Areas of emphasis

Workplace, organizational and leadership communication
Organizations are constituted by and transformed through communication. Effective workplace communication and leadership are crucial elements of success in all types of organizations, businesses and teams.

Communication across cultures
Understanding how culture and communication intertwine is important to understanding and influencing events that shape our world. This emphasis promotes personal community involvement that can constructively respond to challenges of an increasingly diverse society and world.

Communication and healthy relating
Healthy and sustained relationships require effective communication. This area of emphasis focuses on the many ways that communication creates, maintains and transforms effective and nourishing relationships.

Civility, advocacy and engaging publics
Our culture and its institutions are created, challenged, changed and maintained through communication. This area of emphasis focuses on the processes through which ideas are developed, disseminated, advocated and adopted.

Communication, creativity and performance
Communication at its very core is a creative enterprise. People must be able to adjust to ever-changing social conditions and diverse audiences to better advance inclusion and social engagement. To meet this challenge, this area of emphasis focuses on the performative nature of communication and the use of creative responses and aesthetic messages.

Invest and make a difference in our community
When you give to the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University, you become a partner in the academic success of our students through scholarships, helping us bring top speakers and innovators to campus, and helping our research areas solve the greatest issues facing the world today. You are also supporting a top-ranked research university that is committed to finding solutions to some of our most pressing concerns. From scholarship support to funding for a specific research cause, your generosity and continued investment will impact our community for years to come!

Whether you donate a couple of dollars or a large sum, your gift is greatly appreciated. Any amount makes a difference for our students, faculty, staff, research and programs. Your charitable contributions enable our school to achieve the highest standards of excellence, access, and impact.

1 endowed professorship
14 scholarships and fellowships awarded
20 total endowments

humancommunication.asu.edu

Fact sheet

Hugh Downs School of Human Communication

Social sciences

Fact sheet
At the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication, we explore the complex role of human communication in everyday life. Students in our school learn how to communicate effectively whether with one person or large and diverse groups. Our communication courses provide students the tools to understand, analyze and respond to communication problems and opportunities, including interpersonal relationships, workplace teams, and community, civic and cultural groups. The careers of today and tomorrow are built on human communication and our program is designed to prepare students for an ever-changing world.

Improving communication in everyday life

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Leading global impact and innovative solutions

The Hugh Downs School of Human Communication is internationally recognized for scholarly excellence in the study of communication. We strive to achieve excellence in research, education and creative endeavors in the complex role of human communication in everyday life.

Unique opportunities that last a lifetime

From our communication study abroad and internships to our full-service speech and debate program, the Hugh Downs School is the best choice for a dynamic communication school experience.

Cultivating an inclusive environment

The Hugh Downs School of Human Communication provides students the opportunity to create their niche in a rapidly changing world.

Communication graduates are sought after

Communication is ranked as one of the top five most sought-after career skills. The ability to communicate verbally and in writing with people inside and outside an organization is rated highly by employers in all job markets.