

Communication and Visual Arts Courses: Fall 2026
Selected Electives

CMNS 3500	Pre-reqs: 45 credits (any discipline)	ST: Power and Language
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Chris Adam's topical look at contemporary case studies of public discourse will be of interest to students of education and political science. Why do some messages persuade while others fall flat — and who benefits? This course develops students' ability to decode the language strategies behind political speeches, media coverage, advertising, and public statements. Students build a practical toolkit for analyzing how word choices shape opinion, build trust, or mislead — and apply those skills to their own communication

FILM 3300	Pre-reqs: 45 credits (any discipline)	ST: Hollywood Cinema
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Shannon Zhao teaches this course that introduces students to the history of Hollywood films from the beginning of the industry to film to the present. We will cover how narrative forms, genres and styles developed, Hollywood's interactions with American society, influential filmmakers, and production cultures and film reception. Students will have the option of doing a creative project.

JOUR3530	Pre-reqs: JOUR 2200 + 45 credits (any discipline)	Environmental Testimony Journalism
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Email jchrumka@tru.ca to request pre-req waiver

Appropriate for students interested in connecting with stories of trauma and environmental impacts in respectful ways, this course is highly recommended for PR and Journalism students. Instructor Jennifer Chrumka prioritizes experiential and professional learning, and her 25-26 classes had coursework featured in the CBC and The Wren.

CMNS 3600	Pre-reqs: 45 credits (any discipline)	ST: Digital Illustration
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This course introduces fundamentals of digital illustration, using tablets, styluses, and a range of open source and Adobe Creative Suite software to build skills in illustration. Digital illustration is a sought-after skill in commercial and creative design.

Complete CVA Course List Fall 2026

Communication	
CMNS	1100 Principles of Communication Design
CMNS	1160 Introduction to Communication
CMNS	1500 Digital Photography
CMNS	2150 Collective and Connective Indigenous Voices
CMNS	2160 Mass Communication and the Popular Culture Industry
CMNS	2180 Social Networks, Online Identities and Internet Memes
CMNS	2200 Technology and Communication
CMNS	2550 Intro to Public Relations
CMNS	3000 Research Methods in Communication
CMNS	3500 ST: Power and Language
CMNS	3510 Intercultural Communication
CMNS	3600 ST: Digital Illustration
CMNS	3800 Communication and New Media
CMNS	4530 Organizational Communications
Professional Communication	
CMNS	1250 Strategic Writing for Communication
CMNS	1290 Introduction to Professional Writing
CMNS	1810 Academic and Professional Writing
CMNS	2290 Technical Communication
CMNS	3240 Advanced Professional Communication
SPEE	1500 Speech Communications
Film	
FILM	2200 Introduction to Film Studies 1938-Present
FILM	3300 ST: Hollywood Cinema
Journalism	
JOUR	2200 Intro to Reporting
JOUR	2060 Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling
JOUR	3520 Journalism Research Methods
JOUR	3530 Environmental Testimony Journalism
JOUR	3160 Online Journalism
JOUR	4130 Advanced Online and Multimedia Journalism

JOUR	3980 Professional Internship
Visual Arts	
VISA	1010 2D Creative Design: Thinking and Making
VISA	1030 3D Foundation (Studio)
VISA	1210 Drawing 1 (Studio)
VISA	1500 Introduction to Visual Culture
VISA	2780 Video Production 1 (<i>pre-reqs waived; email artsadvising@tru.ca to register</i>)