

# TEXAS STATE <sup>®</sup>

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## COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The Communication Studies major teaches a variety of skills that are essential to successfully navigating your personal, professional, and public lives. These include "resilient skills" that are highly valued across different careers even when technical expertise is lacking. As such, Communication Studies differs greatly from profession-specific majors where what is learned may become less relevant as the profession evolves. Studies consistently rank communication skills as some of the most important and highly sought after "human" skills for all employment. [Indeed](#) recently updated its 10 top "employability skills" that "improve performance and value in the workplace." Effective communication was ranked first along with teamwork skills, problem-solving skills, and leadership skills – all of which are also emphasized in Communication Studies programs. Jaren Lindon, writing for [Fast Company](#), reports that effective communication is the "soft" skill most desired by hiring professionals, being listed in job postings at more than 35 times the frequency as other skills.

A defining quality of the Department of Communication Studies is the ability of our faculty to combine the best aspects of teaching with the process of exploring new ideas through research. Because they are active in national and international associations, publish their research in a variety of professional and academic outlets, secure funding to support cutting-edge research, and consistently win awards for teaching and research, Communication Studies faculty are experts at helping students make the vital connection between the classroom and the rest of their lives. Shanna Schultz, Communication Studies graduate and Global Communications Specialist at HP Enterprise, summarizes the impact of these efforts this way:

"The beauty of the Communication Studies degree is that it gives you the skills to determine how to best position yourself based on the job situation. Further, my training helps me in career development. Whether it's adapting my communication approach to different stakeholders, or helping me deal with conflict in the workplace, it's an unending return on my investment in my communication education."