

Department of Communication & Media Studies

Student Guide 2024 - 2025

liberal arts &
professional studies



About

The Department of Communication & Media Studies provides an interdisciplinary environment in which students develop a comprehensive, critical awareness of communication and media.

As a program of study, we analyze the production and circulation of ideas and values and explore their relationship to social and cultural practices.

As faculty we help students acquire requisite tools of reflective inquiry, as well as verbal, written, and digital skills essential to effective, creative communication, and critical civic engagement.

As communication scholars we are collectively committed to historically informed, socially relevant research and pedagogy that addresses social relations of power.

NOTE: *In 2021-22 we changed our name from Communication Studies to Communication & Media Studies, and as a result our department and course rubric changed from COMN to CMDS. For the purposes of your degree and courses, these are interchangeable. For example, the courses COMN 1000 and CMDS 1000 are the same course. In this guide you will see both COMN and CMDS used depending on context, but these are the same.*

Contact Us:

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- Website: yorku.ca/laps/cmds
- X: twitter.com/YorkUCMDS
- Instagram: [instagram.com/YorkUCMDS](https://www.instagram.com/YorkUCMDS)
- Facebook: [facebook.com/YorkUCMDS](https://www.facebook.com/YorkUCMDS)

Chair: [Ganaele Langlois](https://profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/gana/) (<https://profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/gana/>)

Undergraduate Program Director: [Estee Fresco](https://profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/efresco/) (<https://profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/efresco/>)

Student resources at York

Academic Advising Services for LA&PS

(103 Central Square)

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/support/academic-advising/>)

Provides advising especially around policies and regulations (program selection, academic standing, petitions, grades, and degree requirements). The Communication & Media Studies program provides more specific program-related advising.

Academic Integrity (<https://www.yorku.ca/unit/vpacad/academic-integrity/>)

Outlines York's academic integrity policies, especially around plagiarism and academic honesty violations, and has links to resources to help you navigate these issues. Make sure to familiarize yourself with these policies and practices.

Atkinson centre for mature & part-time students (ACMAPS)

(<https://acmaps.info.yorku.ca/>)

Join a community of mature students and staff invested in their success from admission through graduation.

Career Centre

(<https://careers.yorku.ca/>)

Develop impactful career management skills alongside peers, alumni, staff, faculty, and employers.

Centre for Human Rights

(<http://rights.info.yorku.ca/>)

The Centre assists individuals and groups to address and resolve allegations of discrimination and harassment as defined by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Centre for Indigenous Student Services (246

York Lanes) (<http://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/>)

The Centre for Indigenous Student (CISS) Services strives to create a sense of belonging and to support the academic, spiritual, physical, and emotional well-being of a diverse Indigenous student population. We provide a safe community space that offers culturally appropriate support services and programs to facilitate students' success throughout their post-secondary studies.

Centre For Sexual Violence Response, Support & Education

(<https://thecentre.yorku.ca/>)

Access life-affirming support for survivors of sexual violence and those who receive disclosures.

ESL Student Resources

ESL Open Learning Centre

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/eslolc/>)

Room 116 Atkinson/New College

ESL program in LA&PS

(<http://www.yorku.ca/laps/dlll/esl/>)

International Student Financial Support

(<https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/scholarships-awards-and-bursaries/>)

Includes entrance scholarships, continuing student scholarships, bursaries, and emergency financial support. Available for all international students. Also visit Student Financial Services for financial support for international students (<https://sfs.yorku.ca/scholarships/international>).

LA&PS Academic Petitions

(<https://www.yorku.ca/LAPS/DECISIONS-%20PETITIONS/ACADEMIC-PETITIONS>)

Request for the waiver of a Faculty regulation or deadline. Students have the right to petition on reasonable grounds for special consideration.

LA&PS Colleges

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/colleges/>)

Find your home at York in cozy study spaces, social events, and fun community groups! Come hang out.

LA&PS Financial Support

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/student-awards/>)

This page contains additional information on scholarships and bursaries, as well as links to additional resources. Emergency funding is available for students who encounter unexpected financial need.

LA&PS International Student Supports

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/international/>)

Offers support for incoming students, peer mentorship, and events that can help you get oriented at York and meet other students.

The Learning Commons

(<https://learningcommons.yorku.ca/>)

Library service that offers support for research and essay writing, including one-on-one help. Their website also has links to many of the other resources included in this syllabus.

Learning Skills Services at the Student Counselling, Health & Well-being office

(<https://www.yorku.ca/sclld/learning-skills/>)

Provides a range of resources, including workshops on everything from academic anxiety to essay writing, memory skills, and time management. An excellent place to start in terms of getting supports for your studies.

Libraries

(<https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/>)

Find, evaluate, use, and cite the information you're looking for. Make use of study space and expert research support.

Multimedia Language Centre

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/mlc>)

Learn languages better and easier alongside friends! Make use of innovative language learning technology.

Office of Student Community Relations

(<https://oscr.students.yorku.ca/>)

Their mandate is to provide advice, referrals, training, alternate dispute resolution methods, judicial processes (local adjudication, tribunals), critical incident support and student leadership opportunities. They also oversee:

Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities

(oscr.students.yorku.ca/student-conduct)

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)

(<https://www.yorku.ca/LAPS/SUPPORT/PASS-PROGRAM>)

Succeed in challenging LA&PS courses with free study sessions to break down complex ideas, practise problem-solving, and prepare for exams.

Peer mentor programs for Communication & Media Studies students at Founders College

(<https://www.yorku.ca/colleges/founders/support/>)

Students can access various academic supports through the PAL, PASS, and other peer mentorship programs. Communication & Media Studies is affiliated with Founders College.

Scott Library: The main York library for Liberal Arts & Professional Studies students, located in Central Square. Scott and other libraries offer a wide range of services to support research and writing. Visit the website or go in to talk with librarians about what is available. Especially if you are new to York, it is highly recommended that you get acquainted early with the library system and how it works; this is a sure way to improve your chances of doing well.

Student Accessibility Services

(<http://accessibility.students.yorku.ca>)

Provides disability-related services, as well as accommodation documents for students with disabilities.

Student Community & Leadership Development (SCLD)

(<https://www.yorku.ca/scld>)

Engage in student life from new student transition to leadership in clubs, organizations, & student government.

Student Counselling, Health & Well-being office (<http://counselling.students.yorku.ca>)

N110 Bennett Centre for Student Services
This is an umbrella centre providing a range of student services: personal counselling, group development workshops, learning skills training, and a range of supports for student well-being.

Student Financial Services (SFS)

(<https://sfs.yorku.ca/>)

Keep on top of school fees and take advantage of financial aid; scholarships, awards, & bursaries; work/study programs; & more.

Student Numeracy Assistance Centre

(SNACK) (<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/snack/>)

Access numeracy assistance for students in LA&PS courses that involve math, stats and Excel.

Study Hub (<http://studyhub.info.yorku.ca>)

Provides resources for building study skills, including facilitating study groups and individual tutoring.

Vanier College Productions (VCP)

(<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/vcp>)

Explore all things theatre, performance, leadership, and fun at this extra-curricular theatre company.

The Writing Centre (311 Ross South)

(<http://writing-centre.writ.laps.yorku.ca/>)

This is the main source in LA&PS for help for developing writing skills. Both small group and individual help are available, either as one-off appointments or as ongoing help over the course of the year. Book early as space can fill up.

NOTE: The Writing Centre is extremely useful for anyone at any writing level, including advanced writers.

YFS Food Support Centre

(<http://www.yfs.ca/fsc>)

Access free non-perishable food and basic items in times of need.

York International

(<https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/>)

Offers a variety of programs to assist international students, including health insurance and visa/immigration supports, networking and peer mentorship, work and career advice, and regular coffee break drop-in sessions where you can meet other students.

York University scholarships & bursaries

(<https://sfs.yorku.ca/scholarships-awards-bursaries>)

Here you can find information on scholarships, which support international and domestic student excellence and are based on grades or other achievements, as well as bursaries, which are based on financial need.

CMDS Degree Programs

Our degree options include:

- » Honours Major BA (Stand-Alone)
- » Honours Double-Major BA
- » Honours Major/Minor BA
- » International Honours BA (iBA): Stand-alone Major and Major/Minor

Please note these residency and graduation requirements for each program:

- » **Residency requirement:** A minimum of 30 credits and at least 50% of the credits required in each major/minor must be taken at York University.
- » **Graduation requirement:** Students must successfully pass at least 120 credits which meet the Faculty's degree and program requirements with a cumulative grade point average of at least 5.0. As students progress through their Honours BA degree, they must meet the minimum overall GPA, as defined by the number of credits earned—see the chart below—or they will be de-enrolled from the BA Honours degree.

Year Level	Total Earned Credits	Minimum Cumulative GPA
Year 1	Less than 24 earned credits	4.00
Year 2	24-53 earned credits	4.25
Year 3	54-83 earned credits	4.80
Year 4	84 earned credits or greater	5.00

Major Requirements for Honours Major BA* (Stand-Alone)

**Students who began earlier than 2012 are asked to consult the department for relevant regulations*

Students who entered the program in **January 2022 or earlier** must pass at least 120 credits including:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 6.0 at 1000 level; 18.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » 18 credits outside Communication & Media Studies
- » 33 free choice credits (can be in Communication & Media Studies)
- » Upper-level credits: At least 36 credits at the 3xxx-level or 4xxx-level, including at least 18 credits at the 4xxx-level

Students who entered the program in **September 2022 or later** must pass at least 120 credits including:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 9.0 at 1000 level; 15.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » 18 credits outside Communication & Media Studies
- » 33 free choice credits (can be in Communication & Media Studies)

Upper-level credits: At least 36 credits at the 3xxx-level or 4xxx-level, including at least 18 credits at the 4xxx-level.

Students are required to take CMDS1000 6.0 before other courses, but there is no requirement that you complete all CMDS 2xxx credits before taking CMDS 3xxx credits. We do require that you have 84 credits earned PRIOR to enrolling in CMDS 4xxx courses. The rationale for this is that we want to ensure all students in these small seminars are prepared academically to handle the upper-level material.

General Education Courses: A minimum of 21 general education credits* as follows:

**For students who began in 2014/15 and onwards (Students who started earlier are required to complete 24 credits instead).*

- » 6.0 credits in natural science (NATS)
- » a 9.0 credit approved general education course in the social science or humanities categories
- » a 6.0 credit approved general education course in the opposite category to the 9-credit course in social science or humanities

[General Education courses](https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm) (<https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm>) **instructions:**

- » under “Search Current Courses By...”, click on General Education Courses;
- » under “Session”, select the appropriate session;
- » under “Faculty”, select Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (AP)
- » under “Degree”, select Bachelor of Arts – (BA)
- » click on “Search Courses”

Honours Requirements:

- » Upper-level credits: At least 36 credits at the 3xxx-level or 4xxx-level, including at least 18 credits at the 4xxx-level (24 of these credits will be completed within the CMDS major; the other 12 credits can be taken inside or outside of the major).
- » Credits outside the major: Aside from general education courses, at least 18 credits must be taken outside of CMDS.

For more information on the mandatory courses, visit our [Courses](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/undergrad/courses/) (<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/undergrad/courses/>) page. For more general information, visit our [Degree Options & Requirements](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/undergrad/degree-options-requirements/) (<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/undergrad/degree-options-requirements/>) page.

Major Requirements for Honours Double Major BA

The Honours Major in Communication & Media Studies previously described in the Stand-Alone program (see above) may be pursued jointly with any other program or department in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies offering an Honours Major.

- » Any other program or department in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies offering an Honours Major.
- » Film Studies in the Faculty of Arts, Media, Performance and Design (formerly Fine Arts Faculty).
- » Kinesiology or Psychology in the Faculty of Health.

NB: Courses taken to meet CMDS Studies requirements cannot also be used to meet the requirements of the other major.

Honours Requirements:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 6.0 at 1000 level; 18.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » up to 48 credits in other major
- » 3 free choice credits

Major Requirements for Honours Double Major BA

The Honours Major in Communication & Media Studies previously described in the Stand-Alone program may be pursued jointly with any Honours Minor BA program offered in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies.

Honours Requirements:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 6.0 at 1000 level; 18.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » 30 credits in minor
- » 21 free choice credits

International BA (iBA) Degree

**Students who began earlier than 2015-16 are asked to consult the department for relevant regulations*

Students who entered the program in **January 2022 or earlier** must pass at least 120 credits including:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 6.0 at 1000 level; 18.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » Language Study Credits: At least 18 credits in a modern language offered by York University, including the Advanced I university-level course in the chosen language
- » Internationally-Oriented Credits: 9 credits outside of the student's iBA major requirements must be deemed "internationally-oriented" (e.g., courses with "global", "globalization," "international" or another country as part of their title). A sample list of internationally-oriented courses was developed by the Office of the Dean, LA&PS.
- » ANTH 2300 3.0 Intercultural Training Skills.
- » International Exchange: All iBA students must complete at least one full term abroad as a full-time student at one of York University's exchange partners.

Students who entered the program in September 2022 or later must pass at least 120 credits including:

- » 48 credits in Communication & Media Studies: 9.0 at 1000 level; 15.0 at 2000 level; 12.0 at 3000 level; and 12.0 at 4000 level
- » 21 General Education credits
- » Language Study Credits: At least 18 credits in a modern language offered by York University, including the Advanced I university-level course in the chosen language
- » Internationally-Oriented Credits: 9 credits outside of the student's iBA major requirements must be deemed "internationally-oriented" (e.g., courses with "global", "globalization," "international" or another country as part of their title). A sample list of internationally-oriented courses was developed by the Office of the Dean, LA&PS.
- » ANTH 2300 3.0 Intercultural Training Skills.
- » International Exchange: All iBA students must complete at least one full term abroad as a full-time student at one of York University's exchange partners.

Students interested in a Double-Major or Major/Minor iBA should consult the department

- » ANTH 2300 3.0 Intercultural Training Skills (should there be a scheduling conflict with a core course required for the student's major, ANTH 2300 can be waived and replaced with an extra 3 internationally-oriented credits for a total of 12, as in the original iBA program).
- » International Exchange: All iBA students must complete at least one full term abroad as a full-time student at one of York University's exchange partners.

Honours Requirements:

Upper-level credits: At least 36 credits at the 3xxx-level or 4xxx-level, including at least 18 credits at the 4xxx level.

Credits outside the major: For the Honours iBA, courses taken outside the major to satisfy the language requirement and/or the internationally-oriented courses requirement can also be used to satisfy the outside the major requirement.

For more detailed information regarding the Honours iBA program requirements, please consult the Degree Requirements section of the Undergraduate Calendar.

An **advising session with the department** is strongly recommended for any student thinking of, or enrolled in, the iBA degree option – particularly when planning courses at the exchange University.

Important course-related information you need to know!

Grading Standards: what does a GPA of 5 mean?

At York, we use three evaluation methods: a letter grade, a point value, and a percentage. Students may get letter grades (which represents a numerical range) or percentages on a piece of course work. Final course grades are given as letter grades. Please see the grading matrix below. In calculating the overall Grade Point Average (GPA), course grades are converted to a point value and then depending on the credit weight of the course (3, 6, or 9), an average is computed from all course credits. Students can use the [GPA Calculator](https://students.yorku.ca/york-gpa-calculator) (<https://students.yorku.ca/york-gpa-calculator>)

to see what their marks will be if they are curious about the effects different marks would have on their GPA:

LETTER GRADE	POINT VALUE	%	DEFINITION
A+	9	90%+	exceptional
A	8	80-89%	excellent
B+	7	75-79%	very good
B	6	70-74%	good
C+	5	65-69%	competent
C	4	60-64%	fairly competent
D+	3	55-59%	passing
D	2	50-54%	barely passing
E	1	40-49%	marginally failing
F	0	0-39%	Failing

How much feedback on grades will you get before the drop date(s)?

Your Course Director is required to give feedback to you in a timely fashion so that you can make decisions about whether to drop a course before the drop date. [2024-2025 dates](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2024-2025/fall-winter) (https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2024-2025/fall-winter).

Normally, 30% of the mark should be available for a full-year course and 15% for a semester course by the respective drop-dates.

Dropping or Withdrawing from a Course

For complete information regarding enrolling, dropping or withdrawing from a course, as well as financial and sessional deadlines, please be sure to visit—and bookmark—the [Important Dates Website](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2024-2025/fall-winter) (https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2024-2025/fall-winter).

There are **different academic** and **financial deadlines** for adding and dropping courses. Be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the difference between the Sessional Dates and the Refund Table.

If a student drops a course before the drop date, the course will be removed from the transcript.

After the drop date, students may still **withdraw from a course** using the registration and enrolment system until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as “W”. The withdrawal will not affect your GPA or count towards the credits required for your degree. **Add, drop, and withdrawal deadlines can be found on the Important Dates website.**

The [withdrawal policy](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw20) (<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw20>) gives an option to students who are struggling in a course and/or who have become overwhelmed by their circumstances: it lets students minimize the impact on their academic standing, reduce their course load and focus on successfully completing their other courses.

The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies also provides an [Academic Petitions](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-petitions/) (<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-petitions/>) process. There are several types of petition, including late withdrawals and other options for students on the grounds of hardship.

Course Relief

York University allows eligible undergraduate students who have changed their program degree or major to [exclude courses completed](http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/course-relief) (<http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/course-relief>) toward the prior major requirements from their Overall Cumulative GPA (OCGPA) and credit totals for their new program of study. This policy aims to help students continue in and graduate from a new academic program.

What can you do if you receive a low or failure FINAL mark and it's pulling down your GPA?

You have a number of options depending on your circumstances:

- » If you think you've been unfairly evaluated, you can ask for a Grade Reappraisal.
- » You can submit a Petition: If the mark or marks are the result of circumstances over which you have not had any control (sickness, family matters, accident, etc.), you can petition to have the mark or marks removed from your transcript. There is a petition package that must be completed and supporting evidence/documents must be attached.
- » You can retake the course: The second grade will become the Grade of Record, and the first mark—while remaining on your transcript—is NOT averaged into your GPA.
- » You can work very hard the next session to bring up your average.

How do you get work reappraised?

During the school session

If you question a mark you received in a course with a tutorial, please approach your Tutorial Leader first during their office hours for clarification of the marking scheme. If you continue to be dissatisfied, make an appointment with the Course Director, and seek their intervention. The Undergraduate Program Director can be asked to intervene if a dispute is unresolved, but they cannot change the mark.

Once final marks have been received

If you think that your final grade in a course was not justified, you may submit a formal request to the Department by emailing cmdsupd@yorku.ca. Requests for Grade Reappraisals must be submitted within 21 calendar days of the release of final grades. Students may ask for all written work, or just specific parts to be reassessed – please note that participation marks CANNOT be reassessed. In courses with Tutorial Leaders, the reassessment will be carried out by the Course Director (if they have not already seen the work), and then if the dispute continues, by an anonymous marker (another full-time teaching member of CMDS) who will receive the work with the student's **name removed**. As a result of the reappraisal, the original grade may be raised, lowered, or confirmed. The

Grade Reappraisal process may take from 6-8 weeks; and you will be notified of the result in writing via email or letter to your home address.

The decision of the Department may be appealed—on procedural grounds only—to the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies' Committee on Student Appeals and Academic Integrity. Appeals must be submitted within 21 calendar days of receiving the Department's letter.

What if you can't finish your work during the term?

Seek a Deferred Standing from your Course Director

Students may be eligible for Deferred Standing in a course on such grounds as illness, family misfortune, or accident. Deferred Standing allows students more time to complete course assignments, tests, and exams, past the deadline for the Course Director to submit final grades. Students in such circumstances should **approach their Course Director(s)** to sign the [Final Exam/Assignment Deferred Standing Agreement form](http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred_standing_agreement.pdf) (http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred_standing_agreement.pdf).

Signed Deferred Standing Agreements must normally be submitted within 7 days following a missed exam or the last day to submit term work.

If a Course Director is unwilling or unable to sign the DSA form, you can meet with an [Academic Advisor to submit a petition package](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-petitions/) (<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-petitions/>) within 14 calendar days of the missed exam or last day to submit term work.

How do you take a course at another university for credit?

Obtain a Letter of Permission (LOP)

If you wish to enroll at another university (host) and have those undergraduate credits transferred toward your York University Degree, you must first apply and be granted a [Letter of Permission](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/lop/) (<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/lop/>) by the Office of the Registrar.

Steps for taking an LOP:

- » Download and fill out a [Letter of Permission](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/lop/) (<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/lop/>) request.
- » Submit the form along with the Course(s) Syllabus to the appropriate department for them to confirm whether the course(s) is/are equivalent to one of their course(s);
- » Submit the completed form with the department signature to the Registrar's Office (RO),
- » and pay the 50\$ related fee (once processed, the RO will send you the Letter of Permission itself);
- » Follow the other institution's process to enrol in their course(s);
- » Once the course(s) is completed, arrange for the other institution to send an official transcript directly to York's Registrar's Office - it is also recommended to order a transcript for your own record as you will not have access to the one sent to York;
- » Once York receives the official transcript directly from the other institution, if the course was successfully passed (with a minimal grade equivalent to a C at York), the credits will be added to your credits count (but will NOT appear on your York transcript).

How seriously should you take academic honesty? Very seriously!

The York University's [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/) (https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/) “is an affirmation and clarification for members of the University of the general obligation to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty.” Students are advised to make themselves aware of all the instances of academic dishonesty and proper research procedures in order to avoid being charged. Make sure to familiarize yourself with York’s policy and expectations, [starting here](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-honesty/) (https://www.yorku.ca/laps/decisions-petitions/academic-honesty/).

The Department of Communication & Media Studies is committed to following up on all reported cases. The Undergraduate Program Director’s office handles all cases at the Exploratory Level.

Where do I go for specific academic help with my major?

For help with your degree as a whole, visit LA&PS [Academic Advising](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/support/academic-advising/) (https://www.yorku.ca/laps/support/academic-advising/) to get more information and schedule an advising appointment.

For specific Communication & Media Studies help, email lapscmds@yorku.ca or call 416-736-5057 for an advising session with either our Program Assistant or Undergraduate Program Director. We are here to help.

Enrich your Undergraduate Experience by Participating in a York International Exchange

We encourage students with an overall GPA of B (or 6) at the end of their first year (24+ credits) to consider studying for a semester at a university abroad. You would need to attend workshops and information sessions provided by York International in your second year to ensure that you are able to attend a university abroad in your third year. Please consult the [York International](https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/global-learning/outgoing-global-learning/outgoing-academic-exchange/) (https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/global-learning/outgoing-global-learning/outgoing-academic-exchange/) page for full details. There are excellent Communication & Media Studies programs around the world affiliated with York, and many of them allow you to study in English. **Book an advising session with the Undergraduate Program Director** if you need to chart out your CMDS studies major courses before you leave to study abroad.

We also encourage students to consider taking the [iBA degree](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/international-ba/) (https://www.yorku.ca/laps/international-ba/) which requires one semester abroad as well as language courses and internationally-oriented courses beyond the requirements for the major. **All students** are eligible to study abroad, but this is required for iBA students.

Communication Studies Students Association (CSSA)

The [York University Undergraduate Communication & Media Studies Students Association \(CSSA\)](https://cssa.club.yorku.ca/) (https://cssa.club.yorku.ca/) seeks to create relationships between Communication & Media Studies students through both academic and social events; students can connect through events such as networking galas, job fairs, movie nights, mentoring programs and speakers. It also hopes to create a bridge between faculty and students to prepare students for life after university. The Association is created by students, for students with faculty and staff support. Visit their office in DB 3036, or on social media. [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CSSAYorkU/) (https://www.facebook.com/CSSAYorkU/), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/cssayorku/) (https://www.instagram.com/cssayorku/).

Student Awards

The CMDS awards listed below ([see here for more information](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/academic-resources/awards-scholarships-bursaries/): <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/cmds/academic-resources/awards-scholarships-bursaries/>) are available exclusively to students in the major. Please NOTE: a letter is required for CMDS students applying to the Reva Orlicky Memorial & Founding Friends Award and the York International Exchange Award; eligible students are automatically considered for all other awards. Recipients of the awards will be notified in the fall and honoured at a reception.

Arthur Siegel Memorial Award

Communication & Media Studies-York International Exchange Award

Dalton Kehoe Scholarship

Eric Koch Award

Penny Jolliffe Scholarship in Communication & Media Studies

Reva Orlicky Memorial & Founding Friends Award

The Jerry Durlak Prize

There are also a range of other awards and bursaries available to York University undergraduate [students more broadly](https://futurestudents.yorku.ca/financing-your-degree/scholarships-bursaries/) (<https://futurestudents.yorku.ca/financing-your-degree/scholarships-bursaries/>).



FW 2024/25 Course Offerings

First Year

AP/CMDS 1000 6.00	Introduction to Communication & Media
AP/CMDS 1401 3.00	Fake News, Fact-Finding and the Future of Journalism
AP/CMDS 1410 3.00	Sport Media
AP/CMDS 1425 3.00	Youth, Media, and Culture
AP/CMDS 1630 3.00	Video Gaming & Society

Second Year

AP/CMDS 2100 3.00	Foundational Communication & Media Theory
AP/CMDS 2150 3.00	Introduction to Research Methods in Communication & Media Studies
AP/CMDS 2200 3.00	Introduction to Politics, Policy and the Media
AP/CMDS 2210 3.00	Race, Racism, and the Image
AP/CMDS 2215 3.00	Comedy and Social Change
AP/CMDS 2500 3.00	Information and Technology
AP/CMDS 2510 3.00	Imagining Data Justice
AP/CMDS 2700 3.00	Media, Culture and Society
AP/CMDS 2830 6.00	Music and Society

Third Year

AP/CMDS 3101 3.00	Contemporary Communication Theory
AP/CMDS 3204 3.00	Public Diplomacy as Communication
AP/CMDS 3213 3.00	Labour in Communication and Culture
AP/CMDS 3220 3.00	Organizing Social Movements
AP/CMDS 3250 3.00	Communication Policy I: A Comparative Introduction
AP/CMDS 3252 3.00	Ethics and the Media
AP/CMDS 3517 3.00	Doing Bodies/Doing Technology
AP/CMDS 3520 3.00	AI, Automation, and Mediation
AP/CMDS 3550 3.00	Digital Media and Culture
AP/CMDS 3551 3.00	Advanced Issues: Digital Media & Culture
AP/CMDS 3700 3.00	The Emergence of Advertising
AP/CMDS 3701 3.00	Advertising, Culture and Society
AP/CMDS 3729 3.00	Screen Cultures
AP/CMDS 3730 3.00	An Introduction to the Documentary
AP/CMDS 3770 3.00	Global Youth Cultures
AP/CMDS 3781 3.00	Media and Environment

Fourth Year

AP/CMDS 4130 3.00	Unions, Organizing, and The Media
AP/CMDS 4140 6.00	Communications Field Experience: Corporate and Cultural Industries
AP/CMDS 4206 3.00	NetWork: Digital Labour, Profit, and Exploitation
AP/CMDS 4222 3.00	News Next: Creating News in a Platform Society
AP/CMDS 4275 3.00	Power, Resistance and New Media
AP/CMDS 4306 3.00	Inside Technology
AP/CMDS 4700 6.00	Popular Culture and Communications
AP/CMDS 4707 6.00	Media History Seminar
AP/CMDS 4725 6.00	Mediations of Identity
AP/CMDS 4732 3.00	Theories of Diaspora and Transnational Media
AP/CMDS 4740 3.00	Surveillance, Media, and Society
AP/CMDS 4742 6.00	Sport, Media and Society
AP/CMDS 4750 3.00	Approaching Indigenous Media
AP/CMDS 4755 3.00	Indigenous Media in the Canadian Context

