



EST. 1883

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

There are employment opportunities in a variety of sectors:

- » Applied Communication
- » Communication Education
- » Electronic and Digital Media
- » Health Communication
- » International Communication
- » Legal Communication
- » Mediation and Dispute Resolution
- » Performance Studies
- » Public Address
- » Public Relations
- » Rhetorical Criticism

DEVELOP A HIGHLY DESIRABLE SKILL SET

As a Communication Studies Major or Minor you will study people and how they interact with each other using messages. Five hundred years ago, French intellectual François de La Rochefoucauld remarked that one is better off studying people rather than books. In today's fast-changing society where technical requirements of jobs change rapidly, the one constant you can count on is that you will need to understand people. If you want to be more clear and persuasive when you communicate, if you want to understand what other people are saying, and if you want a skill set that will be relevant no matter what the future holds, consider a Communication Studies major or minor.

- **THE OPPORTUNITY** to join the Forensics Team and compete at tournaments across the country.
- **SMALL CLASSES** with excellent individual attention.
- **HIGHLY MOTIVATED** and experienced faculty.
- **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS** influence every aspect of life and can serve as the basis for careers in a variety of areas.



KATRINA HUFT
BHSU ALUMNI

“Obtaining a Communication Studies degree from BHSU gave me the tools I needed to follow my dreams. For me, it was more than earning a degree; it was gaining the skills I would use in my career as an Admissions Counselor and High School Soccer Coach, as well as in my everyday life.”



BlackHillsState



@BHSUForensics



BlackHillsState

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CLASSES OFFERED

A 2017 survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers found that more than 50% of employers are looking at each of the following characteristics in potential employees: problem-solving skills, ability to work in a team, communication skills (written), leadership, strong work ethic, analytical/quantitative skills, communication skills (verbal), initiative, detail-oriented, flexibility/adaptability, technical skills, and interpersonal skills. With a degree in Communication Studies you are signaling to employers that you have worked on a skill-set that they find highly desirable in people they might hire.

- **VISUAL CULTURE (SPCM 455)**
Symbols in popular film and television are investigated.
- **INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (SPCM 201)**
Explore how healthy and effective interaction through message behaviors.

SPEECH AND DEBATE

- **ACTIVITIES OFFERED**
Students interested in debate, interpretation of literature, and competitive oratory may participate in the co-curricular forensics program offered by Communication Studies. Speech and debate activities are open to all BHSU students. No prior experience is required. BHSU has a “walk on” team. For students in the program, a practicum course is available to students wishing to hone their competitive skills. Travel to tournament competition depends on meeting basic eligibility requirements.
- **DIRECTOR OF FORENSICS**
Dr. Ryan Clark - Associate Professor, Communication Studies
Phone: (605) 642-6283
Email: Ryan.Clark@BHSU.edu



DEBATE TEAM, TRAVELING TO ENGLAND

STUDENT EXPERIENCES

BILL SCHULZ

“BHSU Communications Studies is an excellent program not only for those students planning to enter the speech communication field, but for any student who wants to improve thinking and speaking abilities. The program, especially debate classes, prepares students to communicate clearly and succinctly in ‘real life’ scenarios.

As a graduate of BHSU and a participant in the debate program, I rely daily on the thinking and speaking knowledge that I gained through the program.

The Communications Studies major provides current students and graduates like me with not only the knowledge of communication theory and practice, but with the wisdom to put that knowledge into practice. I highly recommend the classes for theory, practice, and future application as a major course of study or as electives.

SHELBY LARSON

“As a transfer student, I am proud to report that the decision to earn my degree at BHSU rather than other institutions was the right decision. The course schedule coupled with engaging and dedicated professors make the Communication Studies major an educational and worthy endeavor. My degree services my professional life as part of a management team for an affordable housing community. I use my degree every day. All human beings need to communicate. My degree helps me to understand, use and excel in it. The value is in the name: Communication.”



Where
Anything
is Possible