COM 120
INTRO TO INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 080 and RED 080 or ENG 002 Tier 1
Corequisite: None

This course introduces the practices and principles of interpersonal communication in both dyadic and group settings. Emphasis is on the communication process; issues addressed include perception, listening, self-disclosure, speech apprehension, ethics, nonverbal communication, conflict, power, and dysfunctional communication. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate interpersonal communication skills, apply basic principles of group discussion, and manage conflict in interpersonal communication situations. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts (substitute). Course Hours Per Week: Class 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will demonstrate effective communication with their peers by:
   
   a. explaining the principles and dynamics of interpersonal communication;
   b. explaining the role of effective listening skills in the communication process; and
   c. discussing effective communication skills within different cultural contexts.

2. Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively manage conflict in a respectful and ethical manner in a variety of situations by:
   
   a. recognizing the importance of ethical behavior in personal and professional relationships and communications;
   b. applying the techniques of effective conflict management in class demonstrations and role-playing exercises; and
   c. using appropriate interpersonal communication skills and problem-solving techniques in a group setting.

3. Students will independently discern, formulate and critique an oral presentation by:
   
   a. presenting a clear, well-organized, and informative oral report based on personal research about an interpersonal communication problem or issue; and
   b. providing and accepting constructive evaluation.
CORE CONCEPTS EXAMINED:

A. The theory and principles of interpersonal communication
B. Characteristics of self-concept and identity management
C. The role of perception in effective interpersonal communication
D. The impact of the tone and emotions on personal and professional relationships and communication
E. The function of language in a social and cultural context
F. The contribution of nonverbal messages to the communication process
G. The connection between communication and relational dynamics
H. Effective communication climates
I. Group discussion: Individual participation and leadership
J. Effective listening skills and evaluation techniques using positive feedback and constructive analysis
K. Interpersonal conflicts

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Text to be selected by the instructor