



# Faculty, Communication Studies

Target Start Date Fall 2021

Closing Date: **01/08/2021**  
Take me to [ACC's online application](#).

## Position Information

<b>Location</b>	As assigned.
<b>Hours</b>	As assigned.
<b>Salary</b>	Salary is assigned according to the Full-Time Faculty Salary Scale.
<b>FLSA Status</b>	Exempt
<b>Reports To</b>	Department Chair, Communication Studies
<b>Criminal Background Check</b>	Pre-employment criminal background checks are required for all Staff and Faculty positions. Pre-employment urinalyses drug screens are also required for all top candidates considered for positions in ACC's College Police department.

## College Profile

Austin Community College (ACC) is a public two-year institution that serves a diverse population of approximately 41,000 credit students each fall and spring semester. We embrace our identity as a community college as reflected in our mission statement. We promote student success and community development by providing affordable access, through traditional and distance learning modes, to higher education and workforce training, including appropriate applied baccalaureate degrees, in our service area.

As a community college committed to our mission, we seek to recruit and retain a workforce that:

- Reflects the diversity of our community.
- Values intellectual curiosity and innovative teaching.
- Is attracted by the college mission to promote equitable access to educational opportunities.
- Cares about student success and collaborates on strategies to facilitate success for underrepresented populations.
- Welcomes difference and models respectful interaction with others.
- Engages with the community both within and outside of ACC.

# Student Profile

Austin Community College District (ACC) is a Hispanic-Serving Institution. ACC currently enrolls 41,500 students, over half of whom are non-white. In fall 2017, ACC's students were 45% White, 35% Latinx, 8% African-American, 5% Asian, <1% Pacific Islander, <1% Native-American, and 4% multiracial. ACC's designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution reflects the commitment the college has to supporting our students' educational goals as well as the economic and social well-being of the surrounding communities we serve.

ACC pursues educational excellence by being accountable and committed to achieving diversity in our faculty and staff ranks. ACC seeks to be innovative in all its operations and provides students with guidance and support in achieving success in their educational goals, whether they are seeking a degree, successful transfer, employment or lifelong learning.

The ideal candidate will be eager to work with a diverse student population and will be experienced in culturally-responsive academic practices for engaging with first-generation students and others who have been historically underserved.

## Our Mission

The Austin Community College District promotes student success and community development by providing affordable access, through traditional and distance learning modes, to higher education and workforce training in its service area.

For more information, see <http://www.austincc.edu/about-acc/mission-statement>.

## Commitment to Equity and Inclusion

ACC is committed to the ongoing systemic changes needed to ensure the increased recruitment, inclusion, retention, and completion of historically underserved and under represented populations. Through continual strategic community engagement and professional development of administrators, faculty, staff, and students, the college demonstrates its dedication to fostering a culture and climate for equitable outcomes.

As an open access and low-cost institution, ACC is proud to serve a diverse student body. Dedicated faculty members are excellent professors who help students achieve their educational goals and are sensitive to the diverse cultures and socio-economic backgrounds of our students. In 2017 our faculty adopted a Statement of ACC Faculty Values. This Statement affirms that ACC's faculty members value collaboration, service, agency, scholarship, inclusion, and teaching, all of which attest to our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion at the heart of our mission.

## Current Work of the Department/Discipline

ACC's Communication Studies Department (Comms) offers on campus and online college credit courses across 11 campuses. The department sponsors Comms Week each Fall highlighting a student speech contest, professional development for faculty and staff, and a professional panel focusing on career opportunities within the discipline. Recently, Comms faculty collaborated with instructors across Texas to publish a SPCH 1318 OER text entitled *Communication in the Real World: An Introduction to*

*Communication Studies.* Students look forward to the annual Comm Con kickoff event where they interact with faculty and other student majors, while learning about internships and transfer partnerships. Service Learning plays an important role in the department, as do honors courses and contextualized classes for health science students. Faculty present at regional conferences such as SSCA and the National Communication Association convention, and have strong relationships with our four-year university transfer partners and workforce programs. Communication Studies is a thriving department having experienced a 176% growth in majors over the last five years. Please apply to be a part of this dynamic team.

## Job Summary

Responsible to prepare and deliver **Communication Studies** coursework in engaging, innovative, and discipline-appropriate ways that reflect a commitment to success equity, respect for diversity, an understanding of culturally responsive teaching, and knowledge of the teaching field. Meets professional standards for faculty in accordance with college policies and procedures.

## Principal Responsibilities and Duties

- Prepare and teach courses in the field of **Communication Studies** to a diverse student population based on the department's approved course learning outcomes, utilizing a variety of instructional strategies appropriate to the needs of community college students and the standards of the discipline.
- Participate actively in departmental responsibilities and departmental governance, including curriculum review and revision, program review, assessment of student learning outcomes at the course and program level, and other departmental activities.
- Evaluate student progress and provide clear, timely feedback reflecting program learning outcomes and departmental expectations.
- Serve as a mentor to declared majors in **Communication Studies** program.
- Provide teaching and mentoring services to students in a manner which does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, political affiliation, or other protected categories.
- Remain current in the field through a variety of professional development activities.
- Support division and department goals through active and collegial engagement in decision-making and unit-level planning.
- Serve on collegewide and departmental committees, councils, work groups, and task forces.
- Perform other related tasks as assigned by the department chair, dean, and/or associate vice president, vice president, executive vice president.

## Principal Professional Standards

- Appropriate use of the college's learning management system.
- Meet deadlines for attendance certification and submission of final course grades.
- Participate in graduation, general assembly, and other official college functions.

- Maintain regular office hours to assist students and improve student retention and success.
- Attend and participate in collegewide, campus, department, or other activities and meetings.
- Recognize and reflect standards of civility and collegiality in all interactions.
- Comply with published college policies and procedures and meet professional standards for teaching in a community college.

## Required Education

- Austin Community College welcomes all interested applicants who want to teach in a community college setting and engage with a diverse population of learners. Minimal education requirements are in accordance with Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) requirements:
  - **Master's Degree in Speech Communication; OR**
  - **Master's degree with at least 18 graduate hours in Speech Communication; OR**
  - **Master's degree in Communication Studies with analysis of coursework.**

Applicants with graduate degrees in Speech Disorders, Mass Communication, or Journalism are not qualified for this position unless they have 18 hrs in Speech Communication or Communication Studies.

SACSCOC requirements may differ depending on the courses taught within the discipline.

For specific requirements by course and program, please see the current year Faculty Qualifications Table located at <http://www.austincc.edu/faculty/credentials/>.

## Application Requirements

### Document Requirements

**When you apply using the official ACC eApply application, you will need to upload the following documents to your application:**

1. Cover letter - Explaining interest in the position.
  2. Curriculum Vitae or Resume - Your most recently updated C.V. or Resume.
- Include the following as part of your C.V. or Resume upload:
    - Statement of teaching philosophy. Consider these questions as you develop your teaching philosophy statement:
      - What are your values, beliefs, and goals related to teaching and learning?
      - What will make you effective in the community college classroom?
      - How does student identity in the classroom affect how you teach?
    - Statement of past and/or potential contributions to diversity, equity and inclusion in the academic environment.

Official transcripts and/or certifications will need to be sent directly from your institution to:

ACC Highland Business Center  
 Attention: E.B. Breedlove, Employment Manager  
 5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin, TX 78752

Photocopies of transcripts and transcripts stamped "issued to student" are not accepted.

### Reference Requirements

3 professional references required (contact information only)

## Criminal Background Check

Pre-employment criminal background checks are required for all staff and faculty positions. Pre-employment urinalyses drug screens are also required for all top candidates considered for positions in ACC's District Police Department.

## ACC Benefits Overview

Full-time faculty and staffing table employees who work in full-time and/or part-time positions at the college are eligible for ACC medical benefits effective the first of the month after their first 60 days of employment. Benefits include medical, dental, life insurance, short- and long-term disability, retirement plans and AD&D.

**ACC does not participate in Social Security.** ACC participates in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) and the Optional Retirement Program (ORP-Faculty and Administrators Only). Part-time and Hourly employees participate in the ACC Money Purchase Plan (ACCMPP) as a retirement program required by federal law.

## Working Conditions

- Work is routinely performed in a classroom or laboratory setting.
- Subject to standing, walking, sitting, and reaching for extended periods of time.
- Work safely and follow safety rules. Report unsafe working conditions and behavior. Take reasonable and prudent actions to prevent others from engaging in unsafe practices.

## Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

*The Austin Community College District is an Equal Opportunity Employer advancing inclusive excellence. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, political affiliation or other protected categories.*

## HR Use Only

- Updated 9-17-20.

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## Disclaimer

The above description is an overview of the job. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of duties and responsibilities of the job, nor is it intended to be an all-inclusive list of the skills and abilities required to do the job. Duties and responsibilities may change with business needs. ACC reserves the right to add, change, amend, or delete portions of this job description at any time, with or without notice. Employees may be required to perform other duties as requested, directed, or assigned. In addition, reasonable accommodations may be made by ACC as its discretion to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Austin Community College provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics.

As required by the US Department of Education, employees are required to report violations under the Title IX and, under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), select individuals are required to report crimes. If this position is identified as a Campus Security Authority (Clery Act), you will be notified, trained, and provided resources for reporting.