

ARTS & SCIENCES CORE AND COMMUNICATION CURRICULUM

General Information – All majors must complete the core curriculum as specified by the College of Arts & Sciences, (See Arts & Sciences Core List), a department core of 12 hours, and sufficient electives to reach a total of 124 semester hours credit with at least a 2.0 grade point average. Other requirements include the following:

1. Entering freshman to the department must have an English subscore of 20+ on the ACT or have completed English Composition I with a “C” or better to be admitted into the major.
2. Transfer students must have a 2.0 GPA overall and at least a “C” in English Composition I and II to be admitted to the major. The English Composition requirements cannot “technically” be upheld. If a student does have below a “C” in these courses make sure that they realize how much WRITING this degree requires. Since we are VERY writing intensive, this suggestion is for the student’s sake.
3. Communication majors must complete all CO courses applied to the major requirements with a “C” or better.
4. The following core requirements must be completed as soon as possible after entering the major.

CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking
CO 1223 Introduction to Communication Theory
CO 1403 Introduction to Mass Media
CO 1503 Introduction to Theatre **

**If a student transfers into the major and has already had another course that the College of Arts & Sciences accepts for the Fine Arts requirement, then that student is not required to take CO 1503. The replacement class must have a grade of “C” or better. (Theatre students are required to take this course regardless.)

5. To complete the required course of study in four years, students must take 15 to 18 hours per semester.
6. Thirty-one hours of Upper Division Arts & Science courses (3000 and 4000 level) must be completed at Mississippi State in order to graduate.
7. The last 32 hours of coursework before graduation must be completed in residence at Mississippi State. Correspondence courses do not fulfill this requirement.
8. The Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences must approve the applicability of all transfer work from community colleges or four-year institutions – except communication courses - before these can be used to fulfill requirements at Mississippi State. Students may be asked to provide the dean’s office a copy of a course description, course syllabi, catalog description or class work before a decision on applicability is made.
9. The applicability of all communication courses taken at community colleges or four-year institutions is determined by the Department of Communication. Students may be asked to provide a copy to the department of a course description, course syllabi, catalog description or samples of class work before a decision on applicability is made.
10. All incoming majors must have all transfer work evaluated by the college and/or department before an advisor in the department will be assigned. This should be completed within the first semester as a major.
11. Community college transfers can only have up to one half of their degree transferred from a community college. For us, this means that they can have a MAX of 61 hours from the community college – any hours over 61 will not be counted.

12. **DOUBLE MAJORS** – These students must complete the requirements for both degrees (if receiving B.A. and B.S. degrees, core for both must be met). ** If pursuing two degrees – do not let the student graduate in one major before completing the requirements for BOTH degrees! If the student graduates in one major before completing the other, the student must complete 30 UD hours over and beyond those completed for the first degree. It is much better to wait and get both degrees at the same time. This way the UD hours (if both degrees are in the College of Arts and Sciences) can count in both degrees. Also, any upper division work for the remaining degree taken during the first degree would be null and void and result in many more hours needed.