

# Virginia Commonwealth University Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications with a concentration in Journalism/Digital

TRANSFER GUIDE  
Catalog Years: 2023-2025

Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Communications

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS					Complete at VCU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		SATISFIED BY			BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	Gen ED*	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNIV 101	1-2		SDV 100 College Success Skills or 101 Orientation		MASC 274	3	
UNIV 111-112	3	PUA	ENG 111 College Comp I	UNIV 111 is waived and students receive 3 credits for UNIV 112.	MASC 300	3	
UNIV 200	3	UA	ENG 112 College Comp II		MASC 380	3	
ARTH 104	3	PUA	Any UCGS Art or Humanities		MASC 390	3	
ENGL equivalent	3	UA	ENG literature (select from ENG 225, 245, 246, 250, 255, 258, 275)		MASC 408	3	
ECON 1XX	3	PUA	ECO 150 Economic Essentials		MASC 493	3	
HIST 103	3	PUA	HIS 121 U.S. History I		MASC 499	3	
General Education	4	PUA	Any UCGS Natural Sciences		MASC 303	3	
STAT 208	3	PUA	MTH 155 Statistical Reasoning (or MTH 245)		MASC 305	3	
General Education	3	UA	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking or CST		MASC 363	3	

			110 Introduction to Human Communication				
POLI 103	3	UA	PLS 135 U.S. Government & Politics		MASC 367	3	
MASC 101 (major)	3		CST 114 Survey of Mass Media		MASC 475	6	
SPCH 2XX (elective)	3		CST 201 Intro to Communication Theory and Research		HIST upper-level course	3	
MASC 203 (major)	3		CST 228 Writing Across Media		POLI or URSP upper-level course	3	
Elective	3		ENG 121 Intro to Journalism CST 221 Public Relations CST 126 Interpersonal Communication CST 229 Intercultural Communication.		Upper-level ENGL literature course	3	
VCU equivalents	6-8		Foreign Language 101-102 or transfer elective (if eligible for waiver).	VCU's foreign language requirement can be waived if students completed 3 or more years of a foreign language at high school.	Elective	12	
HIST 104	3		HIS 122 U.S. History II	Fulfills ancillary requirement for the bachelor's degree.			
VCU equivalents	4-7		If students have completed all requirements, they can choose to take courses from previous rows of concentration courses or additional transfer electives.	Take MTH 154 or MTH 161 if selecting MTH 245 to fulfill Statistics requirement above.			

**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.

## TRANSFER GUIDANCE

### Guaranteed Admission Agreement for VCU

By meeting the following criteria, you are guaranteed admission to the BS in Mass Communications program at VCU

- Earn a transfer associate degree (AS in Communications).
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.5 for your associate degree.
- Earn grades of "C" or higher in all community college courses.

### IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://transfer.vcu.edu/>.
- **Admission Application:** By March 15 for fall admission and November 1 for spring at <https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/>.
- **Financial Aid:** <https://semss.vcu.edu/our-services/financial-resources-and-guidance/>.
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** March 1 for fall semester at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

### WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Complete your English courses and any math prerequisites in your first year.
- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and the VCU Transfer Center (<https://transfer.vcu.edu/>) in your first semester.

### IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

- The Robertson School of Media and Culture prepares effective and skilled communicators through quality instruction, advising and student services, based on real-world applications. Through research, professional service and scholarship in applied communications, the school advances the knowledge and practice of a multidisciplinary and evolving media environment. The school values truth, ethics, creativity, innovation, collaboration, cultural diversity, shared governance and community engagement.
- The concentration in journalism prepares graduates to work as reporters and editors for newspapers, television newsrooms, news websites, radio news operations, magazines, news-oriented newsletters and other organizations. Moreover, these journalism skills transfer to many other fields, such as law, business, teaching and government service.

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

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** The completion of a transfer associate degree results in all lower-division general education requirements being met when you transfer to VCU.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** The completion of an associate degree concurrent with high school results in 60 credits of coursework applied towards your

degree and VCU's general education courses will be satisfied. High school students must apply to VCU as freshman applicants for orientation and engagement purposes.

- **Credit for Prior Learning:** VCU accepts AP, IB, Cambridge, CLEP, DANTEs, and military credits.
- **Catalog Year:** VCU will honor the degree requirements of the VCU Undergraduate Bulletin in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate associate degree at the two-year institution. Students must stay enrolled at their community college and take no more than four years to complete their associate degree. Students must also enroll at VCU within one year of completing their associate degree.

### IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

- Located in downtown Richmond, within two hours of the beach, the mountains and Washington DC, VCU provides top-ranked academic programs, research opportunities and an urban setting so students can live and learn in the real world.
- VCU is a large, public research institution dedicated to the success and well-being of students and the Richmond community.
- Diversity, inclusion and equity are deeply ingrained core values at VCU. If you are looking to connect with a broad range of people, come join us!

Learn more about our college at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Completing your associate transfer degree satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the likelihood you will complete your bachelor's degree?
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college could exhaust your financial aid there and reduce your future financial aid at VCU?

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

### PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

- Capital News Service is a program in which journalism students cover news in Richmond and across Virginia and distribute their stories, photos and other content to more than 100 newspapers, television and radio stations, and news websites. Over the years, CNS staffers have won more than 45 national, regional and state awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, the Hearst Journalism Awards Program and the Virginia Press Association. In addition, CNS received the 2019 Good Government Award from the Richmond First Club, a 100-year-old civic organization. The club recognized the CNS students as journalists covering Virginia politics with integrity and energy for over 20 years.

### WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

- If you apply through general application instead of through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement, you will be considered for admission with all other transfer applicants.

Learn more about applying at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

#### DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

- Graduates of the B.S. in Mass Communication degree may choose to go on to pursue one of the graduate degrees - M.S. in Mass Comm with a concentration in integrated communication, M.S. in Mass Comm with a concentration in multimedia journalism, or a Ph.D. in Media, Art, and Text.

#### OTHER THAN CLASSES, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

- All students must complete at least one VCU “REAL” experiential learning activity in order to graduate from VCU. Examples of REAL activities include: internships, research, and service learning. This requirement may be satisfied by completing a 300-level (or higher) REAL course or through an approved REAL co-curricular experience.

Learn more at <https://real.vcu.edu/>.