SPCH 1318.501 ONLINE | Interpersonal Communication
Spring 2024 (January 18-May 10, 2024)

Professor: Elizabeth Spradley, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Communication
Email: espradley@sfasu.edu (preferred for setting appointments, communicating about class related questions)
Office: Boynton 208E
Hours: TR 10:45-1:15 pm, Appointments available any day of the week by emailing espradley@sfasu.edu with several proposed times/days
Phone: 936-468-7095 (email preferred)
Classes: Online; TR 9:30-10:45 am (SPCH 1315.010, BOYT 210); TR 2-3:15 pm (SPCH 1318.003, BOYT 105)
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:** SFA 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](http://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](http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)
936.468.4008

[thehub@sfasu.edu](mailto:thehub@sfasu.edu)

**On-Campus Counseling Resources:**

*SFASU Counseling Services*

[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)

3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

*SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic*

[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)

Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**

*Burke 24-hour Crisis Line:* 1(800) 392-8343

National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
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 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.

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. **Late Work:** All due dates are posted on the course timeline in D2L. Work ahead to avoid missing a due date. You will be allowed to make up the activity 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](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 discussions. 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, Final Exam, and Discussion Post 2 and 3.

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 14 | 20 |

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

Discussions | 220 points
Discussion post instructions are on D2L. Follow instructions regarding posts and require 4 or more peer replies.

| Discussion Post 1 | 20 |
| Discussion Post 2 | 100 |
| Discussion Post 3 | 100 |

Course Timeline
The course timeline is provided on D2L in the Getting Started Module.