COM: Communication Courses

Courses

COM 2203 Communication Dynamics
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

This course provides a theoretical foundation for understanding communication in the workplace, personal relationships, and mediated environments. Students will master the basics of conflict management, listening, nonverbal communication, strategic use of language, interviewing, leadership, teamwork, and intercultural communication. The course provides a foundation for advanced-level studies in communication and helps students master communication proficiencies essential to success in professional and personal life.

COM 2713 Writing for the Communication Professions
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: ENC 1101 AND ENC 1102

This introductory course exposes students to writing for communication professions such as advertising, public relations, and journalism. Students strengthen grammar and develop the writing skills necessary for specific forms of writing. Students will explore various types of writing such as newswriting, public relations writing, and advertising copy. Students will become familiar with Associated Press Style. Meets Gordon Rule Writing Requirement.

COM 3003 Integrated Advertising & Public Relations Concepts
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: COM 2713

Three hours. Survey of advertising and public relations methods. Emphasis on preparation of advertisements, professional communication strategies and tactics, use of industry standard research methods, and communication campaigns. This course serves as the foundation for all other advertising & public relations courses.

COM 3014 Gender Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

Examines the roles gender plays in managing diversity in the workplace, developing personal relationships and exploring mass media in contemporary culture. This course is designed to increase your understanding of gender as it is constructed, performed, evaluated, and negotiated through communication. Meets Multicultural Requirement.

COM 3365 Conflict Management
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

This course focuses on the management of conflict through effective communication. Hands-on student learning is emphasized. The course offers the theoretical investigation of communication barriers and breakdowns in interpersonal and public settings. The areas of interpersonal, organizational, cross-cultural and moral conflicts are highlighted.

COM 3461 Intercultural Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

Explores issues related to intercultural communication processes. Considers the important role of context (social, cultural, and historical) in intercultural interactions. The goal is to develop an understanding of the process of communicating across cultural boundaries. Operates from the premise that culture is both a producer and product of communication, and, therefore, an appreciation of communication processes is an essential factor in promoting positive intercultural relations and pursuing a more just global society. Meets Multicultural Requirement.

COM 3905 Directed Study
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)

COM 3948 Service Learning Field Study II
1-3 sh (may be repeated for up to 4 sh of credit)

Placement in community agency or other social organizational setting related to field of study. Supervision by faculty and agency. Students and faculty "customize" courses to fit a full range of services that are available in the setting. Student must be able to draw correlations between the discipline and field study. Journal and reflective experience paper are required. With the agreement of the student's faculty sponsor, a minimum of 6-8 hours' work per week must be done at the field site per semester hour of credit.

COM 4022 Health Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

Provides an up-to-date overview of the health care industry, spotlighting communication issues in patient care, health care administration, public relations, human resources, health education, and the media. Includes coverage of diverse cultures and ethical considerations. A highly interdisciplinary course useful for students considering any type of career in the health care industry. Offered concurrently with COM 5025; graduate students will be assigned additional work.

COM 4103 Leadership Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

Promotes leadership development through study of leadership theory and concepts and practical application of leadership laboratory experience. Based on a servant leader philosophy, focuses on building leadership competencies in interpersonal communication, public presentations, team building, working in multicultural environments, mentoring, problem solving and influence strategies used in interpersonal and public forums to bring about community and organizational change. Leadership skill-building opportunity to all participants. Credit may not be received in both COM 4103 and COM 4103C.

COM 4110 Business and Professional Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SPC 3301

Practical understanding of communication practices affecting the workplace. Emphasis on managing work relationships, listening, organizational interviews, professional presentations, communication technologies and multi-cultural diversity.
COM 4120 Organizational Communication  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Examines the dynamics of communicating within organizations and with stakeholders. Students analyze case studies of actual organizations and build skills related to teamwork, motivation, morale-building, leadership, decision-making, and more.

COM 4301 Communication Research  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
This course will examine primary and secondary research methods useful to comprehensive communication investigation and integrated public relations/advertising campaigns.

COM 4620 Communication Ethics  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Guides students in examining ethical considerations in business and public life. Includes diverse ethical perspectives, critical methods of analysis, and greater awareness of the role ethics plays in everyday life.

COM 4905 Directed Study  
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)  
COM 4940 Internship in Communication  
1-3 sh (may be repeated for up to 6 sh of credit)  
Supervised field practicum in a communication-related position, to include advertising, broadcast and print journalism, telecommunications and film, organizational communication and public relations. Senior standing and a 2.7 overall GPA is required. Graded on a Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory basis only. Permission is required.

COM 5005 Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication  
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Designed to introduce graduate students to critical elements of graduate studies in communication. Central topics include mastering the basics of APA style, honing analytic writing skills related to the study of communication, instructional resources, academic integrity issues unique to communication, and the history of the communication discipline.

COM 5025 Health Communication  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Provides an up-to-date overview of the health care industry, spotlighting communication issues in patient care, health care administration, public relations, human resources, health education and the media. Includes coverage of diverse cultures and ethical considerations. A highly interdisciplinary course useful for students considering any type of career in the health care industry. Offered concurrently with COM 4022; graduate students will be assigned additional work. Graduate standing is required.

COM 5206 Communication Training  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Prepares students to design and conduct communication skills training for professionals. Emphasizes adult learning, conducting needs assessments, establishing training objectives, using communication technology and evaluating training efforts. Involves a hands-on student learning project in which students conduct needs assessments and present two-hour workshops for local professional organizations. Other majors must confer with instructor regarding comparable prerequisites. Offered Fall of every other year.

COM 5527 Communication Agency  
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Guides students through the development and implementation of a series of strategic and organizational communication projects utilizing an “agency-style” team based format. Permission is required.

COM 5905 Directed Study  
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)  
COM 5933 Special Topics in Communication  
1.5-3 sh (may be repeated for up to 9 sh of credit)  
Designed to provide students with specialized knowledge in a particular field of communication such as organizational communication, media criticism, rhetorical criticism, or visual communication.

COM 6024 Emerging Topics in Health Communication  
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Highlights how communication issues in health care are interwoven with community well-being, civic life, professional development, and opportunities for collaboration and mutual gain. Topics may include health care reform, leadership in health care settings, patient and family satisfaction, privacy issues, and burnout among health professionals. Utilizes current research, theoretical foundations, and local health care experts to explore relevant and emerging issues. Uses health care case studies to develop effective leadership and strategic communication strategies.

COM 6129 Assessing Organizational Dynamics  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Applying systems thinking to analyze the dynamics of communication within an actual organization. Emphasis on deep-level analysis to reveal who talks to whom, when, why, and about what. Goals are (1) to reveal communication patterns and assumptions that make it either easy or difficult to achieve high quality organizational production and (2) to help organizational members design processes that foster the creation of high-performance, high-capacity teams.

COM 6207 Advanced Communication Leadership  
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Based on a hands-on leadership project informed by the study of leadership communication theory, research, and case studies. Emphasis is on developing communication skills, strategy, and awareness to enhance leaders’ effectiveness. Permission is required.

COM 6210 Emerging Topics in Nonprofit Organizational Communication  
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)  
Exploration of current communication issues and challenges facing today’s nonprofit organizations. Emphasizes the development of strategies to address these issues through case studies, course readings, and by studying the communication challenges of local nonprofit organizations.
COM 6312  Advanced Communication Research Methods
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
This course addresses the philosophy of scientific research including the origins, nature, and effects of communication processes. Focuses on both theoretical and applied research. Primary emphasis is on quantitative investigation and applied research. Primary emphasis is on qualitative investigation with some consideration of qualitative methods. Focus is on achieving a solid understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of different methodological approaches (i.e., experiments vs. surveys vs. interviews) in order to determine the most effective methods for research questions or hypotheses. Students are expected to have completed at least one introductory college level statistics course preceding enrollment in this course.

COM 6525  Strategic Communication
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Provides a conceptual framework for strategic communication, sharpens analytical and critical thinking, and provides a unifying function for the Strategic Communication & Leadership Program. Addresses all aspects of the development and execution of communication programs. Offers "real world" experience through the analysis of case studies. Case studies and coursework will be drawn from the profit, non-profit, product, and service sectors. Particular attention will be paid to sociopsychological, legal, and ethical issues as they relate to the decision-making process.

COM 6528  Team-Based Project
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Guides a team of students in applying the principles of strategic communication, leadership, and project management to a community-based project. Permission is required.

COM 6625  Emerging Topics in Communication Law and Ethics
1.5 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
An advanced seminar covering legal issues such as the First Amendment, political speech, defamation, emerging technologies, and access to information; and ethical issues such as taste and editorial content.

COM 6905  Directed Study
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)

COM 6930  Organizational Communication Project
1-6 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Advanced research project for a major corporate or organizational client. Working with a client organization, students will identify a problem for study, perform an extensive review of issues related to the project, develop several testable research questions or hypotheses about the problem, gather and analyze qualitative and/or quantitative data, and write an extensive report, including summary conclusions based on the study. May enroll for more than one term, minimum of 6sh required for M.A. degree. Graded on a satisfactory / unsatisfactory basis only. Permission is required.