

**COM 120**  
**INTRO TO INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisites:   ENG 080 and RED 080  
Corequisite:     None

This course introduces the practices and principles of interpersonal communication in both dyadic and group settings. Emphasis is on the communication process; issues addressed include perception, listening, self-disclosure, speech apprehension, ethics, nonverbal communication, conflict, power, and dysfunctional communication. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate interpersonal communication skills, apply basic principles of group discussion, and manage conflict in interpersonal communication situations. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts (substitute).* Course Hours Per Week: Class 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Student will be able to do the following:

- a. Understand the principles and dynamics of interpersonal communication;
- b. Recognize the importance of ethical behavior in personal and professional relationships and communications;
- c. Apply an understanding of effective communication skills within different cultural contexts;
- d. Understand the role of effective listening skills in the communication process;
- e. Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal communication skills and problem-solving techniques in a group setting;
- f. Present a clear, well-organized, and informative oral report based on personal research about an interpersonal communication problem or issue;
- g. Apply the techniques of effective conflict management in class demonstrations and role-playing exercises;
- h. Provide and accept constructive evaluation.

**OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:**

1. Understanding the theory and principles of interpersonal communication
2. Developing an understanding of the characteristics of self-concept and identity management
3. Understanding the role of perception in effective interpersonal communication
4. Recognizing the impact of the tone and emotions on personal and professional relationships and communication
5. Evaluating the function of language in a social and cultural context
6. Creating an awareness of the contribution of nonverbal messages to the communication process

7. Exploring the connection between communication and relational dynamics
8. Learning how to develop effective communication climates
9. Participating in group discussion through individual participation as well as leadership
10. Demonstrating effective listening skills and evaluation techniques by employing positive feedback and constructive analysis
11. Defining and managing interpersonal conflicts

**REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIAL:**

Texts to be selected by instructor

**STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.