



# COMM 008: GROUP COMMUNICATION

**Proposer:****Name:**

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**Effective Term:**

Fall 2025

**Credit Status:**

Credit - Degree Applicable

**Subject:**

COMM - Communication

**Course Number:**

008

**Discipline:**

And/Or	(	Discipline	)
		Communication Studies	

**Catalog Title**

Group Communication

**Catalog Description**

This course introduces students to the theoretical exploration of group communication in various contexts. Students will examine group processes such as group development, conflict management, ethical communication, effective problem-solving, and decision-making. Students will also develop an understanding of communication competence, cultural sensitivity and diversity, and group leadership. This oral communications course includes participation in experiential learning and group speech presentations that will develop skills in organization, audience analysis, and dynamic presentation (C-ID COMM140).

**Method of Instruction:**

Distance Education

Lecture and/or Discussion

**Course Units/Hours:****Course Units Minimum:**

3

**Lecture Hours Minimum (week)**

3

**Total Contact Hours Minimum (semester)**

52.5

**Total Outside Hours Minimum (semester)**

105

**Total Student Learning Minimum Hours (semester)**

157.5

**Repeatability:**

No

**Open Entry/Exit:**

No

**Field Trips:**

Not Required

**Grade Mode:**

Standard Letter

**TOP Code:**

150600 - Speech Communication

**SAM Code:**

E - Non-Occupational

**Course Content**

**Methods of Assessment:**

Essay quizzes or exams  
Multiple choice tests  
Oral presentations  
Problem solving assignments or activities  
Problem solving quizzes or exams  
Project  
Short answer quizzes or exams  
Skill demonstrations  
Written essays or extended papers

**Course Topics:**

Course Topics	
1	Small group communication theories, dynamics, and ethics taught in English
2	Roles in groups
3	Group development and climate
4	Conflict management
5	Problem-solving and well-reasoned decision-making
6	Group leadership
7	Elements of communication competence as an individual and in groups including: critical listening, verbal and nonverbal messages, cultural diversity and inclusion, and constructive criticism.
8	Foundations of knowledge sharing including informative speaking, the five canons of rhetoric, Aristotle's modes of proof, and persuasion.
9	Organizing, evaluating, and accurately reporting relevant information.
10	Elements of effective oral communication as individuals and in groups including: Analysis of communication situations, ethics and diversity, audience analysis, research, organization, and effective delivery skills.

**Course Objectives:**

Course Objectives	
1	Explain the role of group communication and ethical public speaking in a democratic society.
2	Demonstrate the ability to effectively prepare for, organize, and deliver informative and persuasive group presentations to a live audience.
3	Conceptualize and utilize compelling arguments in support of a guiding thesis and organizational pattern appropriate for the audience, occasion, and across a variety of contexts
4	Identify and apply ethical strategies in the process of creating and delivering speeches, including truthfulness, accuracy, honesty, and integrity in communication.
5	Demonstrate rhetorical sensitivity to diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility within group settings.
6	Identify and apply effective problem-solving and conflict management strategies.
7	Engage in sound reasoning and effective group discussion to reach a well-reasoned decision.
8	Demonstrate the ability to discover, critically evaluate, and accurately report information.

- 9 Identify communication skills that contribute to effective leadership.
- 10 Demonstrate critical listening skills and provide constructive criticism to peers.

**Course Outcomes:**

Course Outcomes	
1	Students will be able to define and apply group communication concepts, theories, and principles.
2	Students will be able to demonstrate the effective use of verbal and nonverbal communication in group contexts, along with an understanding of ethical communication, cultural diversity and sensitivity, and communication competence.
3	Students will be able to engage in effective group discussion and decision making.
4	Students will be able to compare and contrast leadership choices and outcomes, conflict management strategies, and problem solving methodologies within a group setting.
5	Students will be able to effectively manage communication apprehension and prepare, organize, and deliver informative and persuasive presentations to a live audience as an individual and group member.
6	Students will be able to apply theoretical foundations of communicating knowledge including use of the canons of rhetoric and Aristotelian proofs (ethos, pathos, and logos).
7	Students will be able to discover, critically evaluate, and integrate credible, relevant, and accurate supporting materials in presentations.
8	Students will be able to critically listen to and evaluate the messages of others and provide meaningful feedback.

**Assignments:**

Assignment Type:	Details
Reading	1). Read assigned sections of the course text(s). 2). Read articles about communication in scholarly journals. 3). Conduct research and analyze material for class papers and group projects.
Writing	1). Write speech outlines for group presentations. 2). Write assessments/reflections about group activities and processes. 3). Write an essay that discusses key course concepts and applies them to real-world scenarios.
Homework	1). Organize and attend group meetings outside of class. 2). Plan and rehearse small group presentations. 3). Complete reading quizzes that cover weekly materials.
Other	1.) Develop, organize, and deliver audience adapted informative and persuasive speeches in English as an individual and group member to a live audience. In online courses, presentations will be performed over tele-conference with peers and a faculty member.

**Textbooks or other support materials**

Resource Type:	Details
Books	In Mixed Company: Communicating in Small Groups and Teams, J. Dan Rothwell, 11th Edition. 2021. ISBN: 9780197602812
Zero Textbook Cost	An Introduction to Group Communication. LibreTexts. UC Davis. 2024. <a href="https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Public_Speaking/An_Introduction_to_Group_Communication_(LibreTexts)">https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Public_Speaking/An_Introduction_to_Group_Communication_(LibreTexts)</a>

**Equity Review:**

Yes

**Transferable to CSU**

Yes - Approved

**CSU General Education**

CSU GE A1: Oral Communication

Transferable to CSU

**Transferable to UC**

Yes - Proposed



**UC/IGETC General Education**

IGETC 1C: Oral Communication  
Transferable to UC

**COS General Education**

COS GE A2: Oral Communication/Analytic Thinking

**Other Degree Attributes**

Degree Applicable  
Not a Basic Skills Course

**Distance Learning Addendum**

DLA Comm 8 Updated 2024.pdf

**Banner Title:**

Group Communication

**Course Control Number:**

CCC000451975

**C-ID:**

COMM140