

Communication Arts & Literature

college to career major map



Career Development Center

	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR	4TH OR FINAL YEAR
Academics	<p>Explore the foundations of Communication Arts & Literature along with some LASC courses.</p> <p>Still not 100% certain of your major? Take the FOCUS2 and explore all your options.</p> <p>Need a little help in your classes? Look into tutoring with the Academic Support Center.</p>	<p>Take a deeper dive into the discipline of Communication Arts & Literature and begin considering a minor and/or certificate such as coaching.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with a Career Coach to discuss how to connect your academics to your future career.</p>	<p>Schedule an appointment with your Academic Advisor to ensure you're on track for graduation.</p> <p>Take inventory of your professional goals and decide if your future will need to include graduate school. Take the necessary exams and keep track of application timelines.</p>	<p>Participate in the Student Academic Conference to showcase research, connect with employers, and to boost your resume.</p> <p>Ensure you submit your application for graduation on time.</p>
On-Campus Experience	<p>Sign up to participate in the Education Learning Community.</p> <p>Join a major or interest specific student organization such as Education Minnesota. Explore other student organizations to join on DragonCentral.</p> <p>Participate in Student Life Pathways to continue growing your skills/knowledge outside of the classroom. We recommend starting with the Community Life Pathway.</p>	<p>Find an on-campus job or a part-time position in the community. Visit DragonJobs powered by Handshake, or one of the many other online job boards to find opportunities.</p> <p>Continue working on your Student Life Pathways. Try working your way through the Personal Wellness and the Equity and Inclusion paths.</p>	<p>Begin your leadership journey by applying for a student leadership position or run for an officer position in your student organization. Find available leadership positions on DragonJobs in early spring.</p> <p>During your third year, we suggest focusing on the Professional Success and Contribution and Influence Student Life Pathways. These will help connect you to potential employers and develop skills necessary for success post graduation.</p>	<p>Assess what experiences or skills are areas of growth for you and fill in gaps with volunteering, organizations, or part-time employment.</p> <p>Finish up your pathways and be sure to add your accomplishments to your LinkedIn and resume.</p>
Connect to the Community	<p>Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations such as Boys and Girls Club of the RRV, Youthworks, or Big Brothers Big Sisters.</p>	<p>Join LinkedIn to begin building your professional network and online presence. Think of your profile as a virtual resume and make sure to update it regularly to reflect new jobs, research, coursework, volunteering, involvement, and skills.</p>	<p>Continue your involvement with student organizations, on and/or off-campus employment, the student life pathways, student teaching, etc...</p> <p>Think about teaching a course during the summer with College for Kids & Teens.</p>	<p>Join professional organizations such as Education Minnesota to gain access to research, continuing education opportunities, job boards, and message boards. Make sure to join prior to graduation to receive the discounted student rate (when applicable).</p>
Understand Your Career	<p>Start researching potential career paths on O*Net. Here, you will be able to find valuable information such as typical tasks associated with the profession, skills, and knowledge needed, education and licensures needed, wages and employment trends, professional organizations, and related occupations. We suggest you search for careers such as Middle School English Teacher.</p>	<p>Find related part-time employment such as America Reads Tutor positions. This position allows you to develop the real-world skills you need for your career. Connect with the Career Development Center to learn more.</p> <p>Attend Career Development Center events and workshops to develop professional skills such as interviewing, negotiation, and more.</p>	<p>Continue attending professional development-related events on-campus, and connect with faculty and teachers in your classrooms to learn more about the field and gain insights on how to be successful in your job search.</p>	<p>Attend the Tri-College Education Fair and the MN Education Job Fair to connect with districts. Both of these events take place every spring. Check DragonCentral for more information.</p> <p>Schedule appointments with a Career Coach to go over your professional documents and to prepare for upcoming interviews. And remember, once a dragon always a dragon. You have access to these services for life.</p>

Where can you go?

A degree in **Communication Arts & Literature** can take your career in many directions. Most students choose to enter the workforce right after graduation and many continue their education after a few years in the classroom. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for a career as a(n):

- elementary school teacher
- middle school teacher
- high school teacher
- non-profit employee or director
- teacher aide
- coach

What skills will you need?

To be successful in the world of **Communication Arts & Literature** you will need the following skills:

- critical thinking
- active listening
- empathy
- dependability
- adaptability
- integrity
- self control

Thankfully, through coursework, on-campus involvement, part-time employment, and student teaching, you will be prepared for life post-graduation.