



Alabama Community College System

SPH 116 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication

I. SPH 116 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication—3 Semester Hours

II. Course Description

This course focuses on communication in interpersonal settings. The course surveys current interpersonal communication theory and provides application for personal and professional development.

III. Prerequisite

NONE

IV. Textbook

Due to the varied selection of quality college-level textbooks, each college will select the textbook needed to meet the requirements of this course.

V. Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to

1. explain how communication is related to identity and perception,
2. analyze effective verbal and nonverbal communication,
3. describe the factors and stages of effective communication in relationships, and
4. explain how climates and settings affect communication.

VI. Course Outline of Topics

1. Identity and perception
 - a. Self-Concept
 - b. Impression management
 - c. Perception process
 - d. Culture and gender
2. Verbal and nonverbal communication
 - a. Language use
 - b. Nonverbal communication
3. Communicating in relationships

- a. Stages
 - b. Conflict
 - c. Listening
 - d. Emotions
4. Settings
- a. Climate
 - b. Mediated v. Face-to-Face

VII. Evaluation and Assessment

Grades will be given based upon A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VIII. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

IX. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

It is the official policy of the Alabama Community College System and entities under its control, including all Colleges, that no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of any impermissible criterion or characteristic, including, without limitation, race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, disability, sex, age, or any other protected class as defined by federal and state law. (ACCS Policies 601.02 and 800.00)

X. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College.