



University Council

February 6, 2026

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2025-2026

Susan Sanchez, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Julie Campbell

Arts and Sciences – Casie LeGette (Arts)

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Law – Joe Miller

Medicine – Erica Brownfield

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Public and International Affairs – Ryan Powers

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Social Work – Jennifer Elkins

Veterinary Medicine – Paul Eubig

Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

Ex-Officio – Provost Benjamin Ayers

Undergraduate Student Representative – Ella Colker

Graduate Student Representative – Yaw Buabeng

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences to offer a Minor in Communication, Leadership, and Advocacy will be an agenda item for the February 13, 2026, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost Benjamin Ayers

Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR MINOR PROGRAM OF STUDY

School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department/Division: Communication Studies

Minor Name: Communication, Leadership, and Advocacy

CIP: 09010000

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2026

Which campus(es) will offer this program? Athens

1. Program Description:

Provide a brief summary of the objective of the program.

The purpose of the proposed Minor in Communication, Leadership, and Advocacy is to provide students across the university with an opportunity to develop the communication skills to be leaders in their communities.

The educational objectives of the proposed minor are:

1. to understand the communication dynamics of communities,
2. to learn about diverse cultures, contexts, and eras and how leaders created impact,
3. to develop communication skills for leading, including speaking, listening, debating, and organizing.

2. Program of Study/Requirements:

Include prefixes, numbers, and titles of required courses, as well as total credit hours (must be 15-18 hours). Include any residency requirements or grade requirements.

Foundational Course (3 hours)

Choose one of the following courses:

COMM 1110, Introduction to Public Speaking (3 hours)

COMM 1500, Introduction to Interpersonal Communication (3 hours)

Principles of Communities (6 hours)

Choose two courses from the following, at least one of which must be at the 3000-level or above:

COMM 2200, Rhetoric and Society (3 hours)

COMM 3330, Rhetoric of the Civil Rights Movements (3 hours)

COMM 4310/6310, Communication Strategies in Government (3 hours)

COMM 4320, Communication Strategies in Political Campaigns (3 hours)

COMM 4360/6360, Communication Strategies in Social Movements (3 hours)

COMM 4370/6370, Women and United States Public Discourse (1-4 hours)

COMM 4390, Communication, Rhetoric, and the Common Good (3 hours)

COMM 4800, Intercultural Communication (3 hours)

Skills of Leadership and Advocacy (6 hours)

Choose two courses from the following, at least one of which must be at the 3000-level or above:

COMM 2400, Oral Decision-Making (3 hours)

COMM 2700E, Communicating in Digital Environments (3 hours)

COMM 3100, Advanced Public Communication (3 hours)

COMM 4110/6110, Speech Composition (3 hours)

COMM 4220, Argumentation (3 hours)

COMM 4310/6310, Communication Strategies in Government (3 hours)

Capstone (3 hours)

COMM 4900, Special Topics in Communication (3 hours)

Total = 18 hours

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Minor in Communication, Leadership, and Advocacy

College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department: Communication Studies

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2026

School/College:

- Interim Head of the Department of Communication Studies, Dr. Belinda Stillion Southard, 1/6/2026
- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Paula Lemons, 1/21/2026