

University of Northern Iowa Department of Communication and Media

Program Certificates

2025-2026 Requirements

What are Program Certificates?

The University of Northern Iowa makes available, in addition to traditional programs, the opportunity for students to earn program certificates. Program certificates provide an alternative to programs leading to a degree, a major, or a minor; they certify that an individual has completed a program approved by the university.

Program Certificates (required courses):

Certificate in Communication, Community, and Public Advocacy (12 hrs.)

The Communication, Community, and Public Advocacy certificate emphasizes experiential learning in small classes to help students become pragmatic and creative public advocates and engaged community members. Through the certificate courses, students develop the critical competencies necessary to be a reflexive advocate who can adapt to changing contexts and cultures and across diverse communities.

<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4446	Voices from the Margin: Performance, Rhetoric, and Social Change (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4444 OR	Communication, Community, and Change (Sr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CM CORE 3255	Advocacy Campaigns	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4448 OR	Cultural Performance (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4346	Gender Issues in Communication (Jr.)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 3456	Practicing Public Advocacy	3 hrs.

Certificate in Organizational Communication and Inclusive Leadership (12 hrs.)

Based in the emphasis areas of organizational communication and leadership communication, the Organizational Communication and Inclusive Leadership certificate demonstrates mastery in how to identify opportunities for organizational leadership infused with the ethics of inclusion. Upon completion of the requisite coursework, a student will be to identify what makes a successful leader, what the principles of inclusion are, and how to implement those principles in ways that enhance the organization's mission.

<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4120	Inclusive Leadership in the Workplace (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4134	Organizational Cultures and Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM PR 4857	Crisis Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 3000	Selected Topics in Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.

Certificate in Organizational Communication and Training (15 hrs.)

The Organizational Communication and Training certificate provides students with an in-depth understanding of organizational communication theories and processes, emphasizing how communication impacts organizational effectiveness. Students will develop skills in how to analyze organizational communication, as well as create and deliver high impact organizational training to diverse audiences.

<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 3055	Organizational Communication	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4134	Organizational Cultures and Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4155	Organizational Communication Assessment (CM CORE 2020 or instructor consent; COMM 3055; Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 4559	Communication Education and Training (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CM CORE 2020	Communication Research Methods	3 hrs.

Certificate in Public Relations in Entertainment (13 hrs.)

This certificate focuses on learning about different types of theatre performances and techniques and strategies to promote all entertainment platforms.

<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM 2256	Performing Texts	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM PR 1811	Principles of Public Relations	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMM PR 4855	Public Relations Campaign Methods (COMM PR 1811; Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	THEATRE 1010	Foundations of Theatre (Coreq.: THEATRE 1011)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	THEATRE 1011	Foundations of Theatre Lab (Coreq.: THEATRE 1010)	1 hr.

Certificate in Conflict Resolution (15 hrs.)

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Certificate in Conflict Resolution (15 hrs.)

Conflict can be viewed on both the macro and micro system levels. It can be interpersonal, as in the area of individual or family dynamics, or organizational, as in labor, racial/ethnic, or international relations. The Certificate in Conflict Resolution focuses on understanding the roots of conflict, as well as its management or resolution.

Required (3 hrs.):		
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 4333	Communication and Conflict Management (Jr.)	3 hrs.
Electives (12 hrs.):		
Select 4 Courses from the List Below:		
<input type="checkbox"/> TEACHING 4170	Human Relations: Awareness and Application (Prereq.: Full admission into teacher education; Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> FAM SERV 1010	Human Identity and Relationships	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> FAM SERV 1020	Family Relationships	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> FAM SERV 3145	Violence in Intimate Relationships (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> PSYCH 2201	Psychology of Gender (PSYCH 1001)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> PSYCH 2203	Social Psychology (PSYCH 1001)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SW 3143	Self-Care and Stress Management in Helping Professions	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 4344	Intercultural Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 4346	Gender Issues in Communication (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 4446	Voices from the Margin: Performance, Rhetoric, and Social Change (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SW / SOC SCI 1041	Global Social Work	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SW 4163	Diversity and Difference (SOC 1000 or SOC 1060; Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOC SCI 1020	Women, Men, and Society	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> POL INTL 3120	International Security	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> POL INTL 3125	Politics of International Development	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> POL INTL 3126	Human Rights	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> POL COMP 3123	Nationalism	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> HIST 4675	Great Power Diplomacy from the Congress of Vienna to the Present (Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> GEOG 3220	Environmental Geography: Variable Topic (GEOG 1120 or GEOG 1210 or GEOG 2210 or GEOG 110 or instructor consent)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOC 2040	Social Movements	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOC 2075	The Self in Social Context	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOC 3045	Social Inequality (SOC 1000 or SOC 1060; Jr.)	3 hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOC / ANTH 3080	Immigration and Transnationalism (SOC 1000 or SOC 1060 or ANTH 1002; Jr.)	3 hrs.

Students should regularly meet with their academic advisor to plan their specific semester schedule.

For more information, please contact:

Ari Sullivan, Academic Advisor

Email: Ari.Sullivan@uni.edu



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