

COMM120 : Introduction to Communication Theory

General Information

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|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nancy Traynor |
| Course Code (CB01) : | COMM120 |
| Course Title (CB02) : | Introduction to Communication Theory |
| Department: | COMM |
| Proposal Start: | Fall 2025 |
| TOP Code (CB03) : | (1506.00) Speech Communication |
| CIP Code: | (09.0101) Speech Communication and Rhetoric. |
| SAM Code (CB09) : | Non-Occupational |
| Distance Education Approved: | No |
| Will this course be taught asynchronously?: | No |
| Course Control Number (CB00) : | CCC000574486 |
| Curriculum Committee Approval Date: | 05/22/2024 |
| Board of Trustees Approval Date: | 07/16/2024 |
| Last Cyclical Review Date: | 05/22/2024 |
| Course Description and Course Note: | COMM 120 introduces students to human communication by studying basic communication models, fundamental theories, and research findings. Emphasis is placed on understanding the various forms of human communication and how researchers contribute to the communication field. Coursework encourages students to research, analyze, and apply communication theories to everyday communication practices. SPCH 120 prepares students for upper-division coursework in the communication discipline. |
| Justification: | Content Change |
| Academic Career: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit |
| Mode of Delivery: | No value |
| Author: | No value |
| Course Family: | No value |

Academic Senate Discipline

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Primary Discipline: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Speech Communication |
| Alternate Discipline: | No value |
| Alternate Discipline: | No value |

File Upload

File Upload

No Value

Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)

Course is not a basic skills course.

Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Course Special Class Status (CB13)

Course is not a special class.

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Not applicable.

Grading Basis

- Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

Course is not a support course

General Education and C-ID

General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

Transferability Status

Approved

| C-ID | Area | Status | Approval Date | Comparable Course |
|------|------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COMM | Communications Studies | Approved | 08/28/2017 | COMM 180 - Introduction to Communication Studies or Introduction to Communication Theory |

| IGETC Area | Area | Status | Approval Date | Comparable Course |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 4-Social Sciences | Social Sciences | Approved | 08/28/2023 | No Comparable Course defined. |

| CSU GE-Breadth Area | Area | Status | Approval Date | Comparable Course |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| D-Social Sciences | Social Sciences | Approved | 08/28/2023 | No Comparable Course defined. |

Units and Hours

Summary

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Minimum Credit Units (CB07) | 3 |
| Maximum Credit Units (CB06) | 3 |
| Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours | 54 |

Total Course Out-of-Class Hours 108

Total Student Learning Hours 162

Credit / Non-Credit Options

Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

Variable Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

Weekly Student Hours

| | In Class | Out of Class |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Lecture Hours | 3 | 6 |
| Laboratory Hours | 0 | 0 |
| Studio Hours | 0 | 0 |

Course Student Hours

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----|
| Course Duration (Weeks) | 18 |
| Hours per unit divisor | 54 |
| Course In-Class (Contact) Hours | |
| Lecture | 54 |
| Laboratory | 0 |
| Studio | 0 |
| Total | 54 |
| Course Out-of-Class Hours | |
| Lecture | 108 |
| Laboratory | 0 |
| Studio | 0 |
| Total | 108 |

Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours

| Activity Name | Type | In Class | Out of Class |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| No Value | No Value | No Value | No Value |

Prerequisites, Corequisites, Recommended Corequisites, and Recommended Preparation

Advisory

ENGLC1000 - Academic Reading and Writing (in-development)

Objectives

- Read, analyze, and evaluate a variety of primarily non-fiction readings for content, context, and rhetorical merit with consideration of tone, audience, and purpose.
- Apply a variety of rhetorical strategies in writing unified, well-organized essays directed by a well-reasoned thesis statement with persuasive support.
- Develop varied and flexible strategies for generating, drafting, and revising essays.
- Analyze stylistic choices in their own writing and the writing of others.
- Write timed, in-class essays exhibiting acceptable college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.
- Integrate the ideas of others through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting without plagiarism.
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using appropriate documentation format.
- Proofread and edit essays for presentation so they exhibit no disruptive errors in English grammar, usage, or punctuation.

OR

Advisory

ESL155 - Listening And Speaking V

Objectives

- Critically evaluate own and other's presentations, and provide substantive, constructive feedback.

Entry Standards

Entry Standards

Description

No value

No value

Course Limitations

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course

Description

No value

No value

Requisite Validation

Upload Statistical Validation and/or other documents (if necessary)

No Value

Wood, Julia

Communication Mosaics: An
Introduction to the Field of
Communication

Wadsworth P

2017

978-0534572495

Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

No Value

Learning Outcomes

Course Objectives

Discuss the history of the study of human communication.

Explain the importance of theory as it relates to communication research and communication practice.

Evaluate a theory using at least four criteria identified in the course.

Discuss and evaluate at least three approaches to communication theory and research.

Analyze a communication event from two different theoretical perspectives.

Describe the theoretical approach embodied in a piece of communication research.

Summarize, critique, and apply communication theories to social and professional life.

SLOs

Articulate basic human communication theories and principles.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

COMM
Speech/Communication - A.A.
Degree Major

Apply critical thinking skills in the areas of speaking and listening

ILOs
Core ILOs

Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.

Demonstrate an understanding of human communication within particular contexts.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

COMM
Speech/Communication - A.A.
Degree Major

Apply critical thinking skills in the areas of speaking and listening

ILOs
Core ILOs

Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.

Apply communication theories to social and professional life.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs
Core ILOs

Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.

COMM
Speech/Communication A.A.
Degree

Demonstrate increased appreciation of the speech communication process

COMM
Speech/Communication - A.A.
Degree Major

Demonstrate increased appreciation of the speech communication process

Additional SLO Information

Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?

No

Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?

No

If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.

No Value

SLO Evidence

No Value

Course Content

Lecture Content

History of Communication Study (7 hours)

- Defining Communication
- Verbal and nonverbal communication Models and perspectives

Traditions in Communication (4 hours)

- Historical Traditions
- Cultural Traditions

Communication Theory Fundamentals (13 hours)

- Theory definition
- Functions of theories

- Organize/categorize
- Explain, Predict, Control
- Guide further research
- Naive versus rigorous theories
- Criteria for evaluating theories
- Clarity Parsimony/elegance
- Logical consistency
- Empirical validity
- Testable quality
- Usefulness
- Heuristic value
- Theoretical scope
- The Process of theorizing
- Thinking
- Gathering information
- Organization
- Critical analysis
- Data analysis Construction
- The basics of research
- Literature search strategies
- Using electronic databases
- Designing research projects
- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Mixed methods

Approaches to Communication Theory (10 hours)

- Cognitive and behavioral
- Rules, laws and systems
- Humanistic and scientific
- Critical and interpretive

Context-Specific Applications (13 hours)

- Interpersonal communication theories
- Small group communication theories
- Intercultural communication theories
- Rhetorical theories
- Organizational communication theories
- Mass communication theories
- Gender communication theories
- Emerging specializations
- Health and sciences communication
- New technologies communication
- Computer-mediated communication

Integration (7 hours)

- Common threads in communication theories

Total hours: 54

Additional Information

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)

No Value

Is it possible this course will have a material fee?

No Value

I have contacted my library liaison (<https://campusguides.glendale.edu/faculty/liaisons>):

No Value

What term(s) will this course be offered?

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

No Value

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value