

Anoka Technical College

SPCH 1125: Small Group Communication

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

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

This course is an introduction to theoretical and applied concepts in small group communication and explores the basic principles of communication used for effective team building, leadership and conflict management. Elements of small group behavior studied through participation, observation, analysis and evaluation of group processes include: leadership, roles, norms, message systems, interpersonal needs, and decision-making. Communication theories and principles will be put into practice using various scenarios and strategies that can be applied to everyday situations in the work place. (Prerequisites: None) (MN Transfer Goals 1 & 2) (3 credits lecture/0 credit lab)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/13/2003 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Small group theory
2. Small group climate and structure
3. Interpersonal communication principles for group members

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand the basic communication theory and models of small groups.
2. Analyze the functioning of small group participation.
3. Identify the components of and common barriers to listening.
4. Understand the various group behaviors and group roles as well s how those roles emerge within the group process.
5. Apply logical solutions to problems in decision-making group conflict.
6. Recognize and distinguish patterns of group leadership and decision making.
7. Use a variety of data analysis approaches and techniques.
8. Demonstrate appropriate group verbal and non-verbal communications skills.
9. Participate effectively in a group setting.
10. Understand how a group's culture develops through group norms, rules, and cohesiveness.
11. Understand the symbolic nature of language and the relationship between verbal and non-verbal communication.
12. Understand and use standard college-level terminology as well as standard American English.

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

Goal 01 - Communication

1. Understand/demonstrate the writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing and presentation.
2. Participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
3. Locate, evaluate, and synthesize in a responsible manner material from diverse sources and points of view.
4. Select appropriate communication choices for specific audiences.
5. Construct logical and coherent arguments.
6. Use authority, point-of-view, and individual voice and style in their writing and speaking.
7. Employ syntax and usage appropriate to academic disciplines and the professional world.

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