

Perspectives in Comm (HU)

COMM - 2050 501

Course Description

Survey of the basic issues, theories, and perspectives in the study of human communication, through critical analysis of oral, written and audio-visual texts. Effective Summer 2016, COMM 2050 will replace and is equivalent to COMM 1050.

Semesters: All

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Use various primary and secondary sources to critically analyze and evaluate authors' interpretations of human behavior (i.e. find the strengths and weakness of the interpretations).
- Identify and describe how different forces influence the creation of the various interpretations of human behavior (i.e. the current thinking of the time, cultural context, national and world events, firsthand experiences of the researchers and scholarship from various schools of thought).
- Describe and evaluate the background of several essential theories of human communication by the lens researchers use to explore human behavior (i.e. Interpretive lens, Social Scientific lens, Critical lens), by the Traditions in which the theories fit (i.e. Rhetoric, Semiotic, Socio-Cultural) and by the original source of the theory (i.e. the humanities, psychology, communication). Understand how the choices of "lens," "tradition" and "source" influence the way human behavior is interpreted.
- Make connections between past human behavior patterns and current human behavior patterns to help understand your own behavior choices.

- Apply various interpretations of human behavior to creatively problem-solve human behavior cases and effectively manage your behavior in your personal and professional life.
- Ethically use information and technology (i.e. identify primary and secondary sources, accurately cite resources used in research, state facts in context).
- Use contemporary technology to complete assignments, do research and navigate student systems.
- Use self-reflection to identify and evaluate your own beliefs and values and other influences in your life (i.e. your culture, national or world events, job experience, religious association) to improve your personal and professional communication.

Engagement Plan

- I will respond to email within 48 hours. I will offer feedback on major assignments within two weeks. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.
- In this course I will be posting interactive announcements which will offer specific opportunities for class questions and extra credit every other week.
- Additionally, I will be participating in the discussion forums with you to share my perspective within the discipline and to offer some nuances of interpretation that may not be present in your textbook when necessary.
- Lastly, you are welcome to ask questions via email or come to my office hours, where we can learn on some of the more difficult units within the course.

General Education Information

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This course fulfills the above requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by

the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning.

General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Assignment Categories

- Discussion Boards
- Quizzes
- Assignments
- Mid-term Paper and Presentation
- Final Paper and Presentation

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
8/31/25	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	7
8/31/25	Orientation Quiz	Quiz	8
8/31/25	Practice Submitting Assignments	Assignment	10
9/7/25	Communication Concepts Quiz	Quiz	20

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
9/7/25	Create Your Own Theory	Discussion	15
9/7/25	Theory Concepts Quiz	Quiz	30
9/7/25	Week 2b Early Course Feedback Survey	Quiz	5
10/26/25	Groupthink Quiz	Quiz	22
10/26/25	Organizational Culture Quiz	Quiz	22
10/26/25	Structuration Quiz	Quiz	20
10/26/25	Systems Quiz	Quiz	24
11/23/25	Extra Credit	Assignment	10

Grading Scale

A	100%to94%
A-	< 94%to90%
B+	< 90%to87%
B	< 87%to84%
B-	< 84%to80%
C+	< 80%to77%
C	< 77%to74%
C-	< 74%to70%
D+	< 70%to67%
D	< 67%to64%
D-	< 64%to61%

Academic Integrity

As part of your attendance at SLCC, it is your responsibility to conduct yourself as a mature and reasonable adult. This means adhering to the instructions that are outlined on this syllabus, respecting your classmates as well as your instructor, and going above and beyond to ensure that your assignment submissions are free of plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty of any kind. For a full explanation of student rights and academic policies, please see the following link:

https://www.slcc.edu/policies/policies/student_affairs/8.1.050.aspx

Regarding AI

In this course, students shall give credit to AI tools whenever used, even if only to generate ideas rather than usable text or illustrations. When using AI tools on assignments, add an appendix showing (a) the entire exchange, highlighting the most relevant sections; (b) a description of precisely which AI tools were used (e.g. ChatGPT private subscription version or DALL-E free version), (c) an explanation of how the AI tools were used (e.g. to generate ideas, turns of phrase, elements of text, long stretches of text, lines of argument, pieces of evidence, maps of the conceptual territory, illustrations of key concepts, etc.); (d) an account of why AI tools were used (e.g. to save time, to surmount writer's block, to stimulate thinking, to handle mounting stress, to clarify prose, to translate text, to experiment for fun, etc.). Students shall not use AI tools during quizzes and exams, or assignments unless explicitly permitted and instructed. Overall, AI tools should be used wisely and reflectively with an aim to deepen understanding of subject matter.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Online Tutoring

Students at SLCC have access to online tutoring through Canvas. From your Canvas course click Online Tutoring in the course navigation and follow the steps to set up an

appointment. If this is your first time using the Online Tutoring we recommend you click "Take a Tour" to familiarize yourself with the service.

Note that students only receive 480 minutes of tutoring time each semester. After that we encourage you to use the resources found through this link:

<https://www.slcc.edu/tutoring/index.aspx>

If you have any additional questions reach out to elarningsupport@slcc.edu.

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the

challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)