



COMM & MIC  
New Student Info  
Session  
2026

Welcome!



# Some Things We'll Discuss Today...

- Who we are and where we're located on campus
- Navigating the COMM Website (Lots of info!)
- COMM major and MIC major requirements
- Information about COMM courses
- How to contact and meet with the COMM Advising Team
- Opportunities
- Events

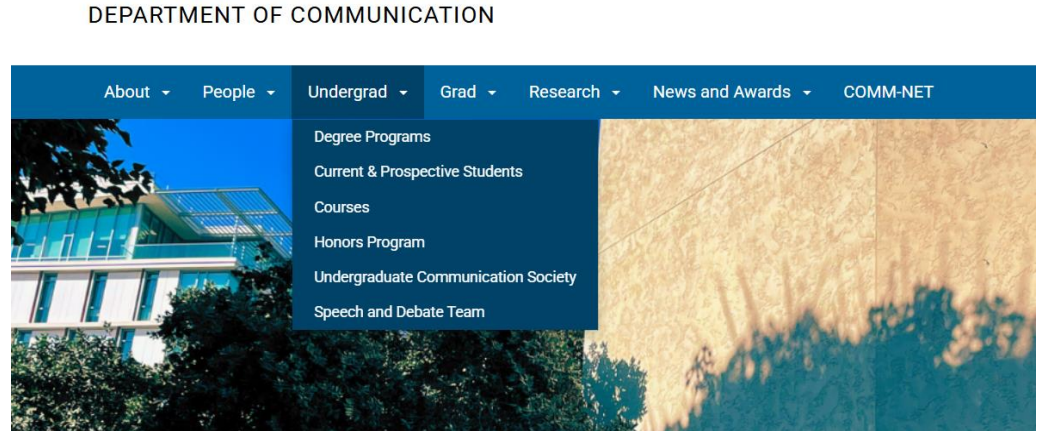
# The COMM Department At a Glance

- **MCC Building** ([map](#)) located in Marshall College
  - Classrooms: MCC 201, MCC 133, MCC 250 (Democracy Lab), MCC 135 (podcasting studio)
  - Share building with the [Media Teaching Lab](#)
- **COMM UG Lounge:** MCC 122A
- **MCC Patio:** COMM event space, enjoy lunch in the sun!
- COMM is home to 600+ UG majors
- 25 faculty, ~ 60 grads, 5 full-time staff
- **COMM UG Advising:**
  - Melanie Lynn (me!), COMM Advisor
  - 2 Peer Advisors: Meleeya Omandam & Loraine Diosa



# COMM Website

[communication.ucsd.edu](http://communication.ucsd.edu)



- **People section:** Contact information for faculty, graduate TAs, staff
- **Undergrad section:** lots of info: major requirements, courses, programs, submitting petitions, etc.

# The COMM Major

- Themes: Theoretically and historically oriented, qualitative research methods, liberal arts education for students with broad interests in media, law, activism, education, etc.
- All courses for the major must be taken for a letter grade; a grade of C- or better is required.
- It is not possible to double-count a course for more than one requirement.
- COMM 10 must be completed at UCSD; transfer coursework is not accepted for this requirement.
- Electives: check out our [COMM Major Elective Pathways](#) for course suggestions based on your interests.

## COMMUNICATION MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

### 13 Courses

#### REQUIRED CORE (4)

- ☐ COMM 10 Introduction to Communication
- ☐ COMM 100A Comm, the Person, and Everyday Life
- ☐ COMM 100B Comm, Culture, and Representation
- ☐ COMM 100C Comm, Institutions, and Power

#### COMMELECTIVES (Complete 6)

- ☐ COMM 101 - 189
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- ☐ COMM 101 - 189
- ☐ COMM 101 - 189

#### ADVANCED COMMELECTIVES (Complete 2)

- ☐ COMM 120 - 189
- ☐ COMM 120 - 189

#### REQUIRED JUNIOR SEMINAR (1)

- ☐ COMM 190

# The MIC Major

- Themes: Focus on media business and political economy, critical analysis and practical skills, for students with interest in all types of media-related professions.
- All courses for the major must be taken for a letter grade; a grade of C– or better is required.
- It is not possible to double-count a course for more than one requirement.
- COMM 10 must be completed at UCSD; transfer coursework is not accepted for this requirement.
- Electives: check out our [MIC Major Elective Pathways](#) for course suggestions based on your interests.

## MEDIA INDUSTRIES & COMMUNICATION MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

### 16 Courses

#### REQUIRED (2)

- ☐ **COMM 10** Introduction to Communication
- ☐ **COMM 106** Introduction to Media Industries

#### CORE (Select 1)

- ☐ **COMM 20** Media Analysis: Form, Style and Meaning
- ☐ **COMM 30** Digital Media Literacy
- ☐ **COMM 40** Intro to Promotional Communication

#### CORE (Select 2)

- ☐ **COMM 100A** Comm, the Person, and Everyday Life
- ☐ **COMM 100B** Comm, Culture, and Representation
- ☐ **COMM 100C** Comm, Institutions, and Power

#### COMMELECTIVES (Complete 4)

- ☐ **COMM 101-190**
- ☐ **COMM 101-190**
- ☐ **COMM 101-190**
- ☐ **COMM 101-190**

#### ADVANCED COMM ELECTIVES (Complete 3)

- ☐ **COMM 160-190**
- ☐ **COMM 160-190**
- ☐ **COMM 160-190**

#### INDUSTRY ELECTIVES (Select 2)

- ☐ **COMM 106B** Streaming Media
- ☐ **COMM 106D** Data and AI Industries
- ☐ **COMM 106F** The Film Industry
- ☐ **COMM 106G** Tourism: Global Industry & Cultural Form
- ☐ **COMM 106I** Internet Industry
- ☐ **COMM 106M** Advertising & Society
- ☐ **COMM 106N** Journalism and the News Industry
- ☐ **COMM 106V** TV Industry

#### PRACTICE COURSES (Complete 2)

- ☐ 1 COMM Practice Course; see *list*
- ☐ 1 Practice Course List (COMM or another dept); see *list*

## MEDIA INDUSTRIES PRACTICE COURSES

Two Total Courses; one must be from COMM

# MIC Major Practice Courses

- 2 practice courses are required. At least one must be taken in COMM; approved COMM practice courses are listed.
- The second course may be taken outside of COMM.
- The non-COMM practice course list is not exhaustive; the department will consider other non-COMM courses by petition.

### COMMUNICATION (Select 1)

|           |                                                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COMM 101  | Intro to Audiovisual Media Practices                             |
| COMM 101A | Media Activism                                                   |
| COMM 101D | Nonlinear/Digital Editing                                        |
| COMM 101K | Documentary Sketchbook                                           |
| COMM 101N | Sound Production & Manipulation                                  |
| COMM 102B | Audio Story & Podcasting Practicum                               |
| COMM 102M | Studio Television                                                |
| COMM 102C | Pract in New Media /Community Life                               |
| COMM 114B | Human Rights Advocacy: Journalists, Activists & Scholars at Risk |
| COMM 119  | Advanced Persuasion                                              |
| COMM 120N | News Media Workshop                                              |
| COMM 124A | Critical Design Practice/Adv Studio                              |
| COMM 124B | Critical Design Practice/Topic Studio                            |
| COMM 147  | Media Activism                                                   |
| COMM 115J | Introduction to Journalism                                       |

### LITERATURE / WRITING

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| LTWR 8A  | Writing Fiction |
| LTWR 8B  | Writing Poetry  |
| LTWR 110 | Screen Writing  |

### MUSIC, THEATER, & DANCE

|          |                                        |
|----------|----------------------------------------|
| MUS 1A   | Fundamentals of Music A                |
| TDAC 1   | Introduction to Acting                 |
| TDDE 1   | Introduction to Design for the Theatre |
| TDMM 1   | Introduction to Dance Making           |
| TDDR 101 | Stage Management                       |
| TDGE 1   | Introduction to Theatre                |
| TDGE 3   | Cultivating the Creative Mind          |
| TDPW 1   | Introduction to Playwriting            |

### COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

|        |                                                             |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| CSE 3  | Fluency in Information Tech                                 |
| CSE 6R | Introduction to Python                                      |
| CSE 8A | Introduction to Programming/Computational Problem-Solving I |

### VISUAL ARTS

|         |                                                     |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| VIS 1   | Intro to Art Making: 2-Dimensional Practices        |
| VIS 2   | Introduction to Art Making: Motion & Time-Based Art |
| VIS 3   | Introduction to Art Making: 3-Dimensional Practices |
| VIS 9   | Introduction to Digital Photography for Non-Majors  |
| VIS 10  | Computing in the Arts Lecture Series                |
| VIS 41  | Design Communication                                |
| VIS 148 | Visualizing Art Practice                            |

### ECONOMICS

|        |                                        |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| ECON 1 | Principles of Microeconomics           |
| ECON 3 | Principles of Macroeconomics           |
| ECON 4 | Financial Accounting                   |
| ECON 5 | Data Analytics for the Social Sciences |

### RADY SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

|         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| MGT 3   | Quantitative Methods in Business |
| MGT 45  | Principles of Accounting         |
| MGT 103 | Product Marketing & Management   |
| MGT 162 | Negotiations                     |
| MGT 172 | Business Project Management      |

### COGNITIVE SCIENCE

|          |                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| COGS 1   | Introduction to Cognitive Science |
| COGS 3   | Introduction to Computing         |
| COGS 8   | Hands-on Computing                |
| COGS 9   | Introduction to Data Science      |
| COGS 18  | Introduction to Python            |
| COGS 14A | Introduction to Research Methods  |

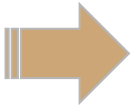
### ADDITIONAL COURSES

|         |                                                   |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|
| CSS 1   | Intro to Programming Computational Social Science |
| DSC 10  | Principles of Data Science                        |
| POLI 5  | Data Analytics for the Social Sciences            |
| PSYC 60 | Introduction to Statistics                        |
| SOCI 60 | The Practice of Social Research                   |

UCSD offers additional practice courses not listed here.  
The department will consider other courses by petition.

# MIC Major for transfer students:

- Most transfer students will have completed two MIC major requirements at their previous institution:
  - One of COMM 20 (Analysis of Audio/Visual Media), COMM 30 (Digital Media Literacy), or 40 (Promotional Communication)
  - One non-COMM practice course
- Transfer coursework is still being processed by the UG Admissions Office, so we won't be able to review your previous coursework until later in fall quarter.
- **Review your degree audit at the end of fall quarter** to double check that your transfer coursework has posted to your academic record and is correctly applying to the major. Reach out to us via the VAC if you have any questions.



# More About Community College Transfer Coursework

To recap:

- COMM & MIC majors, COMM 10: No transfer coursework will be accepted. **You must complete this course at UCSD.**
- MIC majors, COMM 20/30/40: transfer coursework may apply
- MIC majors, Non-COMM practice requirement: transfer coursework may apply

Except what's listed above, no other community college transfer coursework will apply to either the COMM or MIC major.

# Switching Majors

Interested in switching from COMM to MIC or vice versa? Not a problem!

- The tool to officially change your major is not yet available in TSS.
- We expect the tool will be ready in the Fall Quarter, and an announcement from the TSS Team should be made to all students.
- In the meantime, you should follow the Fall enrollment guidance we've listed for your new major on our [New Students webpage](#).

# COMM Courses

Check out our [Courses webpage!](#)

- Lists of the courses we're planning to offer in the coming academic year, including the instructor's name, and updated course descriptions written by the instructor.
- Links to Elective Pathways for course suggestions based on your interests.
- Note: all COMM courses during the academic year are held in person. Instructors are not able to accommodate individual requests to complete courses remotely.

**Academic Year 2026-27 Planned Courses**

**Summer 2026 Courses & Descriptions**

**Fall 2026 Course Information**

**Official UCSD Course Catalog**

# COMM Course Prerequisites

The department is in the process of removing prerequisites from most\* COMM 103–159 courses.

- These changes take time to be programmed into the enrollment system.
- **Until the changes are finalized, we will waive prerequisites** (with a few exceptions!). Submit a [TEA](#) request; we review TEAs very quickly.
- Some TEA requests require instructor review which may delay the decision.

Exceptions:

- **COMM 160+ courses:** Prereqs are enforced (COMM 10 plus one of COMM 100A, B, or C). You cannot take one of these prereqs and an advanced elective concurrently.
- **Production courses (COMM 101 series):** COMM 101 prereq is enforced. You cannot take COMM 101 and another production course concurrently.

*\*A few COMM 103–159 courses are keeping their prerequisites.*

# Planning Your COMM Courses Each Quarter

## Tools:

- Review your QxQ plan created by your College and COMM ([plans.ucsd.edu](https://plans.ucsd.edu))
- Review the COMM [Courses Webpage](#) for course descriptions; highlight courses of interest
- Review the Schedule of Classes (days/times courses offered) in TSS
- Use a [UCSD Course Planner Tool](#) to build and compare courses and potential schedules
- Create your own annual course plan ([Academic Planning Worksheet](#))
- UCSD's [Booking Checklist](#)
  - First pass: Enroll in up to 11.5 units, no waitlisting courses
  - Second pass: Enroll in up to 19.5 units
  - First day of classes: You may enroll in up to 22 units. (Beyond this is not allowed for incoming students.)

## Specific for Fall Quarter 2026:

- FA26 COMM courses to enroll in: Review our [New Students webpage](#)
  - [Incoming First Year Students](#): concentrate on College and University requirements; no COMM courses needed this year.
  - [Transfer COMM majors](#): COMM 10 + COMM 100A (first pass if possible)
  - [Transfer MIC majors](#): COMM 10 + COMM 106 (first pass if possible)

# Contacting and Meeting with the COMM Advising Team

- Contact us via the **VAC** ([vac.ucsd.edu](https://vac.ucsd.edu))
- **Email:** [commugrad@ucsd.edu](mailto:commugrad@ucsd.edu) (only if absolutely needed; VAC should be your first stop)
- We offer **Zoom drop-in advising** during the first two weeks of the quarter and during the next quarter's enrollment period.
- **Scheduled advising appointments** are available starting week 3 of every quarter. Zoom or in person appointments are available.

## Communication Major Advising

ACADEMIC  
ADVISING

+ Expand All

Contact Us!



Drop-In Advising



Scheduled Advising Appointments



# Submitting Petitions, Forms, or Docs to the COMM UG Office

The VAC currently does not accept attachments.

Submit your document to us via the [COMM UG Petition/Form/Document Submission](#) form.

## Submitting Petitions, Forms, or Docs to COMM UG Office



If you have a petition, form, or document that requires review from the COMM Department, this Google Form is for you:

[COMM UG Petition/Form/Document Submission](#)

*Note: you must be logged in to your @ucsd account to access.*

### This includes:

- [Undergraduate Student Petition](#) (for course substitution and exception requests)
- [Double Major Petition](#)
- Academic Plan review
- Student Athlete Plan review
- Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) / Financial Aid Appeal
- An attachment for a TEA request
- Max Unit/Quarter Limit Appeal\*
- Readmission Petition\*
- Other Petitions/forms/documents not listed above

# Opportunities!

- COMM Senior Year [Honors Program](#) (application in winter quarter of junior year for the following academic year)
- Explore a [Double Major](#) or [Minor](#)
- [Study Abroad](#)
- COMM is home to the [UCSD Debate Team](#)! (COMM 80 offered every quarter)
- [Career Prep](#) and [Internships](#)
  - [Academic Internship Program](#)
  - [UC Washington Center \(UCDC\)](#) / [UC Center Sacramento](#)
- Get involved in the department's pre-professional student org, [Undergraduate Communication Society \(UCS\)](#); [follow them on IG](#)!

# Events!

- COMM UG Events  @ucsd\_comm\_ug/
  - Monthly Socials
  - Workshops (for example: Academic Internship Program, Study Abroad / UC EAP, Applying to Graduate School)
- Department Events  @ucsdcommunication
  - Speakers, scholars, film screenings
- UCS Events  @ucsatucsd
  - Pre-professional events, studio tours, panels
- **New COMM UG Welcome!**  
 Wednesday, September 23 (in person)  
 Create a long term major plan with advising staff!  
 More Details TBA



*See you in September!*

