The CAS Focus is required for students entering Boston University prior to the start of the fall 2018 semester or by Boston University students who transferred from outside (non-BU) colleges and universities prior to the start of the fall 2020 semester.

Department of Mass Communication, Advertising, and Public Relations
Department of Film and Television
Department of Journalism

• Three (3) courses in the same CAS department.
• Each course must be junior (300) level or higher, except:
  • Students who have placed out of the COM foundation foreign language requirement or have otherwise fulfilled this requirement may choose to continue the same language or start a new language (including American Sign Language) for their focus. If the student is continuing a language, they may apply 200-level or higher foreign language courses, but not 200-level literature and civilization courses (e.g. LS211, LS212 and LS300 will fulfill the focus). If the student is starting a new language, the first three semesters of any given language may be applied toward the focus (e.g. LS111, LS112, and LS211).
  • One (and only one) 100 or 200-level course will count as long as it is a prerequisite for one of the other two 300-level courses in the focus.
  • History and Political Science courses numbered 200 or higher can count toward a CAS focus.
  • Students completing a CAS focus in Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry, Math and Physics may take any three 4-credit CAS courses in that one subject area 100-level or above.
  • Students completing a CAS focus in Sociology or Philosophy may take one 100- or 200-level course toward the CAS focus. The other two CAS courses to complete the focus must be 300-level or higher.
  • Students completing a CAS focus in Psychology may use SED PE 375 or any 4-credit MET PS 300-level or higher course toward the focus. This is only for MET PS 300-level courses.
  • Since COM allows American Sign Language to fulfill our 2nd semester proficiency requirement in language, we will also allow a Deaf Studies focus. Students will need to complete three American Sign Language courses beyond American Sign Language II (minimum of 12 credits) or complete a Deaf Studies minor.
  • Students studying abroad in Dublin, Sydney or New Zealand may complete a foreign studies focus. Students with this focus must complete three CAS courses with a departmental prefix while on the program. No CAS IP courses can count.
  • Any other exceptions must be petitioned through your major department.
• A CAS minor will take the place of a CAS focus so long as at least three of the courses to complete the minor do not count as COM foundation requirements.
• The courses counting toward the focus cannot also count for the COM foundation requirements.

Notes:

*Any student choosing to take a foreign language (including American Sign Language) for their CAS focus must take three courses of the same language in succession. Students may not take a combination of three different languages at any level toward the CAS focus. For example, LS 211 (third semester Spanish), LF 211 (third semester French) and LI 211 (third semester Italian) may not be taken in combination to be counted toward a CAS focus.

Please note the CAS focus was formerly called the CAS concentration.