	4							
COMM elective	4							
	17		4		0			8
Year 3								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
Cluster course		4 Co-op		Co-op		PHTH core		4
Foundation course	4	Elective		4		PHTH core		4
PHTH core	4							

PHTH core	4							
	16		4			0		8
Year 4								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours					
COMM WI course	4	COMM WI course	4					
PHTH core	4	COMM elective	4					
COMM elective	4	Electives	8					
Capstone course	4							
	16		16					

Total Hours: 133

FIVE YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SUMMER 2/FALL

Year 1								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
BIOL 1111	4	BIOL 1113	4	Vacation	0	Vacation	0	0
BIOL 1112	1	BIOL 1114	1					
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000	1	CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163	5					
MATH 1241	4	ENGW 1111	4					
PHTH 1260	4	Elective	4					
PSYC 1101	4							
	18		18		0			0

Year 2								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
COMM 1101	4	HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000	1	Vacation	0	Co-op	0	0
COMM 1112 or 2301	4	Cluster course	4					
PHTH core	4	Foundation course	4					
PHTH core	4	Elective	4					
		PHTH 2210	4					
	16		17		0			0

Year 3								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
Co-op	0	ENGW 3306	4	Vacation	0	Vacation	0	0
		PHTH core	4					
		COMM electives	8					
	0		16		0			0

Year 4								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
COMM WI course	4	Co-op	0	Co-op	0	Vacation	0	0
PHTH core courses	8							
COMM elective	4							
	16		0		0			0

Year 5								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours					
COMM WI course	4	Electives	12					
Electives	8	Capstone course	4					
PHTH core	4							
	16		16					

Total Hours: 133