SPCH 1318.004 | Interpersonal Communication
Spring 2024; TR 9:30-10:45 am in Boynton 212

Professor: R. Tyler Spradley, Ph.D.
Professor of Communication
Coordinator, Leadership Minor
Coordinator, Leadership Certificate
Coordinator, Risk and Crisis Communication Certificate

Email: rspradley@sfasu.edu (preferred for setting appointments, communicating about class related questions)

Office: Boynton 204
Hours: TR 12:15-2 pm; M 9:50-11:20 am; Appointments available any day of the week by emailing rspradley@sfasu.edu with several proposed times/days

Phone: 936-468-1381

Classes:
Online; TR 9:30-10:45 (SPCH 1318.004, BOYT 212); TR 11-12:15 (SPCH 2333.001, BOYT 212); TR 2-3:15 (AVSC 3360.001, EDAN 127); MWF 9-9:50 (SPCH 1315.011, BOYT 212)

Dept.: Mass Communication
College: College of Liberal and Applied Arts

SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication (COM 170) (3 hours credit) 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.

Required Course Materials:
The textbook for this course is a free resource: https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/906

Student Learning Outcomes (Course Objectives)
Students in SPCH 1318 (formerly COM 170) Interpersonal Communication should be able to:
1. Recall, differentiate, and apply interpersonal communication theories and concepts from perceptions, self/identity, culture, verbal, nonverbal, conversations, listening, emotions, conflict, and dark side issues.
2. Recall, differentiate, and apply interpersonal communication and competencies to relational contexts including friends, family, romantic relationships, and workplace relationships.
3. Interact with peers using course vocabulary accurately.
4. Reflect and apply relevant interpersonal concepts/theories to their personal lives through writing assignments.

University Program Learning Objectives:
1. Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
3. Teamwork - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
4. Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
Communication Studies Program Learning Outcomes:

1. **Applied Theory in Communication**: Students majoring in Communication Studies will apply the major theories in the field to demonstrate their comprehension.

2. **Research Methods in Communication**: 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.

3. **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.

4. **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.

5. **Higher Order Thinking**: Students majoring in Communication Studies will be able to demonstrate oral and written competence in logical and critical thinking.

6. **Presentational Skills**: Students majoring in Communication Studies will demonstrate the ability to present various topics in a professional manner that includes researching, planning, organizing, and presenting with visual aids and/or multimedia technology.

Governing Policies: The following policies will apply toward classroom decorum.

1. **Acceptable Student Behavior**: Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

2. **Student Wellness and Well-being**: SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. 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. 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:**
SFASU Dean of Students Office  
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents  
3rd Floor Rusk Building, lobby  
936.468.7249  
dos@sfasu.edu

**The Health and Wellness Hub, “The Hub”**  
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  
thethehub@sfasu.edu

**On-Campus Counseling Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services  
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices  
3rd Floor Rusk Building

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic  
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp  
Human Services Room 202
3. COURSE ADAPTATIONS: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

4. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new 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 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.

5. D2L/ONLINE COURSEWORK: ALL students are expected to use D2L in this course to perform and keep up with graded activities and scheduled readings. Students should sign in at [http://d2l.sfasu.edu](http://d2l.sfasu.edu) using the same username and password as MySFA. All graded activities will be turned in or completed via D2L/Brightspace.

6. GRADE WITHHELD POLICY (Semester Grades 5.5): Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. 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. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

7. Attendance & Late Work: This is an interactive, face-to-face class with in-class activities. Missing class impacts learning and group work. Attendance will be recorded. Absences that exceed 3 class meetings will result in a 3% deduction of the final grade per absence (e.g. minus 3% for the 4th absence, minus 6% for the 5th absence, etc...). You will be allowed to make up work only when conditions are clearly beyond your control and are convincingly documented through the “Absence Notification” system through the Dean of Students Office. ONLY absences verified by Student Affairs will be considered for make-up work and include death of a family member, hospitalization, personal emergency, and administrative/other. Do not call or email the Dean of Students Office...
about filing a Faculty Notification Request. Use the link and fill out the form. The Faculty Notification Request process and link to form is below: https://www.sfasu.edu/thehub/sos/notification-request

**Evaluation**
This course is worth a total of 1000 points. You earn points on activities/assignments, quizzes, and written work. Extra credit is built into the course already; therefore, do not ask for additional opportunities. Your points are your points. There is no “bumping” up to the next grade REGARDLESS of how close it is. The grade scale is as follows: 1000-900=A; 899-800=B; 799-700=C; 699-600=D; 599 and below=F

**Keystone assignments:** Dropbox 1, Dropbox 2, Dropbox 3, and the Final Exam.

**Dropbox | 300 points**
Reflective writing assignments are turned in via the Dropbox in D2L. All instructions are on D2L.

- Dropbox 1: 100
- Dropbox 2: 100
- Dropbox 3: 100

**Quizzes | 280 points**
Quizzes directly correspond with modules and assigned chapters. They are multiple choice questions. Each quiz has 10 questions each worth 20 points total for each quiz.

- Quiz 1: 20
- Quiz 2: 20
- Quiz 3: 20
- Quiz 4: 20
- Quiz 5: 20
- Quiz 6: 20
- Quiz 7: 20
- Quiz 8: 20
- Quiz 9: 20
- Quiz 10: 20
- Quiz 11: 20
- Quiz 12: 20
- Quiz 13: 20
- Quiz 14: 20

**Final Exam | 200 points**
The final exam is a multiple choice exam on D2L that is comprehensive.

**Discussions/In-Class Activities | 220 points**
In-class activities are submitted during the class period in-person or on D2L depending on your professor’s instructions. These will total 220 points.

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**Course Timeline**
The course timeline is subject to change based on student progress and situations out of the professor’s control. Announcements about calendar changes will be made on D2L and in-class.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 18th</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 23rd</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<td>Thursday, January 25th</td>
<td>Chapter 1; Quiz 1 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, January 30th</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 1st</td>
<td>Chapter 2; Quiz 2 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 6th</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 8th</td>
<td>Chapter 3; Quiz 3 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 13th</td>
<td>Chapter 4; Dropbox 1 Due by 11 pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 15th</td>
<td>Chapter 4; Quiz 4 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 20th</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 22nd</td>
<td>Chapter 5; Quiz 5 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 27th</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 29th</td>
<td>Chapter 6; Quiz 6 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 5th</td>
<td>Chapter 7; Dropbox 2 Due by 11 pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 7th</td>
<td>Chapter 7; Quiz 7 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 19th</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 21st</td>
<td>Chapter 8; Quiz 8 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 26th</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 28th</td>
<td>Chapter 9; Quiz 9 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 2nd</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 4th</td>
<td>Chapter 10; Quiz 10 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 9th</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 11th</td>
<td>Chapter 11; Quiz 11 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 16th</td>
<td>Chapter 12, Dropbox 3 Due by 11 pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 18th</td>
<td>Chapter 12; Quiz 12 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Chapter 13</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 25th</td>
<td>Chapter 13; Quiz 13 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 30th</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<td>Thursday, May 2nd</td>
<td>Chapter 14; Quiz 14 (on D2L)</td>
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<td>May 6-8</td>
<td>Final Exam is open on D2L from 8 am on May 6th through May 8th at 11 pm</td>
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