### COMMUNICATION STUDIES/SPEECH COMMUNICATION

#### What can I do with this degree?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUSINESS</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Product and service organizations</td>
<td>Develop strong verbal and written communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Customer Service</td>
<td>Retail stores</td>
<td>Demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Hotels</td>
<td>Learn to work well on a team.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Restaurants</td>
<td>Join related professional associations. Get involved in other campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training and Development</td>
<td>Manufacturers</td>
<td>organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor Relations</td>
<td>Financial companies</td>
<td>Take business courses or earn a business minor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing/Editing</td>
<td>Insurance companies</td>
<td>Gain experience through internships, part-time, or summer jobs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Management</td>
<td>Hospitals and other healthcare organizations</td>
<td>Develop computer skills in areas such as spread sheets, databases, and</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Print and electronic media</td>
<td>presentation software.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other business corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC RELATIONS/ADVERTISING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Private corporations</td>
<td>Develop excellent writing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>Public service organizations</td>
<td>Gain experience through internships, even if unpaid.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Public opinion research firms</td>
<td>Serve as public relations officer of an organization.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Public Affairs</td>
<td>Public relations firms</td>
<td>Take additional courses in marketing, advertising, public relations, or</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Advertising agencies</td>
<td>other area of interest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Analysis/Planning</td>
<td>Public opinion organizations</td>
<td>Develop a portfolio of writing samples, ad campaigns, and other relevant</td>
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<td>Creative Directing</td>
<td>Radio and television companies</td>
<td>work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing/Editing</td>
<td>Sports and entertainment organizations</td>
<td>Join related professional associations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audience Analysis</td>
<td>Hospitality and tourism industry</td>
<td>Be willing to move to locations with greater numbers of job opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Opinion Research</td>
<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>Be prepared to start at the bottom and work to more desirable positions.</td>
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<td>STRATEGIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEDIA</td>
<td>Publishing firms including newspaper, magazine and book</td>
<td>Develop excellent interpersonal and presentation skills.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Internet sites</td>
<td>Take elective courses in journalism, broadcasting, public relations, and advertising.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Television and radio stations</td>
<td>Develop research skills.</td>
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<td>Film industry</td>
<td>Work for campus or local newspaper, radio station, or television station.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Publishing firms including newspaper, magazine and book</td>
<td>Get related experience through internships, even if unpaid.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Internet sites</td>
<td>Learn desktop publishing, webpage design, and other computer skills.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Television and radio stations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Film industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>NONPROFIT</td>
<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>Take courses in psychology, sociology, or social work to broaden perspective.</td>
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<td>Professional associations</td>
<td>Volunteer with community and campus organizations.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chambers of commerce</td>
<td>Learn to work well with different types of people.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community centers</td>
<td>Develop a wide array of skills including writing, speaking, budgeting, grant writing, and leadership.</td>
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<td>Philanthropies</td>
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<td>Hospitals</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>All branches of local, state and federal government</td>
<td>Learn local, state, and federal government job application process.</td>
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<td>Political parties</td>
<td>Take courses in conflict management and develop negotiation skills.</td>
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<td>Political action committees</td>
<td>Volunteer to work on a local political campaign.</td>
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<td>Join related student organizations and earn leadership roles.</td>
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<td>Find an internship with a government organization to get a foot in the door.</td>
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<td>Maintain a strong grade point average as many government programs are very competitive.</td>
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## AREAS

### LAW
- Law Assistance
- Prosecution
- Defense
- Contractual
- Corporate
- Nonprofit or Public Interest
- Government
- Mediation
- Lobbying

### EDUCATION
- Teaching
- Research
- Student Support Services including:
  - Admissions
  - Advising
  - Development
  - Student Affairs
  - Recruitment
  - Alumni Affairs

### LAW EMPLOYERS
- Law firms
- Government agencies
- Corporations
- Public interest organizations
- Private practice
- Colleges and universities

### EDUCATION EMPLOYERS
- Colleges and universities

### LAW STRATEGIES
- Plan on attending a specialized paralegal training school or law school depending upon area of interest.
- Participate in a debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.
- Join pre-law organizations.
- Obtain a part-time or summer job at a law office.
- Take courses in and gain experience with mediation and conflict resolution.

### EDUCATION STRATEGIES
- Ph.D. required for teaching and research in colleges and universities. Maintain a high grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations.
- Earn a master's degree in college student personnel or a related field for administrative positions.
- Get involved in campus leadership roles in residence halls, student unions/activities, programming boards, etc.

### GENERAL INFORMATION
- Develop strong written and verbal communication skills and excellent interpersonal skills.
- Get experience with public speaking by joining Toastmasters.
- Learn to work well on a team and develop leadership skills.
- Explore specializations within major and professional field. Select electives to enhance knowledge in area(s) of interest.
- Obtain experience through part-time employment, co-op, internships, or volunteer experience.
- Get involved in campus activities and professional organizations.
- Speech communication is a broad degree that can lead to job opportunities in many different fields. Skills and experiences gained through co-curricular activities, internships, part-time jobs, and volunteering are critical in shaping a career path.
- Speech communication is also good preparation for graduate school in many disciplines.

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Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (1996, Revised 2003, 2005)

UTK is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA Employer
What can I do with this degree?
COMMUNICATION STUDIES/SPEECH COMMUNICATION

Communication Studies Links:

- Magazine Publishers of America
- TV Jobs from TV Rundown
- Work in PR
- Communications Roundtable
- Careers in Journalism from the American Society of Newspaper Editors
- Careers in Advertising and PR
- Public Relations Society of America
- Film and Television Production Directory / Employment Opportunities
- TV Jobs Broadcast Employment Services
- National Association of Broadcasters
- Announcers from the Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Advertising, Marketing, Promotions, Public Relations, and Sales Managers from the Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Public Relations Specialists from the Occupational Outlook Handbook
- News Analysts, Reporters, and Correspondents from the Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Television, Video, and Motion Picture Camera Operators and Editors from the Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Broadcasting from the Occupational Outlook Handbook

AREAS
BUSINESS
- Sales
- Customer Service
- Management
- Human Resources
- Training and Development
- Labor Relations
- Writing/Editing
- Office Management

EMPLOYERS
- Product and service organizations
- Retail stores
- Hotels
Restaurants
Manufacturers
Financial companies
Insurance companies
Hospitals and other healthcare organizations
Print and electronic media
Other business corporations

**STRATEGIES**
Develop strong verbal and written communication skills.
Demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills.
Learn to work well on a team.
Join related professional associations. Get involved in other campus organizations.
Take business courses or earn a business minor.
Gain experience through internships, part-time, or summer jobs.
Develop computer skills in areas such as spreadsheets, databases, and presentation software.

**AREAS**
PUBLIC RELATIONS/ADVERTISING
Public Relations
Advertising
Marketing
Corporate Public Affairs
Development
Media Analysis/Planning
Creative Directing
Writing/Editing
Audience Analysis
Public Opinion Research

**EMPLOYERS**
Private corporations
Public service organizations
Public opinion research firms
Public relations firms
Advertising agencies
Public opinion organizations
Radio and television companies
Sports and entertainment organizations
Hospitality and tourism industry
Nonprofit organizations
Consulting firms
Freelance

**STRATEGIES**
Develop excellent writing skills.
Gain experience through internships, even if unpaid.
Serve as public relations officer of an organization.
Take additional courses in marketing, advertising, public relations, or other area of interest.
Develop a portfolio of writing samples, ad campaigns, and other relevant work.
Join related professional associations.
Be willing to move to locations with greater numbers of job opportunities. Be prepared to start at the bottom and work to more desirable positions.

**AREAS**
**MEDIA**
Writing
Editing
Copywriting
Publishing
Producing
Managing/Directing
Research
Media Sales

**EMPLOYERS**
Publishing firms including newspaper, magazine and book
Internet sites
Television and radio stations
Film industry

**STRATEGIES**
Develop excellent interpersonal and presentation skills.
Take elective courses in journalism, broadcasting, public relations, and advertising.
Develop research skills.
Work for campus or local newspaper, radio station, or television station.
Get related experience through internships, even if unpaid.
Learn desktop publishing, webpage design, and other computer skills.

**AREAS**
**NONPROFIT**
Administration
Program Coordination
Grant Writing
Writing/Editing
Fundraising
Volunteer Coordination

**EMPLOYERS**
Nonprofit organizations
Professional associations
Chambers of commerce
Community centers
Philanthropies
Hospitals

**STRATEGIES**
Take courses in psychology, sociology, or social work to broaden perspective.
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AREAS
GOVERNMENT
Public Information
Campaigning
Programming
Legislative Assistance
Research
Lobbying
Conflict Negotiation

EMPLOYERS
All branches of local, state and federal government
Political parties
Political action committees

STRATEGIES
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Take courses in conflict management and develop negotiation skills.
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Maintain a strong grade point average as many government programs are very competitive.

AREAS
LAW
Law Assistance
Prosecution
Defense
Contractual
Corporate
Nonprofit or Public Interest
Government
Mediation
Lobbying

EMPLOYERS
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Government agencies
Corporations
Public interest organizations
Private practice
Colleges and universities

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Research
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