COMMUNICATIONS (COM)

COM 101
Writing in the University
A study of the use of writing, reading, and discussion as a means of discovering, questioning, and analyzing ideas, with an emphasis on audience, context and the use of revision. This course satisfies the Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement. It does not satisfy a general education requirement in the Humanities and Social or Behavioral Sciences.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 111
Writing in the University for Multilingual Speakers of English
This course is designed to help international students develop skills in writing, reading and discussion as a means of discovering, questioning and analyzing ideas. Students will engage in reading a variety of texts on a theme, extrapolating key ideas, and developing their own claims through discussion, research writing, and presentation. Additionally, this course will provide support to address common writing issues for multilingual speakers of English as well as build intercultural competence in communication. Placement in this course is based on TOEFL/IELTS and/or placement exam results. Equivalent to COM 101. This course satisfies IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement. It does not satisfy a general education requirement in the humanities and social or behavioral sciences.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 112
Chicago Voices
This English communication course will give international students the opportunity to expand their knowledge of Chicago’s history and culture while developing their voice through advanced conversation, presentation, and discussion skills. Through a storytelling and experiential lens, students will focus on articulating and responding to in-depth questions, applying advanced presentation skills, and using cultural and communicative skills to collaborate in dynamic city-focused discussions. Placement in this course is based on TOEFL/IELTS and/or placement exam results.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 125
Language and Culture I
The first of a two-semester sequence, this course and its sequel will introduce students to a particular language and culture, which will change annually. May be repeated for different languages. This course does not satisfy the HUM 102, 104, or 106 general education requirement.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 126
Language and Culture II
The second of a two-semester sequence, this course and its predecessor will introduce students to a particular language and culture, which will change annually. May be repeated for different languages. This course does not satisfy the HUM 102, 104, or 106 general education requirement.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 201
Digital Writing
The rhetorical theory and applied practice of digital writing. Topics include word processor alternatives, social media for professional development, multimedia writing, and collaboration and project management.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 212
Telling Your Story: Advanced Language Skills for Academics and Work
This course focuses on the most important topic of all: YOU! You have a unique story to tell – whether in an interview, a discussion, or a professional presentation – and this course will give students the opportunity to develop advanced language skills around each student’s field of study and interests. Through engaging with audio and video materials, active reading, and intensive speaking practice, students will work to develop personalized responses to a variety of behavioral interview questions, research and contribute information from their individual fields into a group discussion, as well as write and present on a technical topic to a general audience of students. Placement in this course is based on TOEFL/IELTS and/or placement exam results.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 225
Languages and Cultures III
Third-semester generic language and culture course designed to be applicable to various languages. Students should have already taken COM 126 in same language.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Humanities (H)

COM 226
Languages and Cultures IV
Fourth-semester generic language and culture course designed to be applicable to various languages. Students should have already taken COM 225 in the same language.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Humanities (H)
COM 250
Intro to Public Speaking
An introduction to the art of public speaking with assignments designed to promote competency in the delivery of speeches, organization of ideas, methods of argumentation, application of evidence and use of visual aids.
Lecture: 2.5 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

COM 301
Introduction to Linguistics
An introduction to the systematic study of language. Focus on the core areas of linguistics, such as sound patterns of language (phonology), form (syntax, morphology), and meaning (semantics, pragmatics), as well as applied areas, such as language variation, language acquisition, psychology of language, and the origin of language.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 306
World Englishes
This course surveys dialects of English around the world, including the U.S., U.K., Canada, India, Africa, and the Caribbean, focusing on vocabulary, word and sentence formation, and sound patterning.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 307
The Self in Language
Explores the constructed nature of the self in literature and non-fiction prose. Special focus on the role of language in determining one’s identity.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

COM 308
Structure of Modern English
This course examines the structure of the English language from four different approaches: traditional-prescriptive, descriptive, generative, and contextual.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 309
History of the English Language
Beginning with basic concepts in language development, this course traces the evolution of modern English, from its Indo-European roots, through Germanic, Anglo-Saxon, Middle English and Early Modern English.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 310
The Human Voice: Description, Analysis and Application
Analysis of human and synthetic speech intended for technology mediated environments and devices. Focus on talker characteristics that affect speech intelligibility and social factors that affect talker characteristics. Attention to design characteristics of technology-mediated speech and how humans react to it.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 311
Linguistics for Technical Communication
This course examines linguistic theory as it relates to everyday problems. The course is divided into four sections, each of which exposes students to an application of these topics to broader issues. Topics include sound patterns of speech, sentence structure, meaning and language and society.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 323
Communicating Science
This course focuses on strategies for communicating scientific information in professional and general settings. Students develop genre documents, learn how to adapt scientific information to various audiences, and complete exercises on style, grammar, and other elements of effective professional communication. Emphasis on usability, cohesion, and style in all assignments.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 330
Standards-Based Web Design
This course introduces the theory and practice of standards-based web design and development. The course focuses on an agile, incremental approach to building accessible, usable, and sustainable web pages that work across all modern browsers and web-enabled mobile devices. The course also provides a rhetorical and technological foundations for quickly establishing competencies in other areas of digital communication such as web application development.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)
Communications (COM) 3

COM 331
Web Application Development
A production-intensive course in applied theory and practice of developing web-based applications emphasizing interface and experience design using emerging Web standards and backend development using Ruby-based web application frameworks.
Prerequisite(s): COM 330
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

COM 333
App Programming Interfaces
A production-intensive course in the theory and applied practice of working with application programming interfaces (APIs), especially Web-available APIs for exchanging and mashing up content and data.
Prerequisite(s): COM 330
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 334
Literature of Modern Science
A study of the literature of science from the Renaissance to modern times.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 353
Media and Globalization
This course covers the social, cultural, economic, and political dimensions of globalization and explores the role that communication and media technologies (newspapers, magazines, film, television, and digital media) play in shaping an interconnected, interdependent globalized world and in constituting our identities as global audiences, citizens, workers, consumers, and activists.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 371
Persuasion
The study of covert and overt persuasion and their influences on society and individuals.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 372
Mass Media and Society
The history and structure of mass media, from print through film and broadcasting to the Internet, and their influences on American society.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 374
Communication in Politics
This course introduces students to the general theories and practices of political campaign communication today. It investigates how those rules and types apply in the current presidential campaign. More generally, the course teaches students to produce written and oral discourse appropriate to the humanities.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 377
Communication Law and Ethics
Explores ethical and legal issues concerning communication in diverse contexts, such as: the mass media - e.g. print, broadcast, and electronic; government and politics; organizational hierarchies - e.g. public and private sector workplaces; academic life - e.g. the classroom, student, and faculty affairs; and interpersonal relations - e.g. love, friendship, marriage.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 380
Topics in Communication
An investigation into a topic of current interest in communication, which will be announced by the instructor when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 381
Topics in Communication
An investigation into a topic of current interest in communication, which will be announced by the instructor when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT's Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 382
Social Media and Society
This course will discuss the development and trends of social media as well as their impacts on individuals and society. It will draw from a broad range of studies related to social media to learn how social media have impacts on interpersonal relationships, psychological well-being, privacy, politics, entertainment, and so on.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)
COM 383
Social Networks
This course will discuss a variety of measures and properties of networks, identify various types of social networks, describe how position within and the structure of networks matter, use software tools to analyze social network data, and apply social network analysis to areas such as information retrieval, social media and organizational behavior.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 384
Humanizing Technology
This course will investigate and experiment with both conceptual and applied efforts to humanize technology. We will question the goals of humanization and its relationships to concepts such as design ethics and user-centered and emotional design. While the focus of the class will be on computer technology and programming languages, we will also look at humanization with regard to industrial design, engineering, architecture and nanotechnologies.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 401
Advanced Composition and Prose Analysis
Critical analysis of various types of prose, with stress on the art as well as the craft of writing. The student is required to write several critical papers.
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 421
Technical Communication
Principles and practice in the communication of technical materials. Students work on the design, writing, and revising of reports, articles, manuals, procedures, proposals, including the use of graphics. Works by modern writers are analyzed.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 423
Communication in the Workplace
A study of communications relating to scientific, technological, and corporate structures. This course will help students develop workplace communication skills, including the ability to analyze situations, determine appropriate communications forms, write and revise work-related documents, and give oral presentations.
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 424
Document Design
Principles and strategies for effective document and information design, focusing on print media. Students design, produce, and evaluate documents for a variety of applications, such as instructional materials, brochures, newsletters, graphics, and tables.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 425
Editing
Principles and practical applications of editing at all levels, working with both hard and soft copy and including copymarking, copyediting, proofreading, grammar and style, and comprehensive editing. Attention primarily to documents from science, technology, and business.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 428
Verbal and Visual Communication
Introduces students to the issues, strategies, and ethics of technical and professional presentations, and provides students with opportunities to engage in public address, video presentations and conferencing, and group presentations. Analysis of audience types and presentation situations, group dynamics, persuasive theories, language, and mass media.
Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of IIT’s Basic Writing Proficiency Requirement
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 430
Introduction to Web Design and Management
Presupposing only that students know how to use a Web browser, this course teaches beginning HTML, basic page layout and design principles, basic multimedia, and the structure of Websites, and also introduces students to WYSIWYG Web page generation software and FTP software.
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 431
Intermediate Web Design and Management
A continuation of COM 430, this course goes more deeply into HTML, multimedia, and some of the advanced features of WYSIWYG editors.
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 432
Advanced Web Design and Management
A continuation of COM 430 and COM 431, this course covers the most current Web technologies.
Lecture: 3  Lab: 0  Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)
COM 435
Intercultural Communication
An introduction to the problems of communication across cultures, with emphasis on the interplay of American civilization with those of other cultural areas.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 437
Video Documentation
Planning and managing digital-video projects to document concepts and procedures in technology, science, business, and education. Attention to scripting, shooting, editing, and distribution media. Students will work on individual activities and collaborate on a community-service or other client-centered project.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 438
Technical Exhibit Design
Planning and managing informative and instructional exhibits in technical, scientific, and business contexts. Attention to characteristics and constraints of space, multimedia, and other resources, along with principles and goals of viewer access and flow. Students will work on individual activities and collaborate on a community-service or other client-centered project. Instruction will incorporate Chicago-area resources such as the Museum of Science and Industry.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C)

COM 440
Introduction to Journalism
Introduction to the principles and practices of modern American journalism. Students will analyze news stories and media, and will cover and report on campus area events. Student-generated news stories will be discussed, analyzed and evaluated.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or HUM 200-299
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3
Satisfies: Communications (C), Humanities (H)

COM 485
Undergraduate Internship in Technical Communication
A cooperative arrangement between IIT and industry, the internship provides students with hands-on experience in the field of technical communication.
Credit: Variable

COM 491
Independent Reading and Research
Consent of department. For advanced students. Based on the selected topic, this course may or may not be applied to the humanities general education requirement. Consult the course instructor.
Prerequisite(s): HUM 102 or HUM 104 or HUM 106 or Graduate standing
Credit: Variable
Satisfies: Humanities (H)