# 8/24/2021

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 4 November 2021

Term and Year of Implementation: Fall 2022

**Course Title:** Small Group Communication

**BRCC Course Rubric:** SPCH 2413

**Previous Course Rubric**: N/A

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:** N/A

**CIP Code:** 09.0101

**Course Description:** Examines how to work well within a group dynamic by focusing on its communication components: creating workable goals, the stages of group development, task and social maintenance roles, membership diversity, leadership, motivation, listening, conflict resolution, problem solving, critical thinking and argumentation, planning and conducting meetings, and issues of ethical behavior.

**Prerequisites:**  None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 25

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Identify basic group communication concepts, strategies, and skills

2. Practice effective listening skills and interaction when communicating as part of a group

3. Apply the principles and practices of ethical communication in a small group context

4. Utilize a variety of creative problem-solving and decision-making skills when communicating as part of a group

**General Education Learning Outcome(s):** This course supports the development of competency in the following area(s). Students will:

Demonstrate skills needed to enhance professional and/or academic performance standards. (General Education Competency: Teamwork)

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Objective-answer and written quizzes and exams that assess Learning Outcome 1

2. Group presentations that assess Learning Outcomes 2, 3, and 4

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. Intro to Group Communication

A. Defining communication

B. Communication study

C. Collaboration

II. Group Development

A. Reading development

B. Stages, experience, norms

III. Conducting Successful Meetings;

A. Purpose

B. Roles

IV. Diversity Within Groups

A. Small group communication across cultures

B. Barriers, group dynamics

V. Problem Solving & Decision Making

A. Standard agenda

B. Techniques and methods of problem solving

VI. Messages and Communication Climate

A. Verbal communication

B. Nonverbal communication

VII. Leadership, Motivation, and Roles Within Groups

A. Leadership theories

B. Group role theory

VIII. Effective Listening in Groups

A. Stages of listening

B. Process of listening

C. Barriers of listening

IX. Conflict

A. Managing team conflict

B. Group think

C. Conflict management styles

D. Decision making techniques