

Family Communication, Certificate

ASFAMCCERT

Families are fundamental social systems, but they vary tremendously in terms of makeup and dynamics. Explore family interactions in depth through this specialized program.

Description

The certificate program in family communication focuses on issues that affect communication within the family. It complements the current communication program by bringing together an array of courses that have implications for the family unit, such as courses in new media and health. Students are encouraged to also take courses in other disciplines that complement family-related communication courses.

This program is offered by the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [West Valley](#)

Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Certificate Map](#)

[Certificate Map \(Archives\)](#)

The certificate in family communication consists of 19 credit hours of coursework, of which a minimum of 12 hours must be upper division. A minimum of six upper-division credit hours must be completed through courses offered by the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. A maximum of six credit hours may be shared between the certificate and a major. All courses used to satisfy requirements for the certificate must be passed with a "C" (2.00) or better.

The courses listed are suggested and actual courses should be selected in conjunction with an academic advisor. Four courses must be selected from at least two content areas listed. A one credit hour exit portfolio is required and may be taken after a minimum of 12 hours toward the certificate has been completed.

Required Courses -- 6 credit hours

COM 312: Communication, Conflict, and Negotiation (CIVI) or COM 410: Advanced Interpersonal Communication (SOBE OR SB) or COM 417: Communication and Aging (3)
COM 411: Communication in the Family (SOBE OR SB) (3)

Content Area Courses -- 12 credit hours

Content Area Course (6)

Upper Division Content Area Course (6)

Select four courses from at least two content areas. At least six hours must be upper division. Listed courses are suggestions; courses for the certificate should be selected in conjunction with the certificate advisor.

Social and Cultural Elements of the Family

AFR 370: Family Ethnic and Cultural Diversity (CIVI OR SB & C) (3)
ASB 346: Marriage and Family Diversity (SOBE OR SB & C) (3)
ASB 353 / SOC 353: Death and Dying in Cross-Cultural Perspective (GCSI OR (HU or SB) & G) (3)
COM 310: Communication in Interpersonal Relationships (SOBE OR SB) (3)
COM 316: Gender and Communication (SOBE OR SB & C) (3)
COM 410: Advanced Interpersonal Communication (SOBE OR SB) (3)
COM 432: Forgiveness and Reconciliation (3)
FAS 301: Introduction to Parenting (3)
FAS 331: Modern Family Relationships (SOBE OR SB) (3)
FAS 370: Family Ethnic and Cultural Diversity (CIVI OR SB & C) (3)
FAS 435: Advanced Topics in Modern Family Relationships (SOBE OR L or SB) (3)
PSY 385: Psychology of Gender (SOBE OR SB) (3)
SOC 315: Sociology of Dating, Relationships and Marriage (SOBE OR SB) (3)
SOC 415: Families and Social Policy (SB) (3)

Health and Family Development

CDE 430: Infant and Toddler Development in the Family (SOBE OR SB) (3)
COM 417: Communication and Aging (3)
CRJ 204: Juvenile Justice (3)
FAS 332: Human Sexuality (SOBE OR SB) (3)
FAS 436: Sexuality in Mid-Life and Beyond (3)
PSY 341: Developmental Psychology (SOBE OR SB) (3)
PSY 443: Child and Adolescent Psychological Disorders (SOBE OR L or SB) (3)
PSY 444: Adolescent Psychology and Psychopathology (3)
PSY 447: Psychology of Aging (SB) (3)

SOC 312: Adolescence (SOBE OR SB) (3)

Technology, Media and the Family

COM 416: Gender and Race in the Media (3)

COM 424: Television Studies and Criticism (3)

COM 457: New Media (3)

COM 471: Global Media and Cultural Identity (GCSI OR G) (3)

ENG 244: Introduction to Researching Family History (3)

MCO 473: Sex, Love, and Romance in the Mass Media (SB) (3)

Community Application

COM 314: Inner-City Families: The Cycle of Poverty (3)

COM 484: Internship (3)

Family Communication Portfolio -- 1 credit hours

COM 485: Communication Portfolio (1)

Notes: The communication portfolio is a synthesis of the student's family communication academic experience. The portfolio itself integrates each student's experience with theory and concepts from coursework. The portfolio may take a variety of forms, to be negotiated by each student and the instructor. This course is to be taken after a minimum of 12 credit hours toward the certificate have been completed.

Listed courses are suggestions; courses for the certificate should be selected in conjunction with the certificate advisor.

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

Enrollment requirements

The certificate in family communication is open to all ASU undergraduate majors. Students who wish to pursue this certificate should consult an academic advisor in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences to ensure that the appropriate set of courses is taken.

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

Career opportunities

This is a valuable certificate for students who plan to enter careers or graduate study in fields such as psychology, counseling, family studies, social work, medicine or nursing, law, aging, pastoral care, human services, media or communication technology.

Contact information

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