

James Madison University Bachelor of Arts or Science in Communication Studies

Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Communications

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS					Complete at JMU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT	SATISFIED BY				BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	Gen ED*	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNST 000	1-2		SDV 100 College Success Skills or 101 Orientation		SCOM 240	2	Introduction to Communication Theory
WRTC 000	3	PUA	ENG 111 College Comp I	ENG 111 + ENG 112 = WRTC 103 + WRTC 000	SCOM 240L	1	Communication Theory Lab
WRTC 103	3	UA	ENG 112 College Comp II		SCOM 242	3	Presentational Speaking
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	Any UCGS Art or Humanities; some colleges may require Philosophy course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These two courses must come from two different disciplines. You'll choose between a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies at JMU. If you pursue a BA, choose PHI 100 as one of your two classes here. 	SCOM 280	3	Introduction to Communication Research
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	UA	Any UCGS Art, Humanities, or Literature		SCOM 341	3	Persuasion
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	Any UCGS Social & Behavioral Science (not History)		Advanced Research Methods	3	Choose from SCOM 381, 383, 385, 386 or 388
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	Any UCGS History		Communication Studies Electives	0-6	6 credits required; some may be satisfied through transfer
JMU General Education Requirements**	4	PUA	Any UCGS Natural Science		Communication Studies Concentrations	12-18	Students choose a concentration from this list: Generalist, Advocacy Studies, Cultural Communication, Health Communication, Interpersonal Communication, Organizational Communication, or Public Relations. 18 credits required; some may be satisfied through transfer.
JMU General Education Requirements**	3-4	PUA	Any UCGS Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MTH 155 or 245 = MTH 220 at JMU and is required for BS students BA students take any UCGS math 			
SCOM 121 or 122	3	UA	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking or CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication				
JMU Degree Requirements	3-4	UA	Any UCGS transfer course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BA students can use these credits for a world language, which must 	Minor, second major, or cognate	12-18	To learn more about possible second majors or minors at JMU,

				<p>be completed through the intermediate level (=202 at VCCS or 232 at JMU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS students need a second math course. If you took MTH 154 or 161 as a prerequisite for your statistics course, that can fulfill this requirement. If not, take any UCGS math course of your choosing. 			<p>go to www.jmu.edu and type “undergraduate majors” or “undergraduate minors” into the search bar at the top right. A cognate is a 12-hour sequence of courses at the 300 or 400 level outside of the SCOM area.</p>
JMU Graduation Requirements	3		CST 114 Survey of Mass Media	= SMAD xxx			
JMU Graduation Requirements	3		CST 201 Intro to Communication Theory and Research	= SCOM 000			
Courses for the Communication Studies major at JMU	9		<p>CST 221 Public Relations</p> <p>CST 126 Interpersonal Communication</p> <p>CST 229 Intercultural Communication.</p>	<p>CST 221 = SCOM 260; CST 126 = SCOM 320; CST 229 = SCOM 248</p> <p>Take all three of these courses if offered at your community college. If not, these or similar courses can be completed after transfer.</p>			
Additional requirements or electives	10-13		Additional transfer electives to meet 60 total credits	<p>These credits can be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA students can complete a world language through the intermediate level (=202 at VCCS or 232 at JMU) • Courses toward a minor at JMU. SCOM majors are required to have a second major or minor. To learn about options, type “minors” into the search bar on the www.jmu.edu website. Use Transferology to check for equivalent courses at VCCS. 			

CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60

CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 60

* **A** = Completion of the Associate Degree satisfies this General Education Requirement. **U** = This course satisfies a Uniform Certificate of General Studies requirement.

P = This course satisfies a Passport requirement.

** Students who complete an approved transferable associate degree will qualify for a full waiver of general education requirements at JMU. Students who will not be earning an approved transferable associate degree should complete core community college requirements with courses that also satisfy area requirements in JMU’s general education program. For example, the WRTC 103 requirement can only be filled with ENG 111-112 at VCCS. Learn more about JMU general education equivalents offered at VCCS at www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/genedequiv.shtml. Email transferadvising@jmu.edu with questions.

TRANSFER GUIDANCE

Admission into the Communication Studies Program at JMU

Admission to JMU does not guarantee admission to the School of Communication Studies. Transfer students may declare the Communication Studies major but cannot be fully admitted until after they have completed both SCOM 240 and 240L. Applications to the major are reviewed each semester.

Though there is no guaranteed admission into the program, students intending to major in Communication Studies can still be guaranteed admission to JMU by completing an approved transferable associate degree at their Virginia community college with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students who do not qualify for guaranteed admission are encouraged to apply to JMU through the regular admission process. For additional details about requirements for guaranteed admission, please see the JMU letter of intent for your community college: www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-gaa.shtml.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/>
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** Students can notify JMU of their interest in transferring through College Connect at www.TransferVirginia.org. Transfer applicants from a VCCS institution intending to apply through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) must submit a Letter of Intent prior to applying. Requirements and forms are available at: <https://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-GAA.shtml>.
- **Admission Application:** By March 1 for Fall or October 15 for Spring at <https://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/apply-online.shtml>
- **Financial Aid:** <https://www.jmu.edu/financialaid>
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** Deadline is March 1. Learn more at studentaid.gov.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered, complete your first math and English courses in your first year. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at www.TransferVirginia.org.
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and James Madison University within your first year. College Connect available in your account at www.TransferVirginia.org

IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

The BA in Communication Studies is ideal for students who are fascinated by communication and wish to deepen their understanding of this complex process for professional and/or personal reasons. Regardless of concentration, students can expect repeated opportunities to work in groups, to sharpen writing skills, to understand abstract theoretical content, to give presentations alone and in groups, and to participate in a wide variety of non-classroom environments including service learning, undergraduate research, and several student organizations.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** An approved transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College will waive general education requirements at JMU.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** Students who complete a transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College through Dual Enrollment will not be eligible for guaranteed admission but will receive the general education waiver at JMU. DE associate degree earners who want to make progress toward their intended major should follow the curriculum in this guide.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** Credit for prior learning may be awarded differently at JMU than at your previous institution. JMU accepts and reviews AP, IB CIE, and CLEP examinations for all students with eligible scores. JMU will complete an independent review of the test score to apply credit to your JMU student record. Other credit for prior learning is awarded on a per case basis for the ADP and RN-BSN programs in consultation with the department of expertise. Credit for learning acquired in military service is awarded by the registrar's office using the ACE guide credit recommendation for study/experience listed on the military transcript and in consultation with the department of expertise.
- **Catalog Year:** Catalog year determined by first semester of attendance at JMU

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

JMU is a mid to large size institution that behaves more like a smaller institution. Faculty and staff hold students as the top priority. JMU has a 96% satisfaction rate. 88% of classes have less than 50 students. JMU is the #1 most recommended public university in the US by the Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education; JMU is the #1 Best College for Employment in Virginia according to U.S. Department of Education statistics compiled by Zippia. JMU has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges. Learn more about our college at www.jmu.edu and www.TransferVirginia.org.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- There is no limit to the number of credits you can transfer to JMU, but 50% of the credits required for graduation in your major must be taken at a 4-year college or university, and 25% must be taken at JMU. (Most JMU majors require 120 credits, so 60 must come from a 4-year and 30 must be taken at JMU.)
- Completing your Associate transfer degree post-high school satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the chance of completing your bachelor's degree.
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college means you may have exhausted your financial aid at that college and have limited your future financial aid at JMU.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at www.TransferVirginia.org

PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

All majors in Communication Studies complete at least one undergraduate research project, alone or in teams, which is of suitable length and quality to submit to an undergraduate research conference, and our majors have had tremendous success when they choose to submit their

work. Approximately 96% of our alumni report finding career-related full-time jobs or internships, or are enrolled in graduate programs, six months after graduation.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

- Generally, two-thirds of transfer applicants are admitted to JMU. Competitive applicants will have mostly As & Bs and have completed at least one class in each of our four core areas (English, mathematics, lab science, and social science).
- JMU defines a transfer student as a student that has graduated from high school (or holds a GED equivalency) AND has taken courses in college after high school graduation.
- Learn more about applying at <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/> or www.TransferVirginia.org.

DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

Students can choose one of six thematic concentrations -- public relations, organizational communication, interpersonal communication, health communication, advocacy, and cultural communication -- or pick the 'generalist' option which allows the greatest flexibility in combining

courses to meet individual interests or professional aspirations. The program requires a second major, minor, or 'cognate area' and we encourage students to choose second majors or minors which complement their interests or career goals. A cognate area is 12 credits of coursework at the 300 or 400 level that is taken outside of SCOM.

The major emphasizes unique and valuable out-of-class opportunities, including service learning, undergraduate research, study abroad, and student organizations. The largest student organization is the Public Relations Society of America, which is open to all concentrations. Students in this pre-professional group have opportunities to invite guest speakers, participate in workshops, and travel to public relations agencies in Richmond, Washington, D. C., and New York City to increase their understanding of the profession and to participate in networking opportunities. Students who meet grade-based criteria can participate in Lambda Pi Eta, the communication honor society, with its combination of pre-professional and social activities. Students may also apply to work for the student-run public relations firm Bluestone Communication, which works with community clients on a variety of professional projects.