Communication Studies and Graphic and Information Design, BA

The Department of Communication Studies and the Department of Art + Design offer a combined major in communication studies and graphic and information design. Students interested in the combined major integrate the study of communication skills and processes with the design of message and meaning, integrating text, image, and data.

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/).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

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

NUpath requirements Natural and Designed World (ND), Creative Expression/Innovation (EI), Formal and Quantitative Reasoning (FQ), Analyzing and Using Data (AD), and Differences and Diversity (DD) may be met through electives in the major.

Communication Studies Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Communication Studies Common Requirements		
COMM 1101	Introduction to Communication Studies	4
COMM 1112	Public Speaking	4
or COMM 2301	Communication Research Methods	
Foundation Courses		
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 Electives		
Complete three COMM courses.		12

Graphic and Information Design Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Art and Design at Northeastern		
ARTF 1000	Art and Design at Northeastern	1
Art and Design Fundamentals Required		
ARTF 1220	Elements of Visual Composition (with optional ARTF 1221)	2
Art and Design Fundamentals Electives		
Complete three of the following:		6
ARTF 1200	Representational Drawing	
ARTF 1210	Abstract Drawing	
ARTF 1230 and ARTF 1231	Making with Form and Materials and Making with Form and Materials Tools	
ARTF 1240 and ARTF 1241	Making with Video, Sound, and Animation and Making with Video, Sound, and Animation Tools	
ARTF 1250 and ARTF 1251	Designing Interactive Experiences and Designing Interactive Experiences Tools	
Art and Design History		
Complete any one ARTH course as long as prerequisites have been met.		4
Design		
ARTG 1001 and ARTD 1002	Design Perspectives: An Introduction to Design in the World and Seminar for ARTD 1001	4
ARTG 1270 and 1270	Design: Process + Practices and Design: Process + Practices	4
ARTG 1290 and ARTG 1291	Typographic Systems and Studio for Typographic Systems	4
ARTG 2252	Graphic Design Principles	4
ARTG 3444	Topics in Information Design Inquiry	4
Degree Project		
ARTG 4550	Design Degree Project	4
Art and Design Electives		
Complete one course with the corresponding tools course, if indicated, from the following:		4-5
ARTD 2360 and ARTD 2361	Introduction to Photography and Photo Tools	
ARTD 2380 and ARTD 2381	Video Basics and Video Tools	
ARTG 2262 and ARTG 2263	Prototyping with Code and Lab for ARTG 2262	
ARTG 2400 and ARTG 2401	Interaction Design Principles and Interaction Design Principles Tools	

ARTG 3350	Typography 2
ARTG 3452	Topics In Graphic Design Inquiry
ARTG 3460	Identity and Brand Design
ARTG 4554	Typography 3

Integrative Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Integrative Courses		
COMM 2200	Visual Communication	4
The following course is already required in major:		
ARTG 4550	Design Degree Project	

Communication Studies Grade Requirement

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

Communication Studies and Graphic and Information Design Major Credit Requirement

84 semester hours required in the major

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

Plan of Study
Sample Four Years, Two Co-ops in Summer 2/Fall

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ARTF 1000 or COMM 1000	1	ARTG 1270 and ARTG 1271	4	ARTG 1290 and ARTG 1291	4	Elective	4
ARTF 1220 (with optional ARTF 1221)	2	COMM 1112 or 2301	4	Communication studies cluster course	4	Elective	4
Art and Design Fundamentals Elective 1	2	Communication studies foundation course	4				
ARTG 1001 and ARTG 1002	4	Art History Elective	4				
COMM 1101	4						
ENGW 1111	4						
	17		**16**		**8**		**8**

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ARTG 2252	4	EEAM 2000	1	Elective	4	Co-op	0
Art and Design Fundamentals Elective 2	2	Communication studies elective 1	4	Elective	4		
Art and Design Fundamentals Elective 3	2	Communication studies elective 2	4		4		
Communication studies writing-intensive 1	4	Design option 2	4		4		
Design option 1	4	Elective	4		4		
	16		**17**		**8**		**0**

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	ENGW 3314 or 3315	4	Communication studies elective 3	4	Co-op	0
		Communication writing-intensive 2	4	Elective	4		4
		Design elective	4		4		
		Elective	4		4		
	0		**16**		**8**		**0**

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Co-op	0	ARTG 4550	4
		COMM 2200	4
		Art and Design elective	4
		Elective	4
	0		**16**

Total Hours: 130