

Inver Hills Community College

COMM 2230: Small Group Communication

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 01 - Communication, Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

Introduces students to the practice and theory of communicating in small group settings. Working in groups is an integral part of living in today's society. Community and workplace situations require us to be able to lead, participate, and follow effectively. Participating in this course will assist students in developing the leadership, conflict management, problem solving and discussion skills necessary to function in group settings. Students will apply small group communication theory in small, task-oriented groups and develop presentation skills to showcase their understanding of what it means to be an effective group member. Evaluating the effectiveness of their own and others' group communication behaviors is also required.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/01/2009 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Task and social dimensions of groups: 10%
2. Role emergence and performance: 15%
3. Norm emergence and conformity: 10%
4. Decision-making, problem solving, critical analysis and evaluation techniques: 15%
5. Power structures: 5%
6. Group communication theory: 20%
7. Group presentation skills
8. Conflict management

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Demonstrate effective public presentation skills.
2. Apply their understanding of basic communication theory to group experiences in class.
3. Demonstrate policy analysis and research skills.
4. Demonstrate conflict-management skills.
5. Apply discussion skills in group interactions.
6. Demonstrate critical thinking and evaluative skills.
7. Demonstrate problem-solving skills.
8. Demonstrate decision-making skills.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 01 - Communication

1. Participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
2. Locate, evaluate, and synthesize in a responsible manner material from diverse sources and points of view.
3. Select appropriate communication choices for specific audiences.
4. Construct logical and coherent arguments.

Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted