Course Overview: This course is designed to educate the student to be a more receptive and competent communicator through exposure to a variety of individual and group communication theories, skills, and presentations.


Course Requirements

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. Excessive absence (more than three classes) will result in a five point deduction per absence to the student’s final grade, unless excused with verification as a sickness, death, or personal injury. Participation in class discussions and activities is mandatory. Due to the nature of this course, you will be unable to make up any missed presentations, and will receive a grade of zero. Students are responsible for any assignments that are missed.

Speeches: Each student will give two presentations in class- an informative speech and a group persuasive speech. Details for these speeches will be given in class during the semester. Speaking presentations must be given on the date assigned. If a student is absent on the day he/she is assigned to speak, he/she will receive a grade of zero for that speech.

Speech Proposals: Upon receiving the assignment of the informative and persuasive speeches, students (or group in the case of the group project) will be required to submit to the instructor a copy of his or her appropriate speech topic, general purpose statement, specific purpose statement, and thesis statement. More detail of the speech may be submitted for feedback but is not required.

Group Project: Students will be assigned to small groups to carry out a group project. As a group, you will conduct a research project and present the results to the class. Details of this assignment will be given out in class.

Group Log: Each group will keep a log. The group can decide on the form of this document but its function is to demonstrate in as encapsulated version the life of the group. The log MUST include a record of the time and place of each meeting; the names of the members in attendance (including some way to note late arrivals or early departures); a short, general summary of contents in each group meeting; all specific assignments given to group members; specific assignments brought or not brought to the meeting; and a record of projections for the next meeting(s). These logs need only to
contain a few sentences for each meeting; they are to be summaries rather than step-by-step accounts of the group’s progress.

**Final Paper:** Individual analysis of group process: Each student will prepare a 3-4 page analysis of the process their group followed in the planning, designing, and implementation of their group project. This analysis will be based on ONE theoretical concept. Specifically, you apply the theoretical perspective of roles to the actual circumstances that existed in your group. Papers are individual assignments and should not be collaborated on with other group members. Further details will be provided.

**Exams:** There will be three exams given throughout the semester. These exams will be short answer, multiple choice, and short essay. Exams will be based on the readings, lectures, and class activities.

**Additional Classroom Etiquette**

- Turn cell phones OFF.
- Absolutely NO TEXT MESSAGING!!!
- Excessive lateness will not be tolerated.
- Notify the instructor if you have to leave early or if you’re going to be absent/late.
- All assignments must be typed and turned in on time. Hand written assignments will not be accepted or graded.

**Academic Dishonesty:** All your work for this class must be original. Any instance of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, and will be reported to the Dean of Students. Plagiarizing a presentation or paper will result in a FAILING GRADE FOR THE COURSE!!!

**Grading:**

Exam 1: 15%
Exam 2: 15%
Exam 3: 15%

Informative/Persuasive Speech: 10%
Group Presentation: 15%
Interpersonal Paper 15%

Group Log: 7.5%
Informative Proposal: 2.5%
Persuasive Proposal: 2.5%

Attendance: 10%

Total: 100%
**Scale:**

A = 93-100  
A- = 90-92

B+ = 87-89  
B = 83-86  
B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79  
C = 73-76  
C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69  
D = 63-66  
D- = 60-65

F = 0=59
Tentative Daily Schedule

Week One: Jan 25-27
Course Introduction- Review Syllabus/Assignments
Chapter 1- Communication Perspectives

Week Two: Feb. 1-3
Ethics
Chapter 2- Perception of Self and Others
Chapter 3- Communicating Verbally

Week Three: Feb. 8-10
Chapter 4- Communicating Through Nonverbal Behaviors
Interpersonal Communication
Chapter 5- Communicating Across Cultures

Week Four: Feb. 15-17
NO CLASS (Presidents Day)
EXAM #1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Week Five: Feb. 22-24
Chapter 12- Developing Your Topic and Doing Your Research
Chapter 13- Organizing Your Speech
Assign Informative Speeches

Week Six: March 1-3
Chapter 14- Adapting Verbally and Visually
Chapter 16- Informative Speaking
Speech Proposals Due!

Week Seven: March 8-10
Chapter 6- Communicating in Relationships
Chapter 7- Listening and Responding

Week Eight: March 15-17
Chapter 8- Developing Intimacy in Relationships: Self Disclosure, Feedback, and Conflict Resolution
Speech Presentations Begin!

Week Nine: March 22-24
Speech Presentations Cont...
Interpersonal Papers Due!
Week Ten: March 29-March 31
NO CLASS SPRING BREAK!!!

Week Eleven- April 5-7
Chapter 9- Interviewing
EXAM #2 (Chapters 6, 7, 8)

Week Twelve: April 12-14
Chapter 10- Participating In Group Communication
Chapter 11- Member Roles and Leadership in Groups

Week Thirteen: April 19-20
In class Group Project Prep-Time
Group Speech Proposals Due

Week Fourteen: April 26-28
In class Group Project Prep-Time
Exam # 3 (chapters 9, 10, 11)

Week Fifteen: May 3-5
Group Presentations
Group Presentations

Week Sixteen: May 10-12
Group Presentations

Week Seventeen: May 19
Group Papers Due!
Last Day of Class!!!