

**ACADEMIC RHODEMAP**  
**BA COMMUNICATION MAJOR**  
 With Concentration in Public and Professional Communication



**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE**

**GENERAL EDUCATION:** A complete listing of General Education courses can be found at the Office of Academic Support and Information Services (OASIS) or online at <https://www.ric.edu/recordsoffice/catalog.php>; look at catalog for year you enrolled. For Gen Ed courses, aside from Second Language requirement, which varies depending on where you are placed, you need ONE course from each category. Second Language 101/102 options are: American Sign, Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Portuguese, or Spanish. For other ways to satisfy the second language requirement look under the Gen Ed. section of the catalog. Any courses marked (F) offered Fall only; (Sp) Spring only.

Academic Major Checklist	Course
COMM 208 Public Speaking	
COMM 251 Research Methods in Communication*	
COMM 351 Persuasion*	
COMM 461 Public and Professional Capstone*	
Choose SEVEN courses from the following: COMM 256 Human Communication and New Technology (Sp)*; COMM 330 Interpersonal Communication (F)*; COMM 332 Gender and Communication (F)*; COMM 333 Intercultural Communication*; COMM336 Health Communication (Sp)*; COMM 353 Political Communication*; COMM 354 Communication and Civic Engagement (Sp)*; COMM 356 Group Decision Making (Sp)*; COMM 359 Argumentation and Debate (F)*; COMM 412 Strategies in Fundraising and Development*; COMM 452 Conflict Resolution*; COMM 454 Organizational Communication*; COMM 459 Debate Practicum*; or COMM 479 Internship* (COMM 479 may be taken twice)	

This map is a semester-by-semester plan to help you toward graduation in four years. Not everyone graduates in four years as it depends on how many courses you can take, and how you do in those courses. This map is not your only route; it is a suggestion. While there are many courses in your major that have prerequisites that will need you to take them in a special order, there is some flexibility in this map. All courses that have prerequisites are marked with an asterisk\* in the checklists above and in the map.

The column to the left on the other side of this page suggests the ideal courses for you to take each semester. There are times when those courses may be full or unavailable the semester you plan to take them, in which case consider another course from a different semester with which you can switch. The column on the right has "Checkpoints" for each semester that show where you should be by the end of that semester. You should work from this map as you plan each semester's schedule with your advisor. You should plan to see your advisor in late September for the Spring Semester and in February for the Fall. The Map is designed primarily for freshmen coming to college for the first time, but transfer students may also use the RhodeMap with the understanding that they have most likely completed several requirements through transfer of credit, and will be starting further into the program. Maps assume a Fall start.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:** The following requirements must be completed by undergraduate degree candidates at Rhode Island College in order to graduate:

- General Education program, including a second language requirement
- College Math Competency (which is separate from the Gen Ed math requirement) and must be completed by end of first semester or you will be placed on probation. Find more information at <https://www.ric.edu/recordsoffice/standards.php#5>
- College Writing Competency (satisfied by FYW with a minimum grade of C)
- Academic Major—see check chart below.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours, with a minimum of 45 credit hours taken at RIC. Of the 45 credit hours, a minimum of 15 credit hours must be in the major (12 of which must be at the 300- or 400-level).
- A minimum overall grade point average of 2.0
- A minimum grade point average of 2.0 in your major

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<b>SEMESTER 1</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 1 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
First Year Writing (FYW 100) or First Year Seminar (FYS 100).	4	<input type="checkbox"/> FYW 100P is a 6 credit option. To decide which FYW to take, see Directed Self-Placement test at <a href="http://www.ric.edu/firstyearwriting">www.ric.edu/firstyearwriting</a>
Gen Ed Distribution course from <b>one</b> of these GE categories: Arts (A); Math (M); History (H); Literature (L); Natural Sciences (NS), or Social and Behavioral Science (SB).	4	<input type="checkbox"/> (If Math competency is completed, consider Gen Ed-MATH here, if not will need to take MATH 010)
Gen Ed--Second Lang 101 (based on placement, a course higher than 101/102 may be taken). If language requirement already satisfied: Any Gen Ed Distribution course, or course required in the major	3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> Language placement test with Dept. of Modern Languages (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Second Lang 101 (if needed)
Another Gen Ed course or COMM 208 Public Speaking	4	
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for 16 earned credits (While 12 is fulltime, 16 credits are preferred to stay on track to graduate in 4 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum 2.0 GPA
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Sept.

<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 2 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
FYW 100 or FYS 100	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Complete FYS and FYW, for FYW, grade C or better
Gen Ed Distribution course from <b>one</b> of these GE categories: Arts (A); Literature (L); Math (M); History (H), Natural Science (NS); or Social and Behavioral Science (SB)	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen Ed Math completed
Another Gen Ed course or COMM 208 Public Speaking	4	<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 208 completed
Gen Ed--Second Lang 102 (if needed), other Gen Ed course, or required course for the major/minor	3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> Complete Second Language 102*, grade C or better (if needed)
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 32 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum 2.0 GPA
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Feb.

<b>SEMESTER 3</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 3 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
Gen Ed Distribution course from <b>one</b> of these GE categories: Arts (A); Literature (L); Math (M); History (H), Natural Science (NS); or Social and Behavioral Sciences (SB).	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen Ed Natural Science completed
Gen Ed Distribution if needed, elective, or course in another major/minor	3-4	
COMM 251 Research Methods in Communication*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereq. is 24 credits completed
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	4	
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 48 earned credits, <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in major
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester and discuss possible minor in Sept.

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<b>SEMESTER 4</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 4 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
Gen Ed Distribution if needed, elective, or course in another major/minor	3-4	
Choose 1 Connections course (Gen Ed-C)	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs are 45 completed credits and FYW and FYS.
Choose ONE from COMM 256 Human Communication and New Technology (Sp)*; COMM 330 Interpersonal Communication (F)*; COMM 332 Gender and Communication (F)*; COMM 333 Intercultural Communication*; COMM336 Health Communication (Sp)*; COMM 353 Political Communication*; COMM 354 Communication and Civic Engagement (Sp)*; COMM 356 Group Decision Making (Sp)*; COMM 359 Argumentation and Debate (F)*; COMM 412 Strategies in Fundraising and Development*; COMM 452 Conflict Resolution*; COMM 454 Organizational Communication*; COMM 459 Debate Practicum*; or COMM 479 Internship*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog <input type="checkbox"/> Will need to complete SEVEN courses from this list <input type="checkbox"/> COMM 479 Internship may be repeated for credit
Choose ONE more from the list above	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 64 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in major
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Feb.

<b>SEMESTER 5</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 5 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
Choose 1 Advanced Quantitative/Scientific Reasoning (Gen Ed-AQSR)*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs are Gen Ed-NS and/or Gen Ed-M
Choose ONE from COMM 256 (Sp)*; COMM 330 (F)*; COMM 332 (F)*; COMM 333*; COMM336 (Sp)*; COMM 353*; COMM 354 (Sp)*; COMM 356 (Sp)*; COMM 359 (F)*; COMM 412*; COMM 452*; COMM 454*; COMM 459*; or COMM 479*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog
COMM 351 Persuasion*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereq is COMM 208
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	3-4	
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 80 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in major
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Sept.

<b>SEMESTER 6</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 6 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
Choose ONE from COMM 256 (Sp)*; COMM 330 (F)*; COMM 332 (F)*; COMM 333*; COMM336 (Sp)*; COMM 353*; COMM 354 (Sp)*; COMM 356 (Sp)*; COMM 359 (F)*; COMM 412*; COMM 452*; COMM 454*; COMM 459*; or COMM 479*	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog
Choose ONE more from the list above	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	3-4	
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	3-4	
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> All ten GE courses and second lang. req. completed <input type="checkbox"/> If pursuing minor make sure you have registered for this with the relevant department prior to audit <input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 96 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in major <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for degree audit online through MyRIC
# CREDITS EARNED	14-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Feb.

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<b>SEMESTER 7</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 7 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
Choose ONE from COMM 256 (Sp)*; COMM 330 (F)*; COMM 332 (F)*; COMM 333 *; COMM336 (Sp)*; COMM 353 *; COMM 354 (Sp)*; COMM 356 (Sp)*; COMM 359 (F)*; COMM 412 *; COMM 452*; COMM 454 *; COMM 459 *; or COMM 479 *	<b>4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog <input type="checkbox"/> COMM 479 Internship may be repeated for credit
Choose ONE more from the list above	<b>4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs. vary—see catalog <input type="checkbox"/> SEVEN courses from this group completed
Elective, or course toward another minor/major if needed	<b>3-4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Need minimum of 12 credit hours for full-time status.
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Aim for minimum of 108 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum GPA of 2.0 in major
# CREDITS EARNED	<b>12</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester in Sept.

<b>SEMESTER 8</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>SEMESTER 8 CHECKPOINTS ✓</b>
COMM 461 Public and Professional Capstone*	<b>4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prereqs are: 75 credit hours, all P&P required courses (COMM 251, 208, 351) and at least four other courses in the major completed
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	<b>3-4</b>	
Elective, or course toward another minor/major	<b>3-4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Need minimum of 12 credit hours for full-time status.
Requirements and GPA		<input type="checkbox"/> Need minimum of 120 earned credits <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of 2.0 GPA <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum GPA of 2.0 in major
# CREDITS EARNED	<b>12</b>	Attend Gradfest and Commencement

For more information, check the Communication Department website: <http://www.ric.edu/communication>

**Students in the Public & Professional concentration are encouraged to use their elective credits in a systematic way by enrolling in a minor or a second major. Please contact your academic advisor to discuss what other programs would help you make the most of your Public & Professional concentration**