Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

COM 220 Small Group Communication
Effective Term: Winter 2023

Course Cover

College: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department: Communications, Media & Theatre Arts (new)
Discipline: Communication (new)
Course Number: 220
Org Number: 11500
Full Course Title: Small Group Communication
Transcript Title: Small Group Communication
Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No
Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page
Reason for Submission: New Course
Change Information:
Rationale: This course is part of the core courses that will transfer to 4 year schools participating in the MTA & the MiTransfer Pathway agreement. Small Group Communication is also common course in the Communication discipline.
Proposed Start Semester: Winter 2023
Course Description: In this course, students survey and apply basic group communication principles as related to task-oriented interpersonal, small-group, and large-group dynamics, within the context of complex organizations. Students will be organized into groups and work on several projects and initiatives. Students will also develop and practice skills related to decision making, problem solving, group conflict and leadership.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No
Credits: 3
Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45
Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0
Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45
Repeatable for Credit: NO
Grading Methods: Letter Grades
Audit
Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

No Level Required

Requisites

General Education

General Education Area 2 - Speech
Assoc in Applied Sci- Area 2
Assoc in Science - Area 2
Assoc in Arts - Area 2
General Education Area 6 - Arts and Humanities
Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 6
Assoc in Science - Area 6
Assoc in Arts - Area 6
Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA
MTA 2nd Eng Comp or Speech
MTA Humanities

Request Course Transfer
Proposed For:
Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Jackson Community College
Lawrence Tech
Michigan State University
Oakland University
University of Detroit - Mercy
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University
Central Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Articulate common and current theories and principles of group communication.
   Assessment 1
      Assessment Tool: Group observation checklist
      Assessment Date: Winter 2026
      Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
      Course section(s)/other population: All
      Number students to be assessed: All
      How the assessment will be scored: Checklist and rubric
      Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.
      Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Recognize roles members play in group interactions through a Capstone Project.
   Assessment 1
      Assessment Tool: Self-reflection journal entries
      Assessment Date: Winter 2026
      Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
      Course section(s)/other population: All
      Number students to be assessed: All
      How the assessment will be scored: Rubric
      Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.
      Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

3. Recognize the norms which function to control individual behavior in groups.

Assessment 1
>   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related multiple-choice questions
>   Assessment Date: Winter 2026
>   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
>   Course section(s)/other population: All
>   Number students to be assessed: All
>   How the assessment will be scored: Answer key
>   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.
>   Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

4. Apply group problem-solving and decision-making techniques to small group tasks.

Assessment 1
>   Assessment Tool: Group portfolio project
>   Assessment Date: Winter 2026
>   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
>   Course section(s)/other population: All
>   Number students to be assessed: All
>   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
>   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 70% or higher.
>   Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Discuss group norms and how they are developed, maintained and sustained.
2. Negotiate group norms for small groups.
3. Identify current trends in small group communication.
4. Identify current theories in small group communication.
5. Compare and contrast elements of effective and ineffective groups.
6. Explain the group creation process.
7. Manage group dynamics and conflict resolution.
8. Identify examples of positive and negative small group communication approaches.
9. Identify successful business practices in organizations.
10. Train a group of peers on a successful best practice related to group or organizational culture.
11. Collaborate with peers on a problem-cause-solution situation.
12. Summarize current theories in communication.
13. Discuss group experiences within the framework of course content in weekly blogs.
14. Apply oral, presentation and multimedia skills to create a public service announcement (PSA) video.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
>   Rothwell, J., D.. *In Mixed Company*, Tenth ed. New York: Oxford, 2019, ISBN: 9780190919900.

Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level III classroom

Reviewer	**Action**	**Date**
Faculty Preparer:		
Myron Covington	*Faculty Preparer*	*Apr 28, 2022*
Department Chair/Area Director:		

Allison Fournier   *Recommend Approval*   *Jul 07, 2022*

Dean:

Scott Britten   *Recommend Approval*   *Jul 12, 2022*

Curriculum Committee Chair:

Randy Van Wagnen   *Recommend Approval*   *Sep 28, 2022*

Assessment Committee Chair:

Shawn Deron   *Recommend Approval*   *Sep 29, 2022*

Vice President for Instruction:

Victor Vega   *Approve*   *Sep 30, 2022*