



TWO DEGREES, ONE PATH

TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2025-2026

Associate in Arts to Bachelor of Arts in Health Communication

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for an Associate in Arts (AA) at the Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) and leads to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Health Communication at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the Gateway2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Gateway CTC, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at Gateway CTC.

Degree Requirements for GCTC

1. Completion of minimum 60 credit hours
2. Minimum cumulative GPA 2.0
3. Minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree,
4. Demonstration of digital literacy
5. College success requirement

Admission Requirements to NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

This major can be completed face-to-face or online. If completed fully online, courses are offered in seven-week formats. Tuition for online accelerated programs differs from face-to-face tuition. Scholarship pricing is available to GCTC students who choose to enroll in the fully online program. Visit our website for more information about [Health Communication](#).

Degree Requirements for NKU

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours
2. Complete at least 25% of the credit hours required at NKU
3. Complete the last 30 credit hours at NKU
4. Complete at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 or above

5. Minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA across all major coursework
6. Meet all requirements for the major
7. Completion of a minor, focus, or second major (if required by major)

Students must complete a focus or minor as indicated on the pathway.

General Transfer Information

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from GCTC.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of annual scholarships (fall and spring only). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

Tuition and scholarship information specific to transfer students can be viewed on the [NKU Adult & Transfer Center website](#).

GCTC AA TO NKU BA IN HEALTH COMMUNICATION CHECKLIST

Gateway Community and Technical College

Category 1: GCTC General Education Core Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
ENG 102	Writing II (WC)	3	ENG 102	
COM 181	Basic Public Speaking (OC)	3	CMST 101	
PSY 110	General Psychology (SB) (recommended)	3	PSY 100	
SWK 124	Introduction to Social Services (SB)	3	SWK 105	
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology (SB) (recommended)	3	SOC 100	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Quantitative Reasoning (QR)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Quantitative Reasoning (QR) or Natural Science (NS)	3	TBS XXX	
STA 251	Applied Statistics (QR)	3	TBS XXX	
Subtotal General Education Core Courses		34		

TBS XXX means to be selected by GCTC student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

STA 251 equates to STA 205 only with the completion of MAT 151 or MAT 161.

Category 2: GCTC AA Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
COM 252	Introduction to Interpersonal Communications	3	CMST 220	
COM 254	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	3	CMST 355	
Subtotal AA Requirement Courses		6		

Category 3: GCTC Electives

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
CIT 105 OR OST 105*	Introduction to Computers OR Introduction to Information Systems	3	INF 101	
FYE 105 or FYE 110	Achieving Academic Success or First Year Experience and Applications	3	UNV 100T	
Taken at NKU	Health Communications	3	HCOM 301	
Taken at NKU	Principles of Informatics or Introduction to Mass Communication	3	JOU 110	
Taken at NKU	Lifespan Communication	3	CMST 333	

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
TBS XXX	Select a NKU course or Gateway equivalent course from category 4 to utilize toward the major	3 3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Select a Gateway equivalent course from category 4 to utilize toward the major	3	TBD XXX	
Subtotal Elective Courses		21		
Total Associate Degree Hours		61		

*If completing digital literacy using other means, additional credits will be required in order to fulfill elective requirements.

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for BA in Health Communication

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
INF 100	Orientation to College of Informatics	1		
CMST 101 OR CMST 110	Public Speaking OR Introduction to Communication Studies	3	COM 181	x
INF 128 OR JOU 110	Principles of Informatics OR Introduction to Mass Communication	3	Taken at NKU	x
SWK 105	Social Work and the Community	3	SWK 124	x
CMST 220	Interpersonal Communication	3	COM 252	x
CMST 300	Research Methods in Communication Studies	3		
CMST 333	Lifespan Communication	3	Taken at NKU	x
HCOM 301	Health Communication	3	Taken at NKU	x
HCOM 305	Patient-Provider Communication	3		
HCOM 450	Health Campaigns	3		
HCOM 480	Communication Technology and Health	3		
HCOM 496	Health Communication Internship	3		
JOU 305	Science in the Media	3		
Choose 2: JOU 220 MGT 205 MKT 205 HSC 410 PRE 305	Choose 2 Professional Skills Courses: News Writing Business Management Principles Principles of Marketing Healthcare Management Digital Media Strategies and Metrics	6	JOU 204 and BAS 282 or BAS 283	x
Choose 2: HEA 320 HIN 200 HIN 355 HSR 300 HSR 305 HSR 312 HSR 314 PSY 315	Choose 2 Health Issues/Domains Courses: Drug and Alcohol Education Introduction to Healthcare Operations Foundation of Health Informatics Ethics & Issues in Human Services Profession Principles of Assessment in Human Services Crisis Intervention Death, Dying, and Grief Psychology of Human Sexuality	6	HMS 102 HMS 212 PSY 230 FAM 253	x

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
PSY 333 PSY 340 PSY 420 PSY 421	Abnormal Psychology Social Psychology Drug Policy Psychopharmacology		PSY 298	
Choose 2: HCOM 315 HCOM 495 HSC 413 HSR 303 SOC 480 SWK 205	Choose 2 Diversity and Health Courses: Sociocultural Aspects of Health Study Abroad (1-3 credits) Aging in Today's Society Multicultural Issues in Human Services Global Aging Issues and Policies Inclusion, Oppression, and Social Work	6	HMS 220	x (need one more NKU course)
Choose 2: CMST 230 CMST 303 CMST 305 CMST 340 CMST 355 CMST 440 HCOM 485 HCOM 492 HCOM 494 HCOM 499 JOU 321 JOU 340 JOU 450 PRE 275	Choose 2 Communication Electives: Small Group Communication Organizational Communication Business and Professional Communication Strategies of Persuasion Culture and Communication Communication Training and Development Communicating Health Policy Directed Research (0-6 credits) Special Topics: Health Communication Independent Study (1-3 credits) Digital Publishing Feature Writing Media Skills Principles of Public Relations	6	COM 281 COM 287 COM 254	x (1 still needed)
Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU		34		
Subtotal Credit Hours at GCTC		61		
Total Major Credit Hours		52		

Students should choose a minor. Depending on students' areas of interest, they are encouraged to select a minor that will complement this major and strengthen their skill set. For example, if a student has an interest in video production related to health communication, a minor in Electronic Media and Broadcasting would be appropriate. Students are encouraged to work with their advisor to choose a minor. In some cases, the electives chosen above may also work toward the minor.

Category 5: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
	Subtotal Minor and Elective Credit Hours Taken at NKU	25		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	120		

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