

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: CST 110 Credits: 3

Course Title: Introduction to Human Communication

Course Description:

Examines the elements affecting human communication in individual (e.g., intrapersonal, interpersonal), small group, and public communication contexts with an emphasis on the practice of communication skills.

Identify, describe and compare characteristics of language and explain denotative and connotative meaning

Identify types of listening and non-listening behaviors and demonstrate appropriate responses in listening situations

Compare/contrast various communication models

Define and describe types of nonverbal communication and apply this knowledge to real-life situations

Illustrate an understanding of the perception process, and make connections between self-concept and interactions with others

Analyze, select and explain various aspects of communication situations in relation to appropriate goals, objectives and techniques

Interpersonal Communication:

Demonstrate an understanding of assertive communication

Identify, define and apply theories of relationship development to real-life situations

Identify, define, and apply strategies for maintaining relationships to real-life situations

Identify, describe and select appropriate strategies for dealing with defensiveness and managing conflict

Small Group Communication

Explain how groups make decisions, and specify the different decision methods of decision-making within groups

Identify and describe problem-solving steps, evaluate a problem-solving process within a group, and predict a group's problem-solving success

Identify and describe leadership behaviors and responsibilities in groups

Identify and describe group member behaviors and responsibilities

Define and describe various tasks and maintenance "roles" (communication behaviors) in groups and explain these behaviors as perceived within a group

Define group norms and explain how groups develop and manage norms

Public Speaking:

Analyze audience information and adapt speech content and speech delivery to incorporate what was learned through the analysis

Define and describe various speech delivery styles

Select and apply appropriate verbal and nonverbal messages to the speech situation and audience

Determine and develop objectives and goals for presentations given specific audiences and situations

Prepare robust outlines and deliver logically organized speeches

Conduct research and evaluate the accuracy, quality, credibility, and appropriateness of supporting materials to provide evidence for and/or enhance speech content

Media Literacy/Mass Media:

Define media literacy and describe how it can improve one's skills set as a consumer and citizen in an information-based democratic society

Examine and discuss how the media shapes one's individual perspectives and influences society as a whole

Apply critical thinking skills to examine and analyze messages for accuracy and credibility

Major Topics to be Included:

