**Communication (COM)**

**COM 105 Forensic Activities**

3 Hours  
Prerequisites: None  
3 hours weekly (3-0)  
Students may acquire no more than 4 hours credit and not more than 2 hours per year. Hours are to be secured for participating in forensic activities. Designed to provide students with contest speaking experience and to develop skills in concentrated areas of speech.

**COM 115 Speech**

IAI – C2 900  
3 Hours  
Prerequisites: None  
3 hours weekly (3-0)  
COM 115 combines communication theory with the practice of oral communication skills. This course: (1) develops awareness of the communication process; (2) provides invention, organizational, and expressive strategies; (3) promotes understanding of an adaptation to a variety of communication contexts; and (4) emphasizes critical skills in listening, reading, thinking, and speaking. Students are expected to prepare and give at least three substantial speeches, including both informative and persuasive speech assignments. All classes require face-to-face performance of the three substantial speeches with the class and the instructor serving as an in-class audience.

**COM 116 Interpersonal Communication**

3 Hours  
Prerequisites: None  
3 hours weekly (3-0)  
Study of communication theory and its application to interpersonal relations. Relationship skills will be explored, analyzed, and practiced. Among the topics covered are the communication process, the self as communicator, listening, verbal and nonverbal communication, cooperation and conflict management. Students will also develop their individual interpersonal communication skills by increasing their knowledge of behavioral choices in both personal and professional relationships.

**COM 121 Advanced Public Speaking**

3 Hours  
Prerequisites: SPE 115 or consent of instructor  
3 hours weekly (3-0)  
Advanced principles of speech preparation and presentation; special problems and types of speeches; considerable practice in composition and delivery of speeches.

**COM 140 Argumentation and Debate**

IAI – MC 905  
3 Hours  
Prerequisites: COM 115 or 116  
3 hours weekly (3-0)  
Principles of reasoning, critical thinking, argumentation, and advocacy and their expression in a variety of media. Students will develop an understanding of how arguments function to influence attitudes, values, and behaviors in our public culture with an emphasis on the nature of argument, proofs
and evidence, constructing arguments, fallacies of argument, and the use of logical and persuasive reasoning.

COM 200 Small Group Communication

3 Hours
Prerequisites: SPE 115 or SPE 116
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This course explores the communication processes that occur in small groups. Students will study and apply communication theory in order to enhance their effectiveness as small group communicators. Focus is given to group formation, group membership, and decision-making and problem-solving procedures.

COM 201 Writing for Mass Media

IAI – MC 919
3 Hours
Prerequisites: None
3 hours weekly (3-0)
Introduction to news writing includes basic techniques of news gathering, reporting, interviewing, computer-assisted reporting, editing, and layout. Some course-work may be published in the student newspaper, The Volunteer.

COM 202 Writing for Mass Media II

3 Hours
Prerequisites: JRN 201
3 hours weekly (3-0)
A continuation of news gathering and writing skills. Coursework will be published in The Volunteer student newspaper. Assignments include investigative re-reporting, computer-assisted reporting, and a site visit to a local media outlet.

COM 203 New Media Production Practicum

1-4 Hours
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
2-8 hours weekly
Students earn credit by joining The Volunteer newspaper staff, increasing their proficiency in one or more of the tasks required to produce consistently a high-quality student newspaper. Volunteer staff members gain an understanding of the collaborative nature of newspaper work through active participation in one or more of the following areas: newswriting, editing, news photography, design, layout, and/or advertising. Students use the resources available in and outside the newsroom to increase their skills.

COM 205 Introduction to New Media

IAI – MC 911
3 Hours
Prerequisites: None
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This is an introduction to the various types of mass media, their effect on the public, their development, and ways in which the consumer can be perceptive and discriminating.

COM 280 Communication Studies Practicum

3 Hours
Prerequisites: Instructor Permission
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This course provides an overview of the concepts, methods, and tools by which communication and social science research is designed, conducted, interpreted, and critically evaluated. Students will design, justify, propose, collect data, and present the findings of a socio-scientific study.