

## Speech Communication

College of Arts & Humanities,  
Department of Speech Communication  
230 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2213  
Web site: [www.mnsu.edu/dept/spcomm/](http://www.mnsu.edu/dept/spcomm/)

Chair: Daniel Cronn-Mills

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Speech Communication is the study of how people generate shared meaning through the use of verbal and nonverbal symbols. Speech Communication majors work to develop confidence and effectiveness in their public speaking, interpersonal, and small group communication skills. The focus is not on preparing students for a specific job, but rather helping students to develop interpersonal, organizational, intercultural, and public presentational skills which will enhance the quality of their lives across a variety of contexts (e.g., within the workplace, family, civic and social situations).

**Admission to Major** is granted by the department. Minimum University admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.

- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 ("C").

Contact the department for application procedures. In addition to the general requirements, a cumulative GPA of 2.2 must be maintained in the courses of the major.

### SPEECH COMMUNICATION BA, BS (36 credits)

#### Required for Major (15 credits):

SPEE 101W	Interpersonal Communication (3)
SPEE 102	Public Speaking (3)
SPEE 190	Introduction to Communication Studies (3)
SPEE 290	Communication Research (3)
SPEE 485	Senior Seminar (3)

#### Choose One Course:

SPEE 403	Gender and Communication (3)
SPEE 409	Performance Studies (3)
SPEE 412	Organizational Communication (3)
SPEE 413	Advanced Intercultural Communications (3)
SPEE 415	Topics in Rhetoric and Culture (3)

#### Required for Major (Electives, 18 credits):

Choose up to 18 credits from the Department of Speech Communication. 12 of the 18 elective credits must be in upper-level classes.

SPEE xxx	SPEE xxx	SPEE xxx	SPEE xxx	SPEE xxx
SPEE xxx				

**Required ONLY for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree:** Language (8)

**Required Minor:** Yes. Any.

### COMMUNICATION ARTS AND LITERATURE - EDUCATION

#### Speech Communication: 36 credits

#### Required for Major (Speech Core, 27 credits):

SPEE 101W	Interpersonal Communication (3)
SPEE 201	Small Group Communication (3)
SPEE 203	Intercultural Communication (3)
SPEE 310	Performance of Literature (3)
SPEE 315	Effective Listening (3)
SPEE 321	Argumentation and Debate (3)
SPEE 404	Teaching of Speech Communication (3)

SPEE 430 Directing Forensic Activity (3)

Choose one:

SPEE 212 Oral Communication for Business and the Professions (3)

SPEE 220 Forensics (3)

SPEE 333 Advanced Public Speaking (3)

#### Electives: 9 credits

Choose up to 9 credits from the Speech Communication Department

SPEE xxx SPEE xxx SPEE xxx

#### English: 24 credits

#### Required: 24 credits

ENG 275 Intro. to Literary Studies (4)

ENG 285 Practical Grammar (2)

ENG 362 Teaching English, Grades 5-12 (4)

ENG 381 Introduction to English Linguistics (4)

ENG 463 Adolescent Literature (3)

ENG 465 World Literature for Children and Young Adults (1)

Choose either:

ENG 405 Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories (2)

ENG 406 Shakespeare: Tragedies (2)

Choose one from:

ENG 320 ENG 321 ENG 327 ENG 328

#### Required General Education Courses

SPEE 102 Public Speaking (3)

MASS 110 Introduction to Mass Communications (4)

ENG xxx English Elective (4)

### SPEECH COMMUNICATION MINOR (18 credits)

#### Required for Minor (9 credits):

SPEE 101W Interpersonal Communication (3)

SPEE 102 Public Speaking (3)

SPEE 190 Introduction to Communication Studies (3)

Required for Minor (3 credits)

Choose a minimum of three credits at the 300-400 level.

#### Required for Minor (Electives, 6 credits):

Choose up to 6 credits from the Speech Communication Department.

SPEE xxx SPEE xxx SPEE xxx

#### INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN COMMUNICATIONS (24 credits)

This interdisciplinary minor is for students who wish to enhance their communication skills for use in business and other professional settings. Students completing this minor will develop an understanding of contexts and rhetorical strategies for oral and written communication among professionals. Students will also develop their own ability to communicate through written texts, oral communication, and electronic formats. These skills are highly desirable by employers in a wide range of business, government, and nonprofit organizations. Students may major in any of the programs affiliated with this minor, but the courses taken for the minor will not count toward the major. Students must earn a "C" or better in English courses in order to apply them to the minor.

#### Required for Minor (14 credits):

ENG 271 Technical Communication (4)

ENG 474 Researching and Writing Technical Reports (4)

SPEE 325 Interviewing (3)

SPEE 412 Organizational Communication (3)

#### Electives (Choose 10 credits):

ART 202 Introduction to Digital Media (3)

ART 204 Digital Imaging (3)

ENG 301W Advanced Writing (4)

ENG 471 Visual Technical Communication (4)

## SPEECH COMMUNICATION

ENG	473	Desktop Publishing (4)
ENG	475	Editing Technical Publications (4)
MASS	433	Public Relations Principles (4)
MASS	434	Advanced Public Relations Writing (4)
SPEE	212	Oral Communication for the Professions (3)
SPEE	315	Effective Listening (3)
SPEE	333	Advanced Public Speaking (3)
SPEE	445	Conflict Management (3)

### POLICIES/INFORMATION

**GPA Policy.** Students must maintain a minimum of 2.2 GPA.

**P/N Grading Policy.** Total credits in the department must not exceed 25 percent P/N for a major or a minor.

**Internships:** Internships are P/N option only.

**Academic Probation Advising:** Refer to the information listed in the College of Arts and Humanities section of the bulletin.

Speech Communication minors may apply no more than 3 credits of SPEE 498 and 3 credits of SPEE 499 to fulfillment of the minor. Additional credits may be applied for graduation requirements. Speech Communication majors may apply no more than 6 credits of SPEE 498 and 3 credits of SPEE 499 to fulfillment of the major. Additional credits may be applied for graduation requirements. SPEE 100 does not count toward major or minor requirements.

**Course Repeat Policy:** Students with a major/minor in Speech Communication may repeat any course in the department in an effort to improve grades. A student may repeat a specific course only once. In exceptional circumstances, a student may appeal to the department chair for a second repeat of a course. The official grade for the course, listings on a student's transcript, and other matters related to course repeats will adhere to appropriate university policies.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### **SPEE 100 (3) Fundamentals of Speech Communication**

A course designed to improve a student's understanding in communication, including the areas of interpersonal, nonverbal, listening, small group and public speaking.  
GE-1B

#### **SPEE 101W (3) Interpersonal Communication**

A course blending theory and practice to help individuals build effective relationships through improved communication.  
GE-1C, GE-2

#### **SPEE 102 (3) Public Speaking**

A course in communication principles to develop skills in the analysis and presentation of speeches.  
GE-1B

#### **SPEE 190 (3) Introduction to Communication Studies**

Course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the history, scholarly writing, and academic journals in the communication discipline, thus preparing the student for more advanced courses in the Department of Speech Communication.

#### **SPEE 201 (3) Small Group Communication**

Development of communication skills for working with others in small group situations.

#### **SPEE 202 (3) Nonverbal Communication**

Investigation of the concepts and theories of nonverbal communication. Designed to assist students in increasing their awareness and understanding of their nonverbal communication and in analyzing and understanding the nonverbal communication of others.

#### **SPEE 203 (3) Intercultural Communication**

The course explores communication with people from other cultures, why misunderstandings occur and how to build clearer and more productive cross-cultural relationships.  
GE-7, GE-8 CD-Core

#### **SPEE 212 (3) Oral Communication for Business and the Professions**

Designed to help students improve oral communication skills in the workplace. The emphasis is on the preparation and presentation of public messages in formats commonly used in business and professional settings. Listening as an oral communication skill in the workplace will be explored, as will the role of intercultural communication in the workplace. Individual speeches, group presentations, and interviews are the major presentations.  
GE-1B

#### **SPEE 220 (1-3) Forensics**

Activity course involving participation in intercollegiate speech tournaments. Course can be repeated for credit.  
GE-11

#### **SPEE 233 (3) Public Speaking for Technical Professionals**

This course is designed to introduce and develop the skills and knowledge necessary to create and present effective public communication of technical content for a technical or general audience.  
GE-1B

#### **SPEE 240 (1-3) Special Topics**

Special interest courses devoted to specific topics within the field of speech communication. Topics vary, and course may be retaken for credit under different topic headings.

#### **SPEE 290 (3) Communication Research**

An introduction to the theory and practice of research in speech communication, including the critical evaluation of contemporary communication research.

#### **SPEE 300 (3) Ethics and Free Speech**

This course is divided into two sections. First, the class explores ethical parameters involved in communication from a variety of social and cultural perspectives. Second, the class investigates current standards and issues involving freedom of speech.  
GE-9

#### **SPEE 310 (3) Performance of Literature**

This course is designed to develop the skills to complete the artistic process of studying literature through performance and sharing that study with an audience.  
GE-6, GE-11

#### **SPEE 315 (3) Effective Listening**

This course is designed to provide students with skills of effective listening, and the ability to apply that knowledge in a variety of educational and professional settings.

#### **SPEE 321 (3) Argumentation and Debate**

Development of skills in the analysis, application and evaluation of argumentative communication.

#### **SPEE 325 (3) Interviewing**

This course is designed to prepare students to use communication skills in a variety of interview settings.

#### **SPEE 333 (3) Advanced Public Speaking**

This is an advanced course in public presentation focused on improving presentational skills of speech delivery and language choice.

#### **SPEE 340 (1-3) Special Topics**

Special interest courses devoted to specific topics within the field of speech communication. Topics vary, and course may be retaken for credit under different topic headings.

ferent topic headings.

**SPEE 403 (3) Gender and Communication**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of how gender and communication interact. Students learn the basic theories and principles of communication as it applies to gender and develop skills to enhance communication between and among gender groups.

CD-Core

**SPEE 404 (3) Teaching of Speech Communication**

This course is designed to fulfill the Secondary Licensure requirement. The course covers teaching methods and materials needed to develop speech communication units for speech communication courses in grades 5-12.

**SPEE 409 (3) Performance Studies**

This course is an overview of key performance studies concepts, including cultural performance, of everyday life, theories of play, social influence, and identity performance. Students will develop and present performances as a means to understand theoretical concepts.

**SPEE 412 (3) Organizational Communication**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of speech communication in the organizational context. The course will aid each individual in working more effectively within any type of organization through exposure to major theories and works in the area of organizational communication.

**SPEE 413 (3) Advanced Intercultural Communication**

This course is designed for advanced studies dealing with theories and issues raised by both international and domestic intercultural communication.

CD-Core

**SPEE 415 (3) Topics in Rhetoric and Culture**

Special interest courses devoted to specific topics within the intersecting fields of rhetoric and culture. Topics vary, and course may be retaken for credit under different topic headings.

**SPEE 416 (3) Topics in American Public Address**

Special interest courses devoted to specific topics within field of American Public Address. Topics vary, and course may be retaken for credit under different topic headings.

**SPEE 430 (3) Directing Forensic Activity**

Methods and techniques in the development of competitive speech programs in grades 5-12.

**SPEE 440 (1-3) Special Topics**

A course designed for students who have a general interest in speech communication. Content of each special topics course will be different. May be retaken for credit.

**SPEE 445 (3) Conflict Management**

This theory and research-oriented course examines the relationship between communication and conflict, and is designed to provide students with knowledge and skills in dealing with conflict situations.

**SPEE 485 (3) Senior Seminar**

This is a required capstone course of all speech communication majors and involves the completion and presentation of a senior level research project. Teaching majors are excluded from this requirement.

Pre: SPEE 190

**SPEE 490 (1-4) Workshop**

Topics vary as announced in class schedules.

**SPEE 497 (1-12) Teaching Internship**

First-hand experience in the classroom assisting a faculty member.

**SPEE 498 (1-12) Internship**

Provides first-hand experience in applying communication theories in the workplace under the direction of an on-site supervisor.

**SPEE 499 (1-3) Individual Study**

Independent study under the supervision of an instructor.