

**Northwest Arkansas Community College**  
(Communication and Arts Division)

**Discipline Code**

COMM

**Course Number**

2323

**Course Title**

Interpersonal Communications

**Catalog Description**

This course is an in-depth study of interpersonal communication theories and models within the context of personal and professional interactions. The seminar/workshop format utilizes case studies, group discussions, personal reflections, and hands-on activities. The course is structured to promote the exchange of ideas and strategies to support healthy relationships, resolve conflicts, and explore cultural norms and differences that influence the way we interact with others.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Credit Hours**

3 credit hours

**Contact Hours**

45 contact hours

**Load Hours**

3 load hours

**Semester Offered**

Spring, Fall

**ACTS Equivalent**

N/A

**Grade Mode**

A-F

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define & apply concepts, principles, and strategies associated with interpersonal communication
- Demonstrate improved clarity and understanding of verbal & nonverbal messages
- Practice and implement effective skills in conflict resolution
- Describe cultural differences influencing communication

### **General Education Outcomes Supported**

- Students develop higher order thinking skills
- Students gain greater awareness of cultural perspectives
- Students demonstrate information literacy.

### **Standard Practices**

#### **Topics List**

Topics for course activities will be drawn from the following:

- Communication types, principles, and purposes
- Models and theories of interpersonal communication
- Ethics in communication
- Mindfulness
- Perception
- Intrapersonal vs. interpersonal communication
- Sociocommunicative and relational dispositions
- Language types and functions
- Nonverbal communication categories
- Cultural and environmental factors
- Talking and listening
- Perception
- Relationship types, differences, and stages
- Power and influence
- Destructive behaviors
- Conflict in relationships
- Mediated contexts

#### **Learning Activities**

Students will:

- Engage in weekly discussions to explore interpersonal communication concepts and theories
- Research varied sources as needed

- Explore cultural and environmental differences affecting interpersonal communication
- Exchange ideas promoting healthy relationships through positive discourse
- Practice conflict resolution strategies applicable to varied types of relationships

### **Assessments**

Students will:

- Complete chapter quizzes and may, at instructor's discretion, complete a mid-term exam, final exam, or similar assessment
- Participate in weekly class discussions with classmates
- Develop individual assignments where appropriate, focusing on topics addressed in weekly modules
- Collaborate to demonstrate competency in learning outcomes

### **Grading guidelines**

- Quizzes and exams may be offered as untimed, open-book assessments
- Participation grades may be assessed based on overall quality of weekly engagement
- Individual assignment submissions may include option for revision and resubmission

**Revision Date** January 4, 2021