

VERNON COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Communications

DATE: 2016-2017

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication

CREDIT HRS: 3 HRS/WK LEC: 3 HRS/WK LAB: 0

LEC/LAB COMB: 3

I. VERNON COLLEGE GENERAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

General education at Vernon College reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. Through the Texas Core Curriculum and through support and reinforcement in all non-core courses, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

CORE OBJECTIVES (GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES)

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Personal Responsibility – to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision making
- Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: SPCH 1315. Application of communication theory to interpersonal relationship development, maintenance, and termination in relationship contexts including friendships, romantic partners, families, and relationships with coworkers and supervisors.
Special Fee: \$2.00

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

Prerequisite: SPCH 1315

IV. STUDENT E-MAIL:

All students should activate and regularly check their Vernon College issued student email account. Student emails are an official form of communication between Vernon College and students and will be used by various components of the college including the Office of Financial Aid, Admissions & records, the Business Office, Student Services, and Instructional Services.

Additionally, an active VC student email account is required for students to access online courses and supplemental instruction provided on the College's Learning Management System – *Canvas*.

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V. TEXTS, OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Joseph A. DeVito, Interpersonal Messages, (4th ed.). New York, New York: Pearson Publishing Company, 2016

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1. In-class lectures
2. Class discussions
3. Various audio-visual materials
4. Participant presentations

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the PASS Department Director/Office for Students with Disabilities Coordinator.

VII. COURSE CONTENT:

Communication is the single most important tool we have to make sense of our world. Hence, the way in which we understand our own experiences and others is through the communication process. Speech 1318 will enable you to improve your theoretical knowledge of the interpersonal communication process while providing you with practical application skills to use both personally and professionally. Course Requirements:

- a. Participants are expected to actively participate in class discussions and activities.
- b. Participants are required to read chapters from the text on a daily basis as assigned.
- c. Participants are required to present two scholarly articles relating to interpersonal communication.
- d. Participants are required to record communication journals describing interpersonal communication experiences, observations, or insights as they relate to course topics. The instructor will supply supplemental topics for this assignment on a weekly basis.
- e. Participants will conduct both individual and group presentations focusing on specific areas of interpersonal communication. Presentation guidelines are provided by the instructor.
- f. Participants can expect two major exams and one cumulative final exam.

VIII. COURSE OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Exhibit understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.
3. Identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, and applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender and age influences on human communication.
6. Demonstrate ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups.

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7. Identify types of and barriers to effective listening.

IX. ASSESSMENT:

The student will demonstrate proficiency in the objectives listed about through participation in class activities/projects and performance on quizzes/examinations as well as the completion of no less than 5 speeches.

To pass the course, students must present all speeches and take each exam. Failure to present a required speech or take the final exam will result in a final grade of "F".