

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION**

CST 350 SMALL GROUP AND TEAM COMMUNICATION Spring 2008

Instructor: Joyce Ferguson
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Office hours: TR 10:30-11:00, 2:30-3:30 or by appointment
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Purpose of course: This course is designed to provide both theory and the opportunity for experiential learning for understanding and improving communication skills in small groups and teams. The mission statement of the department provides the foundation of the course: We research, teach, and practice communication to cultivate the ethical voices of people that speak in critical, constructive, and transformative ways to identities, relationships, and communities.

Objectives:

1. To develop your ability to understand and integrate various properties of groups into a meaningful theoretical framework.
2. To increase skills in applying theoretical principles to real-life situations.
3. To develop increased objectivity in the analysis of individual and group behavior.

Textbook:

Cragan, J.F., Wright, D.W. and Kasch, C.R. (2004). Communication in Small Groups: Theory, Process, Skills (6th edition) Belmont,CA: Wadsworth/Thomson.

Major assignments:

1. **Reflection papers** – Reflection papers help you connect theories to the real experiences. You will write several reflection papers during each group experience. I will give you further instructions regarding focus, length and format.
2. **Project papers** - The purpose of the analysis papers is to better understand the challenges of teams and the role of effective communication in developing effective teams. You will write an analysis paper for each of the major team projects. I will give you guidelines for each paper.
3. **Project One-** Your first team will teach or reinforce a concept of small group communication. Time: 20-25 minutes. I will give you the topic.
4. **Project Two** - Your second team project will involve the illustration of a concept in small group communication through a videotape or DVD. You will choose the topic.

The project should be 10-12 minutes with an emphasis on creativity. All members of the team will be in the video or DVD.

5. **Quizzes** – The purpose of the short quizzes is to help reinforce the theories.

6. **Exams** - You will have two exams. Please purchase scantron form NA3600-6 from the bookstore.

Evaluation

Group One project	15%
Group Two project	20%
Reflection papers and quizzes	10%
Project papers	20%
Peer evaluation	5%
Mid-term exam	15%
Final exam	15%

Grading scale

A- = 90-92, A = 93-96, A+ = 97-100; B- = 80-82, B = 83-86, B+ = 87-89; C- = 70-72, C = 73-76, C+ = 77-79, etc.

Attendance policy

Attendance in this course is essential. You will be working in teams. Your team members depend on your presence and participation in order to function effectively. To take care of emergencies, **two** absences are allowed with no penalty. The third and any subsequent absences will result in points deducted from your final grade. **Three** points will be deducted from the final grade for any absence beyond two. Save your absences for emergencies. **Do not let your team members down!**

You are responsible for work missed when absent.

Honor code

You are responsible for knowing, obeying, and supporting the UNCG Academic Honor Policy.