

PATHWAY TO PROMISE



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Advisor Responsibilities

- My goal is to make sure you understand all you need to know about your degree requirements at Valencia College.
- I will provide a safe space for you to discuss your concerns and I will listen, be present, respectful, and genuine.
- Our resources are endless! I will always point you in the right direction if you connect with me.
- I will help you with your questions about colleges and universities you are thinking about transferring to and what it takes to get there.
- Helping you find a major and a career that is right for you is my goal. I will provide you with information and support you along the way.
- This is your journey, but you are not alone! I will help you select your courses, understand your prerequisites, create your plans and set goals.

Student Responsibilities

- I will connect with my advisor every semester.
- When I schedule an appointment, I will start thinking about what I want to talk about.
- I will bring my “note-taking tools” with me to my appointments (e.g., phones, tablets, or good old paper and pen).
- We will be going over important information, so I will keep all of it handy and refer to it often.
- If my advisor refers me to any resources, I will be sure to follow through and I will stay in touch.
- I will take responsibility, know the deadlines, ask questions, stay on track and be the one to know what to do.

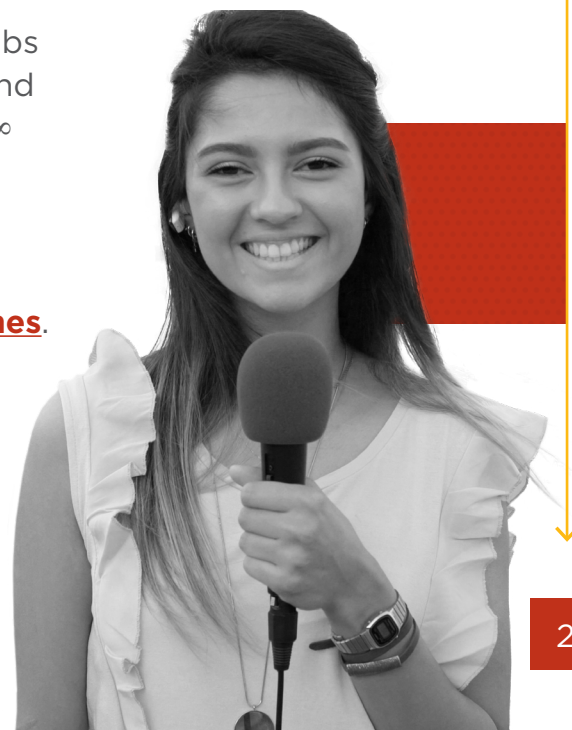


Your Checklist

0-12 Credit Hour Checklist

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

- Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞
- Check if your meta-major matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞
- Learn about the resources available to you, such as the Learning Support Center, Tutoring, Counseling, Career Advising and Atlas. For more information and locations, go to the **Student Services page** on the Valencia College website.
- Explore and research your career interests by visiting the **Career Center website** or connecting with a career advisor.
- Research colleges and universities of interest and the admission requirements.
- Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes each term. For assistance, connect with an academic advisor. ∞
- Register for **SLS 1122 New Student Experience course** within your first two terms at Valencia College.
- Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞
- Apply for scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞
- Get involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞
- Visit the **Career Center website** to learn how to create your resume and connect with a career advisor for feedback. You can also view **examples of communication and media resumes**.



12-30 Credit Hour Checklist

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

- Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞
- Confirm that your meta-major matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞
- Explore your major and career interests by considering volunteering, employment, **internships**, job shadowing and service learning.
- Decide on a major and your transfer university of interest. If you are still undecided, meet with an academic advisor.
- Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes. For assistance, **connect with your advisor**. ∞
- Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞
- Apply for scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞
- Get involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞
- Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor. You can also view **examples of communication and media resumes**.

30-45 Credit Hour Checklist

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

- Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞
- Confirm that your meta-major matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞
- Decide on your educational goals by the time you complete 45 credit hours.
- Research colleges and universities of interest, including the admission requirements, application deadlines, housing options, campus tours and connect with the academic departments.
- Consider exploring graduate school (e.g., master's degree, medical or law school), advanced training, certifications and licenses.
- Run your **degree audit** to confirm you are on track for graduation. For assistance, **connect with your advisor**. ∞
- Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞
- Apply for scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞
- Get involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞
- Enhance your work experience and skills by volunteering, employment, **internships**, service learning and job shadowing.
- Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor. You can also view **examples of communication and media resumes**.

45-60 Credit Hour Checklist

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

- Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞
- Confirm that your meta-major matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞
- Run your **degree audit** to confirm you are on track for graduation. For assistance, **connect with your advisor**. ∞
- If you are ready, submit your **graduation application** by the deadline.
- Explore housing options, develop a financial plan, schedule campus tours and connect with the academic departments.
- Audition early for scholarship opportunities.
- Submit your admissions applications early to your colleges/universities of interest (and any other materials, such as transcripts and recommendation letters, if required).
- Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞
- Apply for scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞
- Get involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞
- Enhance your work experience and skills by volunteering, part-time employment, **internships**, service learning and job shadowing.
- Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor. You can also view **examples of communication and media resumes**.

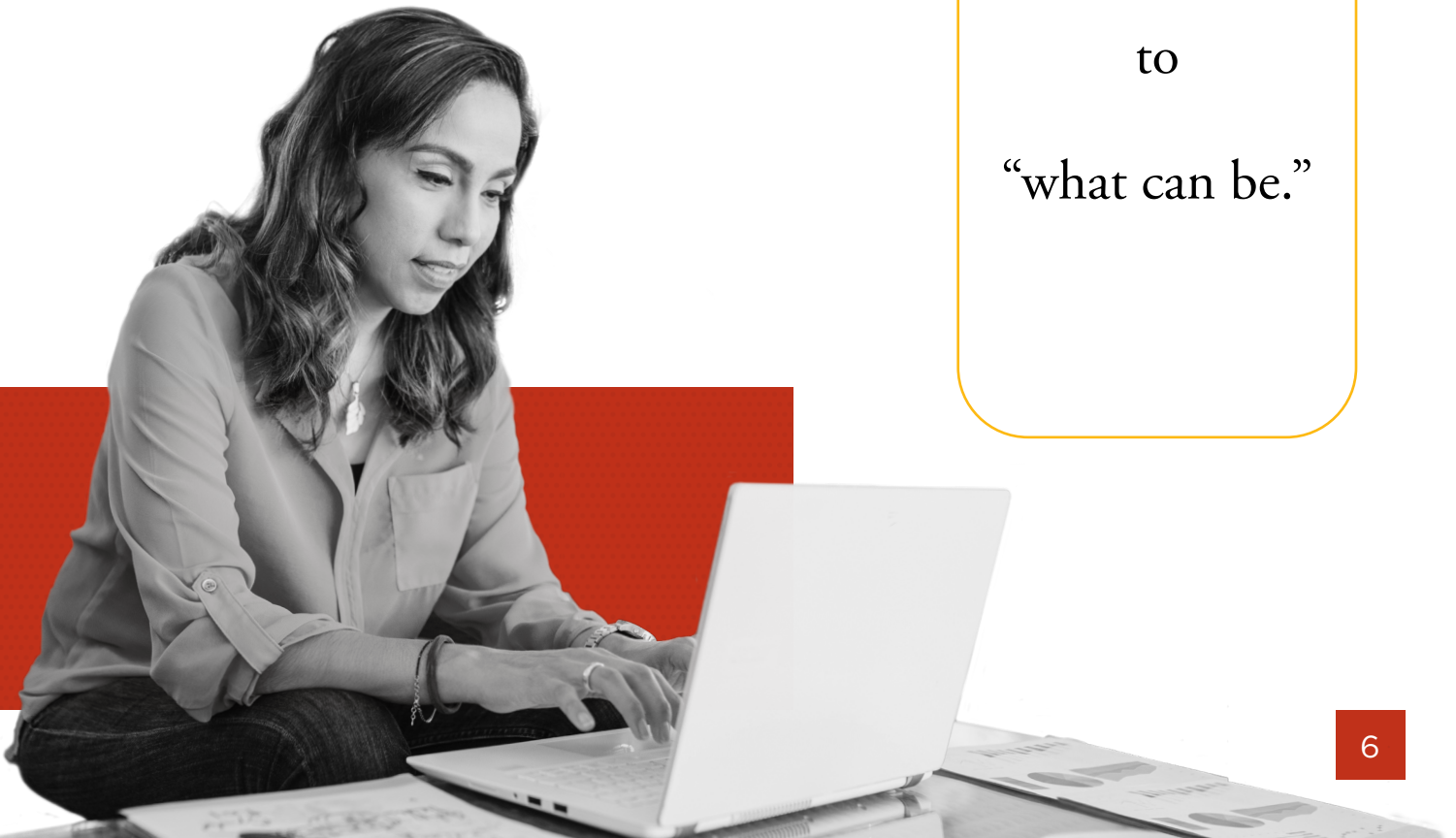


How Do I Run My Degree Audit?

The degree audit is a great tool to help you plan out your courses. It is a summary or audit of your degree. It will show you the classes that you have completed and the ones you have yet to complete. Here are the steps on running a degree audit. We encourage you to consult with your advisor.

1. Log in to **Atlas**.
2. Click on Students on the left hand side.
3. Look for the Path to Graduation box and click on My Academic Progress (Degree Audit).
4. Click on Generate New Degree Audit.
5. Select the term you are currently in, click submit.
6. Click on the button next to the name of your degree.
7. Click on Generate Request.

The path
to promise
takes you
from
“what is”
to
“what can be.”



Questions to Ask Your Advisor

- What's the difference between dropping a class and withdrawing from a class, and how does this impact me?

- What are some things I should consider before withdrawing from a class?

- What are some important academic policies that I should be aware of (e.g., grade forgiveness, academic probation)?

- What are some resources that I should be using at Valencia College if I'm struggling in my classes?

- What are some resources that will help me explore different majors and careers?

- How can I raise my GPA?
- What are some things I should consider when creating my class schedule?
- What are the prerequisites for my major?
- What are the admission requirements for my program at my transfer college/university of interest?
- How do I choose my electives?



- Is my major limited or restricted access? If so, what does that mean?
- How do I know that I'm on track for graduation?
- How do I know that I've met all my graduation requirements for my major?
- How do I apply for graduation?
- How do I apply to my college/university of interest?
- How do I request/submit my college transcripts?

What is a Meta-Major?

Meta-majors are collections of academic majors that have related courses. The intent of selecting a meta-major is to help students choose a major and degree based on their interests, knowledge, skills and abilities.

The eight meta-majors are: (a) Arts, Humanities, Communication and Design, (b) Business, (c) Education, (d) Health Sciences, (e) Industry/Manufacturing and Construction, (f) Public Safety, (g) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and (h) Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Services.

What is the Arts, Humanities, Communication and Design Meta-Major?

This meta-major encompasses a wide range of majors spread across multiple fields and disciplines. In addition to Communication and Media majors, this meta-major also includes majors from Performing Arts, such as Music, Theatre, and Dance; and Visual Arts and Design, such as Studio Art, Graphic Design, and Animation, among others.



Communication and Media Majors

Communication and media majors develop proficiency in speaking, writing, presentation, problem-solving, analytical and critical thinking skills.

Communication

- Communication
- Advertising-Public Relations
- Organizational Communication

Mass Media

- Journalism
- Telecommunication / Broadcast Communication / Media Production

Digital Media and Film

- Film
- Game Design
- Web Design /UX/UI

Professional Writing/Literary Arts

- English (Creative Writing / Literature)
- Linguistics
- Professional Writing, Rhetoric, and Composition
- Technical Writing

→ “A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.” – Nelson Mandela

Careers for Communication and Media Majors

Since communication and media involve how we connect to others, these majors apply to many fields and interests. The “[What Can I Do with This Major?](#)” tool is helpful in learning more about what career paths are available for each major area. Click on majors of interest to explore common career areas, employers, and strategies designed to maximize your opportunities. [Click here](#) to watch a short instructional video.

Below are some examples of career areas that you can pursue with a communication or media major.

Communication

- Business
- Public Relations/Advertising
- Non-profit Organizations
- Law

Media

- Internet
- Social Media Management
- Education
- Video Production
- Television
- Radio

Salary Outlook

Research the average salaries for common careers in communication and media using some of the resources listed below. Remember that salaries can vary based on factors such as experience, job responsibilities and location.

- [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) - for national averages
- [O*NET OnLine](#) - for national and state averages
- [Valencia College Career Coach](#) - for data specific to Central Florida and Valencia A.S. degree programs



What Communication and Media Courses Does Valencia Offer?

Valencia offers a variety of communication courses, but it is important to check with your academic advisor before registering for these courses.

Certain institutions have restrictions regarding the number of courses you can take in the communications area and would prefer that you take these type of courses strictly at their institution.

Below are prefixes of some different types of communication courses you can take at Valencia. View specific [course titles and descriptions](#) here.

English, Creative Writing

CRW
ENC 2341

English, Literature

AML
ENL
LIT

English, Technical Communication

ENC 1210

Digital Media and Film

DIG
FIL

Journalism, Mass Media, and Public Relations

JOU
MMC
PUR

Speech Communication

SPC

→ “To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.” – Tony Robbins

What University Should I Attend?

Valencia College and UCF have a great partnership for you to take advantage of called **DirectConnect to UCF®**. To learn about other opportunities and places that also offer communication and media programs, use resources such as **College Navigator** to help you compare different colleges. Keep in mind that your professors are often your best resource for suggestions on schools—talk to them too!



What University Should I Attend?

If you decide that you want to stay in Florida, here is a list of some in-state institutions and the degree programs offered in the area of Communications. Click on the links to visit the degree sites.

UCF:

- Advertising/Public Relations (B.A.)
- Communication and Conflict (B.A.)
- Digital Media (B.A.) with tracks in Game Design and Web and Social Platforms
- Film (B.A.) and Film (B.F.A.)
- Human Communication (B.A.) with tracks in General Human Communication, Business and Professional, Health Communication, Interpersonal Communication, and Social Innovation and Activism
- Journalism (B.A.) with tracks in Digital News and Electronic News
- Media Production and Management (B.A.) with tracks in Production and Media Management and Operations
- English (B.A.) with tracks in Creative Writing, Literature, and Technical Communication
- Writing and Rhetoric (B.A.)

UF:

- Advertising with tracks in Advertising Agency and Persuasive Messaging
- Journalism (curriculum includes TV and Radio) and has track in Sports Media
- Public Relations
- Telecommunication with tracks in Digital Film and TV Production, Management and Strategy, and Media and Society
- English with degree plans in Creative Writing, Writing Studies and Literature

Rollins:

- Communication Studies with tracks in Organizational Communication and Leadership, Public Relations and Health Communication
- English

FSU:

- Advertising
- Digital Media Production with tracks in Documentary and Public Affairs and Sports Media
- Media/Communication Studies
- Public Relations
- English with tracks in Creative Writing; Literature, Media and Culture; Rhetoric and Composition; and Editing, Writing and Media
- Motion Picture Arts with tracks in Production, and Animation and Digital Arts

What University Should I Attend?

If you decide that you want to stay in Florida, here is a list of some in-state institutions and the degree programs offered in the area of Communications. Click on the links to visit the degree sites.

USF:

- Communication
- Multimedia Journalism and Digital Communication
- English with tracks in Creative Writing and Literary Studies
- Professional and Technical Communication
- Integrated Public Relations and Advertising
- Mass Communications with tracks in Broadcast News, and Broadcast Program and Production
- Advertising

University of Miami:

- Communication Studies with tracks in Intercultural, Organizational, and Public Advocacy
- Interactive Media
- Broadcast Journalism
- Electronic Media
- Journalism with tracks in Reporting and Writing, Visual Documentary, Sports, Travel and Lifestyle Features, and Media and Journalism Studies
- Media Management
- Advertising with tracks in Creative and Advertising Management
- Public Relations with tracks in General and Practice Track
- English with tracks in Literature, Creative Writing and Women's Literature
- Cinematic Arts with tracks in Business, Critical Studies, Production and Screenwriting

FIU:

- Public Relations, Advertising and Applied Communications
- Communication Arts with tracks in Organizational Communication, Art and Performance, and Design Studies
- Digital Communication and Media with tracks in Broadcast Media and Digital Journalism, Digital Broadcasting, Digital and Interactive Media, and Digital TV and Multimedia Production
- English with tracks in Literature, Writing and Rhetoric, Creative Writing and Linguistics

Are You Ready to Graduate and Transfer?

If you are getting ready to transfer, here are some things you need to do:

1. Meet with your advisor to make sure that you are not missing any requirements. Once you have confirmed that you are not missing anything, apply for graduation in Atlas (Click on Students on left hand side, Path to Graduation section).
2. Connect with the admissions office of your transfer institution for more information on admission requirements and to meet deadlines.

Are you planning on transferring to UCF? It is important to **sign up** and contact a Success Coach early to prepare for important dates and deadlines. Be ready to ask questions about Financial Aid, Admissions, Florida Residency, and Transcripts.

Resources to Improve Writing Skills

Writing is a big part of this area of study. Here are some great resources to help you improve your skills.

Grammarly is a free online assistant that scans your text for grammatical mistakes.

Hemingway App highlights lengthy, complex sentences and common errors.

Ginger Software takes into account full sentences to suggest context-based corrections.

Academic Writing Guide reviews different types of academic writing and basic grammar rules to help you with your written assignments.

Valencia Writing, Reading & Speech LibGuides provides writing resources, research and citation guides, grammar and punctuation practice, and more.

Valencia Learning Support provides resources for online and face-to-face tutoring and more.

→ “If I went back to college again, I’d concentrate on two areas: learning to write and to speak before an audience. Nothing in life is more important than the ability to communicate effectively.” – Gerald R. Ford

What are Some Professional Associations in the Field of Communication?

Joining professional associations is important to expand your knowledge of current trends in the field and build your professional network. Below are examples of associations.

To view more associations, go to [Explore Majors and Careers](#) on the Career Center website and scroll down to “What Can I Do With This Major?”. Select your major and scroll down to the bottom of the page to view associations.

The [American Communication Association](#) is free to join and welcomes global members into the group to learn more about how evolving technologies can aid communication.

The [Association for Women in Communications](#) offers scholarships and support for educational research and publications, and provides a forum for members to learn from and interact with communications leaders.

The [International Public Relations Association](#) represents individual public relations professionals in established and emerging countries. The organization hosts, participates in and endorses public relations conferences and events around the globe.

The [Social Media Association](#) helps members navigate the evolution of this dynamic form of communication.

“Communication—the human connection—is the key to personal and career success.” - Paul J. Meyer

Valencia College Communication Departments

There are [communication departments](#) located on the East, West, and Osceola campuses. The Department of Communications houses courses for:

- Developmental Reading and Writing
- English
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
- Journalism
- Mass Communication
- New Media Communication
- Public Relations
- Speech
- Student Support Lab (English, EAP, Reading)

Valencia College Resources

Need more information? Check these out!

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Internship and Workforce Services

Find an internship and
be ready for the job



Engage in about over 150 clubs
and organizations



Learn more about over 150
clubs and organizations

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Learning Support

Get help with your studies



Build academic and
emotional fitness

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Veterans Affairs

Essential resources and
support for veterans



Free fitness and
recreational sports



Get help with behavioral health and
more by calling **800-878-5470**

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Career Center

Explore careers and
prepare for what's next



WHAT'S NEXT?

Valencia College is an equal opportunity institution. We provide equal opportunity for employment and educational services to all individuals as it relates to admission to the college or to programs, any aid, benefit, or service to students or wages and other terms, conditions or privileges of employment, without regard to race, ethnicity, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, marital status, sex/gender sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, pregnancy, and any other factor prohibited under applicable federal, state, and local civil rights laws, rules and regulations.