COURSE DISCIPLINE :   SPCH

COURSE NUMBER :   103

COURSE TITLE (FULL) :   Group Discussion

COURSE TITLE (SHORT) :   Group Discussion

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM C-ID : COMM 140 – Small Group Communication

ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE: Speech Communication

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

SPCH 103 is an introductory course focusing on the principles and practices of human communication in various group contexts. This course is designed to help students become familiar with the major theories and research regarding group communication. Students experience the challenge of learning how to improve their group communication skills through participation in a variety of group activities. The course focuses on self-discovery and developing skills in the areas of language, listening, leadership, conflict management, problem solving and decision making, nonverbal behaviors, and cross cultural communication in family, social and professional group settings. Knowledge gained through group discussion helps students to become more comfortable and competent participants in the group communication process.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

Total Course Units: 3.00

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

Total Contact Hours: 54.00

Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00

Recommended Preparation: ENGL 100 or ESL 151.

GLENDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories for the comprehension of difficult content and the identification of main ideas and (topic-based) evidence;	Yes
2	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	proofread and edit essays for content, language, citation, and formatting problems;	Yes
3	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	organize fully-developed essays in both expository and argumentative modes;	Yes
4	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	compose a 500 to 550-word essay which: summarizes and cites appropriately a reading passage; includes a clear thesis statement; uses evidence to support the thesis; shows clear organization into an introduction, body, and conclusion;	Yes
5	ESL	151	Reading And Composition V	employ basic library research techniques;	Yes

EXIT STANDARDS

1. Analyze and explain group communication principles, and apply this information to their particular communicative situation;
2. gather and explain information in a logical, confident, friendly and fluent manner during formal and informal class group discussions;
3. synthesize and evaluate, orally and in writing, information from the class and current events;
4. demonstrate research and writing skills commensurate with college class standing;
5. demonstrate through class discussions and examination an understanding of group dynamics and discussion methods.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. demonstrate appropriate and effective communication within various group settings
2. demonstrate the ability to analyze a problem, devise and discuss a course of action, and communicate a solution in a group setting
3. identify and model effective group communication practices

COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	Introduction to Group Discussion • Orientation and overview • Function of groups • Nature of groups • Communication and the group process (dyads, small and large groups, and public settings) • Organizing, evaluating, and reporting information	7	0	7
2	Methods of Group Discussion • Communicator responsibilities • Definition of discussion methods • Discussion methods • Procedures for problem solving • Persuasion	7	0	7
3	Verbal Messages in Group Communication • Nature of language • Functions of verbal messages • Communication styles and effects • Barriers to communication • Effective listening skills	4	0	4
4	Nonverbal Messages in Group Communication • Overview of nonverbal communication • Categories of nonverbal messages • Functions of nonverbal messages • Effects of nonverbal messages • Symposium Forum Presentations	4	0	4
5	Leadership in Groups • Defining leadership • Expectations and need • Leadership styles and communication techniques • Choosing a leadership style • Decision making	4	0	4
6	Rules and Roles in Groups • Rules • Roles • Norms • Goals	4	0	4

7	Panel Presentations	7	0	7
8	Communicators in Groups • Credibility • Attitudes • Personality • Intelligence • Psychological, social, and cultural factors within various group settings	4	0	4
9	Cohesiveness and Conflict in Groups • Definitions • Member satisfaction • Causes of conflict • Conflict management/resolution	8	0	8
10	Group Problem Solving Presentations	5	0	5
				54

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

1   essays that respond, explain, analyze, argue, and/or evaluate a communication principle (e.g. explain groupthink and develop strategies for responding to its symptoms);
2   reading assignments from textbooks and/or journal articles;
3   quizzes
4   journaling

METHODS OF EVALUATION

1   discussions
2   group and individual oral presentations;
3   self and peer evaluation papers;
4   oral and written assignments of sufficient length and complexity to require students to demonstrate independent research, organization, critical thinking and communication skills;
5   quizzes
6   comprehensive final exam

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

☑ Lecture

☐ Laboratory

☐ Studio

☑ Discussion

☑ Multimedia

☐ Tutorial

☐ Independent Study

☑ Collaboratory Learning

☐ Demonstration

☐ Field Activities (Trips)

☐ Guest Speakers

☐ Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	IBSN	Date
Working in Groups	Required	Pearson	7	print	Engleberg, Isa	978-0134415529	2016
In Mixed Company: Communicating in Small Groups	Required	Harcourt Brace	10	print	Rothwell, J. Dan	978-0190919900	2018
An Introduction to Group Communication	Required	OER online: https://2012books.lardbucket.org/books/an-introduction-to-group-communication/			Schmitz, Andy (editor)		2012