

Health Science and Communication Studies, BS (Boston)

The combined Bachelor of Science degree program in health science and communication studies offers an interdisciplinary approach to public health communication. Students combine courses from health sciences and communication studies to learn about health and illness and the important role of communication in shaping the public's understanding of health issues. The interdisciplinary curriculum is enhanced by experiential learning opportunities and is designed to prepare students for challenging careers that involve crafting messages about health, developing strategies for promoting healthcare services, and specific applications such as disease awareness and prevention.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

NUPath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUPath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Communication Studies Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 1101	Introduction to Communication Studies	4
COMM 1112 or COMM 2301	Public Speaking Communication Research Methods	4

Code	Title	Hours
Foundation Course		
Complete one of the following:		4
COMM 1210	Persuasion and Rhetoric	
COMM 1225	Communication Theory	
COMM 1231	Principles of Organizational Communication	
COMM 1255	Communication in a Digital Age	

Code	Title	Hours
Cluster Course		
Complete one of the following:		4
COMM 1131	Sex, Relationships, and Communication	
COMM 2303	Global and Intercultural Communication	
COMM 2304	Communication and Gender	
COMM 2501	Communication Law	
COMM 2551	Free Speech in Cyberspace	

Code	Title	Hours
Writing-Intensive		
Complete two of the following:		8
COMM 3200	Mobile Communication	
COMM 3201	Health Communication	
COMM 3230	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 3304	Communication and Inclusion	
COMM 3320	Political Communication	
COMM 3415	Communication Criticism	
COMM 3445	Public Relations Principles	
COMM 3500	Environmental Issues, Communication, and the Media	
COMM 3501	Free Speech: Law and Practice	
COMM 3530	Communication and Sexualities	
COMM 3532	Theories of Conflict and Negotiation	
COMM 4535	Nonverbal Social Interaction	
COMM 4605	Youth and Communication Technology	

COMM 4631 Crisis Communication and Image Management

Communication Studies Electives

Complete three additional COMM courses. 12

Health Science Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Public Health Core		
PHTH 1260 or PHTH 1261	The American Healthcare System Comparative Healthcare Systems	4
PHTH 2210	Foundations of Biostatistics	4
PHTH 2300 or PHTH 2301	Communication Skills for the Health Professions Communication Skills for the Health Professions—Global	4
PHTH 2350 or PHTH 2351	Community and Public Health Community and Public Health - Global	4
PHTH 2515	Healthcare Policy and Administration	4
PHTH 4120	Global Perspectives on Discrimination and Health	4
PHTH 4202	Principles of Epidemiology in Medicine and Public Health	4
PHTH 4540	Health Education and Program Planning	4
Science Requirement		
BIOL 1111 and BIOL 1112	General Biology 1 and Lab for BIOL 1111	5
BIOL 1113 and BIOL 1114	General Biology 2 and Lab for BIOL 1113	5
CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163	General Chemistry for Science Majors and Lab for CHEM 1161 and Recitation for CHEM 1161	5
MATH 1241	Calculus 1	4
PSYC 1101	Foundations of Psychology	4

Other Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Intro to College		
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000	College: An Introduction Communication Studies at Northeastern	1
Professional Development		
HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000	Professional Development for Bouvé Co-op Professional Development for Co-op	1
Writing		
ENGW 1111	First-Year Writing	4
ENGW 3306	Advanced Writing in the Health Professions (or other Advanced Writing course)	4
Electives		
Complete 28 semester hours of electives.		28

Capstone and Integrative Course

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following: 3-4		
COMM 4102	Health Communication Campaigns	
HINF 5301	Evaluating Health Technologies	
HSCI 4720	Health Science Capstone—Service ¹	
HSCI 4730	Health Science Capstone—Research ¹	
HSCI 4740	Health Science Capstone Seminar	
HSCI 4970 and HSCI 4971	Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 and Junior/Senior Honors Project 2 ²	
PHTH 4515	Critical Issues in Health and Public Health Policy	
PHTH 4602	Private Guns, Public Health	

PHTH 4616	Addressing Rural Health Inequities
PHTH 4717	Advancing Health Justice Through the Law
PHTH 5214	Environmental Health
PHTH 5230	Global Health
PHTH 5236	Food, Nutrition, and Health
PHTH 5603	Qualitative Methods

¹ Must complete 0 semester hour Health Science Capstone Introduction (HSCI 4700) as pre-requisite.

² Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 (HSCI 4970) will count as 4 semester hours general elective.

Health Sciences Major Requirement

A grade of C or higher is required for the Public Health Core, Science Requirement, and HSCI and PHTH Capstone courses. Students who take College: An Introduction (HSCI 1000) and Professional Development for Bouvé Co-op (HSCI 2000) must achieve a C or higher.

Communication Studies Major Requirement

No more than two grades below a C in COMM courses may be used to fulfill degree requirements.

Program Requirement

131 total semester hours required

Plan of Study

Sample Plans of Study

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SPRING/SUMMER FIRST HALF

Year 1								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
BIOL 1111		4 BIOL 1113		4 PHTH core		4 Vacation		0
BIOL 1112		1 BIOL 1114		1 General Elective		4		
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000		1 CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163		5				
MATH 1241		4 ENGW 1111		4				
PHTH 1260		4 General Elective		4				
PSYC 1101		4						
		18		18		8		0
Year 2								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
COMM 1101		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 ENGW 3306		4
COMM 1112 or 2301		4 General Elective		4		General Elective		4
HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000		1						
PHTH 2210		4						
COMM elective		4						
		17		4		0		8
Year 3								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
Cluster course		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 PHTH core		4
Foundation course		4 General Elective		4		PHTH core		4
PHTH core		4						
PHTH core		4						
		16		4		0		8
Year 4								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
COMM WI course		4 COMM WI course		4				
PHTH core		4 COMM elective		4				
COMM elective		4 General Electives		8				

Capstone course	3-4	
	15-16	16

Total Hours: 132-133

FIVE YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SUMMER SECOND HALF/FALL

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
BIOL 1111		4 BIOL 1113		4 Vacation		0 Vacation	0
BIOL 1112	1	BIOL 1114	1				
HSCI 1000 or COMM 1000		1 CHEM 1161 and CHEM 1162 and CHEM 1163		5			
MATH 1241	4	ENGW 1111	4				
PHTH 1260	4	General Elective	4				
PSYC 1101	4						
	18		18		0		0
Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
COMM 1101		4 HSCI 2000 or EEAM 2000		1 Vacation		0 Co-op	0
COMM 1112 or 2301	4	Cluster course	4				
PHTH core	4	Foundation course	4				
PHTH core	4	General Elective	4				
		PHTH 2210	4				
	16		17		0		0
Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	ENGW 3306		4 Vacation		0 Vacation	0
		PHTH core	4				
		COMM electives	8				
	0		16		0		0
Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
COMM WI course	4	Co-op		0 Co-op		0 Vacation	0
PHTH core courses	8						
COMM elective	4						
	16		0		0		0
Year 5							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
COMM WI course	4	General Electives	12				
General Electives	8	Capstone course	3-4				
PHTH core	4						
	16		15-16				

Total Hours: 132-133