

**COMM 112: Small Group Communication****Credit Hours: # 3****Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: # 3

Lab: # NA

Other: # NA

**Catalog Course Description:**

An introduction to small group communication. This course focuses on the theories, concepts and skills necessary to function effectively in a variety of group settings. Topics include group norms, rules, roles, conflict management, leadership, problem solving, decision-making and team building

**Pre-requisites:** None**Co-requisites:** None**Course Learning Outcomes:**

- Outline the characteristics and coordination of small groups.
- Demonstrate the role of small groups in organizations
- Apply the complex system concepts of: strange attractors, phase space, bifurcation points, and irreversibility.
- Clarify the different types of group norms.
- Specify the kinds of communication occurring during each phase of the group process.
- Present the strength obtained through diversity
- Identify the structures of meaning in verbal communication
- Explain the importance of listening
- Explain employee involvement as a part of team development
- Determine issues to be considered in making a decision
- Understand and demonstrate creative decision making process and tools
- Outline the premises behind the leadership style theories

**Topics to be studied:**

Decision making and problem solving

Phases of group development

Leadership in small groups

Mediated small group communication

Diversity in groups

Norms and roles

Cohesion and groupthink

<b>Relationship of Course to Discipline Learning Outcomes</b>	
Explain how ethics play a role in the communication process.	X
Recall the communication process.	
Demonstrate an ability to select appropriate topics and language for public presentations.	
Demonstrate an ability to conduct research.	
Create complex messages in a variety of communication settings.	X
Evaluate and critique one's own and other's communication in a variety of settings.	X
Apply effective delivery skills in a variety of communication settings.	X
Recall the historic background of mass media and contemporary media issues.	

Summarize the theoretical underpinnings of mass communication.	
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<b>Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:</b>	
<b>Composition and Rhetoric</b> Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	X
<b>Science &amp; Technology</b> Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	
<b>Mathematics &amp; Quantitative Skills</b> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
<b>Society, Diversity, &amp; Connections</b> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	
<b>Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</b> Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	X
<b>The Arts &amp; Creativity</b> Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	

**Special requirements of the course:**

(If a program assessment is required in this course, indicate it here.)

**Additional information:**

(Anything else that may be useful.)

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**Date:** October 6, 2017