

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
P. O. Box 3649
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649
479-788-7000

General Syllabus

COMM 32143 Non-Verbal Communication

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: MCOM 2223 Communication Theory or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description:

Theory and practice in nonverbal communication in a variety of contexts, including attention to diversity and global awareness.

B. Additional Information

None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Recognize different communication situations and respond effectively;
2. Analyze the operation of nonverbal communication in a variety of settings;
3. Examine and compare how ethnic, ability, gender, and culture affect nonverbal communication;
4. Analyze and employ a variety of nonverbal cues and codes;
5. Differentiate and discuss basic theories of nonverbal communication;
6. Recognize, distinguish and respond to nonverbal cues and codes.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will participate in-group projects, make oral presentations, conduct basic oral and written critiques, and complete research projects.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will recognize and evaluate implications of listening in a variety of situations.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Behavioral observation
- B. Categories of nonverbal communication
- C. Body language
- D. Paralanguage
- E. Facial and eye behavior
- F. Arrangement and use of space
- G. Physical appearance
- H. Gesture and movement
- I. Territoriality
- J. Gender in nonverbal communication
- K. Cultural awareness and cross-cultural conventions
- L. Nonverbal relationships