

Course Description

SPC1017 | Introduction to Communication | 3.00 credits

Students will develop conceptual knowledge and practical skills needed for effective verbal and nonverbal communication in interpersonal, intercultural, small-group, and public communication contexts enabling students to communicate successfully in personal, professional, educational, social, and civic settings. Writing intensive course.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will explain the fundamentals of communication by:

- 1. Comparing and contrasting fundamental models and theories of communication
- 2. Identifying and analyzing communication styles to assess appropriateness

Competency 2: The student will explore issues in communication ethics by:

- 1. Analyzing and applying principles of ethical communication
- 2. Identifying and evaluating the impact of communication on decision-making and critical thinking

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate intrapersonal and interpersonal communication skills by:

- 1. Displaying the ability to self-monitor
- 2. Developing presentational communication strategies and skills
- 3. Managing communication apprehension
- 4. Developing positive, communication-based self-efficacy beliefs
- 5. Identifying appropriate and effective listening strategies
- 6. Identifying barriers to listening

Competency 4: The student will create verbal and nonverbal messages adapted to a variety of audiences by:

- 1. Applying relevant communication theories, principles, and strategies
- 2. Identifying how demographics, attitudes, and cultural background affect communication
- 3. Creating face-to-face or digital media communication
- 4. Analyzing live or digitally mediated interactions
- 5. Selecting appropriate verbal and nonverbal behaviors based on the audience, topic, purpose, occasion, and context
- 6. Demonstrating an awareness of the relationship between verbal and nonverbal messages
- 7. Demonstrating an understanding of the impact of word choice on communication effectiveness

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society

Updated: Fall 2025