Syllabus for SPCH 1318—002 & 003
Interpersonal Communication

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Other times by appointment.

Welcome to Interpersonal Communication! In this course, we will explore concepts and theories relating to communication in all types of relationships in your life. COM 1318 will provide you opportunities to build upon textbook and classroom materials and to practice the skills and theories explored in class. Through graded and ungraded classroom activities, you will develop your existing communication skills and gain new ones.

Text: The textbook for this course is a free resource and can be found at https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/906
You can, and should, download a copy of the text. The text can be found in the course in D2L.

Course Description:

SPCH 1318 “Interpersonal Communication” (3 credits) meets once, twice, or three times a week for a total of 150 minutes per week for a total of 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination. Online delivery contains extensive written content as well as audio-visual presentations and exercises that includes the same information students in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least three hours per week. Activities include lectures, extensive reading, compositions, presentations, and written exams. These various activities average a minimum of 6 hours of work each week to be prepared to engage in face-to-face class meetings or online activities.

General Education Core Curriculum:

This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

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

**Communication Studies Program Learning Outcomes:**

1. Theory Knowledge: Students majoring in Communication Studies should display comprehension of major communication theories.
2. Theory Application: Students majoring in Communication Studies will apply the major theories in the field to communicate effectively in a variety of settings.
3. Research Methods: Students majoring in Communication Studies will be able to use and demonstrate understanding of appropriate methodology in critical, humanistic, or social scientific paradigms in examining research questions in communication.
4. Diversity and Freedom of Expression: Students majoring in Communication Studies will be able to recognize the central role of diversity and freedom of expression in a global community.
5. Constitutive Nature of Communication: Students majoring in Communication Studies will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the constitutive nature of communication, which includes forces that enable and constrain communication such as technology, ethics, and organizational life.
6. Higher Order Thinking: Students majoring in Communication Studies will be able to demonstrate oral and written competence in logical and critical thinking.

**Course Outcomes:**

1. Develop an understanding of different models of communication and how those models shape how we talk about and study interpersonal communication.
2. Develop an understanding of various interpersonal communication theories and how to apply those communication theories in practice.
3. Increase knowledge and communication competencies across a variety of relational contexts to address such issues as diversity, conflict, emotions, mindful listening, and perception formation.
4. Better understand how technology is changing interpersonal communication and increase communication technological competence.

Course Adaptations:

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aid students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/. Also see policy Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (Policy 6.1) http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities-6.1.pdf.

Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (Policy 4.1):

Abiding by the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. You can find the SFA Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity at https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10.4.pdf. All students should read and follow this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or
other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**D2L and Course Work:**

ALL students are expected to use D2L in this course to perform and keep up with graded activities, course work, and scheduled readings. Students should regularly sign in at [http://d2l.sfasu.edu](http://d2l.sfasu.edu) using the same username and password as MySFA.

It is important that you are familiar with D2L. You can anticipate that any unexpected changes or announcements will be distributed via D2L. Moreover, all your assignments will be posted on and submitted via D2L. All students are encouraged to check their e-mail accounts and D2L daily for updates and other information. Students who do not check their e-mail or D2L regularly will still be held accountable for missed information regarding the course.

I understand that technology can be quirky and problematic at times. However, it is your responsibility to ensure that assignments are delivered in some manner to me by the due date and time. If you're having problems with D2L you need to contact the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) at (936) 468-1919. If you cannot get an assignment uploaded to D2L, then you should e-mail the assignment directly via my SFA account (king@sfasu.edu) along with an explanation of why you are e-mail it to me. Any assignment submitted in any form after the due date stated on the course schedule will be considered late (see “Late Assignments” section).

**Class Civility:**

Civility in the class is not only expected, but also required. We may discuss some sensitive issues in this class. **Please be mindful that although you have not experienced certain things firsthand, it is very possible and highly likely that some of your classmates have.** A vast array of opinions, points of view, and experiences will be expressed during class, and we will work together to create an environment where everyone feels safe to express their ideas. Although we are participating in a course where we may feel more comfortable sharing information we wouldn’t normally share in class, please also be mindful that sharing information that is personal may make others feel uncomfortable. You will not be expected or required to share any information that you are not comfortable sharing or do not want to share. While different opinions, experiences, and ideas will be welcomed, incivility and disrespect will not be tolerated.

In reference to classroom behavior, you should read and apply the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity at [https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10.4.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/policies/10.4.pdf).

**Grade Withheld Policy:**

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Those unavoidable circumstances must be fully documented. The documentation and full explanation/justification must be presented to your instructor along with a written request for a WH grade. Students
must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average (see Course Grades, Policy 5.5, http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

Tests:

There will be 2 tests during the semester. Each test will cover a section of the course, and the final will not be comprehensive. The tests will be multiple choice format with 50 questions each, and you will be taken on D2L. Each test will be worth 100 points.

Dropbox Assignments:

During the semester, you will complete 14 written assignments that are identified in the course schedule and in D2L. Each of these assignments should be neatly typed and carefully follow the requirements described in each assignment. Each assignment can be found in D2L and will be submitted in the appropriate D2L drop box. Be sure to copy the question you are responding to and then put your response directly under the question. Separate your answer from the question with a blank line. Each assignment is worth 10 points. Assignments are due in D2L at 10 PM on the due date. You should bring a print copy of your assignment to class on the assigned days to use in class discussion. Assignment will be graded based on completeness, accuracy, spelling, grammar, punctuation, language usage, style, and neatness.

Your assignments should be submitted as Word or RTF files only. If you submit them in another format, they will not be graded. Be sure to thoroughly proofread and double check your written exercises before they are submitted. You will not be allowed to revise and resubmit assignments after they have been graded, so please do not ask your instructor if you can revise and resubmit an assignment.

Late work:

Work that is not submitted by the due date and time will not be accepted, unless you have an instructor approved excuse for not turning the work in on time (that excuse must be fully documented and approved by your instructor). If possible, you should present your excuse with documentation to your instructor before the assignment is due. You must follow the directions for submitting the assignments electronically. If you do not follow directions, your assignment will be considered late and not accepted. If you have trouble submitting your assignments in D2L you should contact the CTL at (936) 468-1919. Your instructor cannot help you with technical issues with D2L because your instructor does not have access to your view of D2L. The CTL is open 8 AM to 5 PM M-F, so do not wait till the last minute to submit your assignment.

Student Wellness and Well-Being:

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health, and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic
pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249 dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body, and spirit.
Services include:
· Health Services
· Counseling Services
· Student Outreach and Support
· Food Pantry
· Wellness Coaching
· Alcohol and Other Drug Education www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
· Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
· National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
· Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
· johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741
# Grade Sheet for COM 170

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>My Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dropbox Assignments</td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>340</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Points Needed for Semester Grades:

A = 340-306  B = 305-271  C = 270-236  D = 235-201  F = 200-166