COMMUNICATION STUDIES

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Cascade Campus
Cascade Hall (CH), Room 306
971-722-5251

Rock Creek Campus
Building 5, Room 245
971-722-7327*

Southeast Campus
Mt. Scott Hall (MSH), Room 103
971-722-6146

Sylvania Campus
Communications Technology Building (CT), Room 216
971-722-4264**

*contact for Hillsboro Center
**contact for Newberg Center
pcc.edu/programs/communication-studies/

DESCRIPTION

Communication Studies is the study of human communication processes. Our courses focus on both theory and practice to help students improve communication competence in a variety of contexts. Communication Studies courses build communication knowledge and skills needed to develop, manage and maintain various types of relationships. Students learn how humans share symbols to create meaning; students critically analyze and apply methods of informing and persuading in interpersonal, small-group, intercultural, business, public speaking, mass media and new media contexts.

Communication Studies is a dynamic discipline. Courses at PCC provide foundation in the discipline and prepare students for transfer into upper division courses. An Oral Communication course is a requirement for completion of the AAOT (Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer) and ASOT-BUS (Associate of Science Oregon Transfer - Business). Select COMM courses fulfill this requirement as well as requirements for specific certificate programs.

A Focus Award recognizes students who have gained considerable knowledge in Communication Studies by completing four courses and earning 15-16 COMM or J credits. For more information and specific requirements, please see the Focus Award section of the catalog.

COMM 100. Introduction to Communication. 4 Credits.
Covers complexities of the communication process. Includes insights into the causes and effects of general communication behaviors, involvement in active exploration of basic communication theories and concepts, and opportunities to develop communication strengths. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 101. Oral Communication Skills. 3 Credits.
Improve listening and speaking skills. Includes oral reports, conference procedures and everyday conversation. Audit available.

COMM 105. Listening. 4 Credits.
Emphasizes understanding and appreciation of listening as an integral part of the communication process. Investigates and applies current research in listening theory. Analyzes and provides practice in the appropriateness and application of the major types of listening in academic, business, media and interpersonal contexts. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

COMM 110. Voice and Articulation. 3 Credits.
Present prepared and impromptu assignments with emphasis on understanding the vocal mechanism for production of Standard American speech while learning the International Phonetic Alphabet. Includes group or individual work designed to improve articulation, breathing, projection, expressiveness, and pronunciation. Audit available.

COMM 111. Public Speaking. 4 Credits.
Introduces speechmaking based primarily on a traditional public speaking approach. Covers classical rhetorical theory and highlights rhetoric’s importance to public speaking. Develops theoretical understanding and practical application of oral communication skills. Includes techniques in controlling speech anxiety, how to structure and organize information to present to a variety of audiences, and physical and vocal delivery skills. Prerequisite: MTH 20 or equivalent placement test score, and WR 121. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 111H. Public Speaking: Honors. 4 Credits.
Honors version of COMM 111. Introduces speechmaking based primarily on a traditional public speaking approach. Covers classical rhetorical theory and highlights rhetoric’s importance to public speaking. Develops theoretical understanding and practical application of oral communication skills. Includes techniques in controlling speech anxiety, how to structure and organize information to present to a variety of audiences, and physical and vocal delivery skills. GPA 3.25 minimum. Prerequisite: MTH 20 or equivalent placement test score, and WR 121. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAOT.

COMM 112. Persuasive Speaking. 4 Credits.
Explores theories of persuasive speaking and the nature of arguments. Develops skills of inquiry and advocacy through oral discourse, including critical analysis and rules of evidence. Includes practice in using, planning, delivering and refuting persuasive arguments in a variety of extemporaneous formats. Investigates how persuasion works to influence others as well as self. Prerequisites: MTH 20 or equivalent placement test score, and WR 121. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 130. Business & Professional Communication. 4 Credits.
Focuses on communication as it relates to business and professional settings. Explores the climates, settings, philosophies, and practices of organizational communication, including effective business presentations. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

COMM 140. Introduction to Intercultural Communication. 4 Credits.
Explores the nature and impact of different cultures on communication. Includes interactive relationship forms as the basis for global understanding in the classroom, business or travel. Focus on processing messages with accelerating changes in political, economic and immigration patterns through individual cultural perceptions. Understand and communicate with people who are "different." Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Cultural Literacy, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 204. Visual Communication for Media. 4 Credits.
Covers the theory and application of visual communication in media. Develops visual literacy and media skills for message creators/consumers. Critically examines visual message components, goals, effects and ethical practices. This course is also offered as J 204; a student who enrolls in this course a second time under either designator will be subject to the course repeat policy. Prerequisites: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 212. Voice & Diction. 4 Credits.
Voice production and articulation of speech sound, with attention to elementary speech physiology and phonetics. Develops more effective speech for teachers, radio and television speakers, public speakers and others who require special competence in speaking. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

COMM 214. Interpersonal Communication: Process and Theory. 4 Credits.
Introduces interpersonal communication in different contexts in order to build and manage relationships. F ocuses on message exchange in person-to-person interactions; emphasizes theoretical principles and their application. Concentrates on the development of communication skills to build communication competence in interpersonal contexts. Recommended: COMM 100. Prerequisite: WR 121 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.
COMM 215. Small Group Communication: Process and Theory. 4 Credits.
Problem solving aspects of small group activities. Includes process and task, leadership, verbal and non-verbal messages in the small group, norms and roles, conflict reduction, and decision making. Focuses on theory and practice. COMM 100 recommended. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 227. Nonverbal Communication. 4 Credits.
Introduces the nonverbal aspect of communication as related to verbal communication. Emphasizes the theories and types of nonverbal behavior including influential factors such as: voice, body movement, eye behavior, touch, space, time, smell, and physical and social environments. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B.

COMM 228. Mass Communication and Society. 4 Credits.
Surveys media of mass communication and the effects on society. Introduces the history, development and technological advances of mass communication systems and their subsequent role in society, public discourse and the individual. Includes an analysis of print and broadcast journalism, advertising, public relations, television, film and new media. Course may be taken one time for credit as J 201 or COMM 228. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit Available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAOT, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS.

COMM 229. Oral Interpretation. 3 Credits.
Oral interpretation of literature from the areas of prose, poetry and drama. Analyze specific literary works and communicate that understanding through performance. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available.

COMM 237. Gender and Communication. 4 Credits.
Examines the similarities and differences in masculine and feminine communication styles and patterns. Discusses the differences between sex and gender and the impacts on perception, values, stereotypes, language use, nonverbal communication, power and styles of conflict management in human relationships. Covers the influence of both interpersonal and mass communication on the social/cultural construction of gender identity and gender roles. Offers strategies for improving communication in gendered relationships. Prerequisite: (WR 115 and RD 115) or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement. Audit available. This course fulfills the following GE requirements: Cultural Literacy, Arts and Letters/ASOT-B, Arts and Letters/AAS, Arts and Letters/AGS, Arts and Letters/AS, Arts and Letters/AAOT.