

## SPC 103 Introduction to Human Communication

### Credit Hours: 3

In-Class Instructional Hours: 3

Labs: 0

Field Work: 0

### Catalog Description:

Prerequisite: None

Exploration of communication as the basis for personal and social interaction; focus on roles of both consumers and producers of messages; investigation of various modes of communication.

### Reasons for Revision:

(Fall 2005) This course (formerly COM 103) was last revised in 1989. This proposal is part of a general program review, through which Communication seeks to update its courses in light of departmental experience with the previous program version, evolving departmental needs, and expanding scholarship in the field. Additionally, the department is undertaking this revision to position itself for accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Simultaneously, this course is intended for all students to reflect on their role as communicators (i.e., as consumers and producers of messages). This revision addresses new Intellectual Foundations protocols for Humanities courses.

Note: As part of this overall revision, speech and criticism courses are being re-labeled as SPC rather than COM to distinguish between the humanistic base of SPC courses and the applied nature of the courses that will retain the COM prefix.

<b>Student Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>Course Content References:</b>	<b>Assessment:</b>
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:		
1. Explain various modes of human communication: intrapersonal, interpersonal, small group, family, organizational, public, mass and/or intercultural	I, II, III, IV	1. Exams
2. Analyze verbal and nonverbal elements of communication	III	2. Exams
3. Demonstrate effectiveness as ethical and critical citizen-consumers of political, social and commercial language	I, V	3. Exams
4. Reflect on the role of human communication in addressing the values and meaning of life for individuals and society	I, II, V	4. Exams
5. Articulate and defend critically informed values about the role of communication in human society	I, V	5. Exams
6. Recognize and demonstrate creative thought in producing answers to individual and social questions related to human communication	I, V	6. Exams

**Course Content:**

- I. Human communication
  - A. Nature and process
  - B. Social role
  - C. Theoretical base
  - D. Humanistic tradition
  - E. History of the discipline
  - F. Ethical aspects
- II. Communication and the individual
  - A. Perception
  - B. Self-awareness
  - C. Social/cultural environment
- III. Elements of communication
  - A. Verbal
  - B. Nonverbal
- IV. Modes of communication
  - A. Intrapersonal
  - B. Interpersonal
  - C. Group
  - D. Family
  - E. Organizational
  - F. Public
  - G. Media
- V. Contemporary aspects of communication
  - A. Ethical
  - B. Political
  - C. International
  - D. Multicultural/intercultural

## **Resources:**

### Current Scholarship in the Field.

- Adler, R.B., & Rodman, G. (2002). *Understanding human communication* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Akmajian, A., Demers, R.A., Farmer, A.K., & Harnish, R.M. (2001). *Linguistics: An introduction to language and communication*. Cambridge MA: MIT Press.
- Baldwin, J.R., Perry, S.D., & Moffitt, M.A. (2004). *Communication theories for everyday life*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- DaVito, J.a. (2002). *Human communication: The basic course* (9<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Doyle, T. (2004). *Communication unbound*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Gundykunst, W.B. (2004). *Bridging differences: Effective intergroup communication* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.
- Gundykunst, W.B., & Kim, Y.Y. (2002). *Communicating with strangers: an approach to intercultural communication* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Knapp, M.L., & Hall, J.A. (2001). *Nonverbal communication in human action*. Belmont CA: Wadsworth.
- Pearson, J.C., & Nelson, P.E. (2000). *An introduction to human communication*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.
- Pinker, S. (2000). *The language instinct: How the mind creates languages*. New York: Perennial.
- Trenhold, S., & Jensen, A. (2000). *Interpersonal communication* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont CA: Wadsworth.
- Trudgill, P. (2001). *Sociolinguistics: An introduction to language and society* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Penguin USA.

### Periodicals:

Journal of Communication  
Journal of Human Communication  
European Journal of Human Communication  
Communication  
Communication Quarterly  
Communication Monographs  
Communication Studies  
Human Communication Research  
Journal of Popular culture  
Journal of applied Communications Research  
Language and Communication

### Online Resources:

COM 103 Introduction to Human Communication – [faculty.buffalostate.edu/rabinrl](http://faculty.buffalostate.edu/rabinrl)