

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

PROGRAM AREA COMMUNICATION

- 1. Catalog Description of the Course.** *[Include the course prefix, number, full title, and units. Provide a course narrative including prerequisites and corequisites. If any of the following apply, include in the description: Repeatability (May be repeated to a maximum of ___ units); time distribution (Lecture ___ hours, laboratory ___ hours); non-traditional grading system (Graded CR/NC, ABC/NC). Follow accepted catalog format.]*

COMM 220 GROUP COMMUNICATION (3)

3 hours of lecture per week

This course examines communication in the small group context. It will investigate the important theoretical foundations and practical applications of group communication as well as apply those theories and skills to actual group interactions.

GE: A1

2. Mode of Instruction.

	Units	Hours per Unit	Benchmark Enrollment
Lecture	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>25</u>
Seminar	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Laboratory	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Activity	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

- 3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course.** (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) *[Use as much space as necessary]*

This is a lower-division general education course.

Learning objectives:

Students will discuss:

1. The options and alternatives for action in a wide variety of group situations.
2. Individual preferences and an increased appreciation for the differences of others.
3. How to facilitate group processes.
4. How the process of perception affects group communication behavior.
5. Dealing with different roles exhibited by group members.
6. The uses and abuses of power in groups.
7. Multiple ways of making decisions.
8. Multi-phasic models of group development
9. Dealing with functional and dysfunctional group conflict.

- 4. Is this a General Education Course** ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

If Yes, indicate GE category:

A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)	A1
B (Mathematics & Sciences)	
C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages & Cultures)	
D (Social Perspectives)	
E (Human Psychological and Physiological Perspectives)	
Upper-Division Interdisciplinary	

5. Course Content in Outline Form. *[Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary]*

What Is Small Group Communication?
Advantages and Disadvantages of Working in Groups and Teams.
The Purpose of Communication in Small Groups: Reducing Uncertainty.
Theoretical Perspectives for the Study of Small Group Communication.
New Technologies and Small Group Communication Theory.
Why Do People Join Groups?
Homogeneity and Diversity in Groups.
The Development of Group Relationships over Time.
Defensive and Supportive Climates.
Verbal Dynamics in the Small Group.
Group Climate and Productivity.
The Importance of Nonverbal Communication in Groups.
Cultural Assumptions About Group Problem Solving and Decision Making.
An Overview of Prescriptive Problem-Solving Strategies.
Conflict and Diversity in Small Groups.
Consensus: Reaching Agreement Through Communication.
Emergent Leadership in Small Groups.
Leadership Training.
Principles and Practices of Effective Meetings.
Principles and Practices of Using Technology in Groups and Teams.

6. References. *[Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.]*

Beebe, Steven A. & Masterson, John T. (2002). Communicating in Small Groups: Principles and Practices (7th Edition), Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.
Barker, Larry L., Wahlers, Kathy J., & Watson, Kittie W. (2001). Groups in Process: An Introduction to Small Group Communication (6th edition), Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.
Patton, Bobby R. & Downs, Timothy M. (2003). Decision-Making Group Interaction: Achieving Quality (4th Edition), Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

7. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.

Faculty

8. Frequency.

a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall ____X__ Spring ____X__ Summer ____

9. New Resources Required.

- a. Computer (data processing), audiovisual, broadcasting needs, other equipment
- b. Library needs
- c. Facility/space needs

10. Consultation.

Attach consultation sheet from all program areas, Library, and others (if necessary)

11. If this new course will alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program, attach a program modification.

____ Renny Christopher
Proposer of Course

____ 1-15-03 ____
Date