

COM-126: Communication in Healthcare

Spring 2016 Semester (Weekend Course)

Meeting Dates: 4/23-5/8 (Saturday/Sunday)

Meeting Time: 9 AM-5 PM

Meeting Location: EA 2307 (RRCC Lakewood)

Instructor/Contact: William Hoffman

William.Hoffman@RRCC.edu

303-914-6100 (ext. 3116)

Course Materials

Textbook:

Du Pre, A. (2014). *Communicating about health: Current issues and perspectives* (4th Ed.). Boston: Oxford University Press.

Desire2Learn [URL: <https://rrcc.desire2learn.com/>]

The syllabus, lecture notes, assignments, and supplemental materials, as well as any course announcements will be posted on *Desire2Learn*. Print copies of these items will not be distributed in class. The URL for *Desire2Learn* is shown above, and can also be accessed via *The Rock* portal. It is the responsibility of the student to retrieve, or have access to, course materials before they are needed in class.

Academic Honesty

All graded work must be the original work of the student claiming credit for it. Students guilty of knowingly using or attempting to use another person's work as though that work were their own, and students guilty of knowingly permitting or attempting to permit another student to use their work, will receive the grade of "F" for the entire assignment, and may receive a grade of "F" for the course. Students should also be familiar with the official RRCC policy on academic dishonesty that appears in the most recent edition of the Student Catalog. Cheating and plagiarism will be reported.

RRCC Library Research

Students can access electronic databases via campus computers, or from home. Information about RRCC Library Services is available at <http://library.RRCC.edu> Should you need access to physical books and periodicals, students should use the RRCC library, local college libraries, or local County libraries.

Communication Policy

In order to succeed in this communication class, it is imperative that you communicate with your communication instructor. When communicating by email, please include your name, class, and a subject in the subject line.

Please use your RRCC email address when sending messages to my RRCC email address. Responses to messages will be sent in 24 - 36 hours, unless noted otherwise.

Sending an email message to the instructor does not excuse students on presentation days, nor does it grant an extension on an assignment.

Accessibility Services

Red Rocks Community College is committed to access for students with disabilities per the ADAAA (Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are a student with a disability and need assistance or are interested in requesting accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services. Faculty are not obligated to provide accommodations without proper notification by Accessibility Services and accommodations are not retroactive. Students may contact the Access staff by telephone or email to make an intake appointment at 303-914-6733 or access@rrcc.edu. Accessibility Services is located in Suite 1182 at the Lakewood campus. More information is available at www.rrcc.edu/accessibility-services.

Mandatory Reporting

RRCC is committed to preserving a safe and welcoming educational environment for all students. As part of this effort, College employees are obligated to report issues relating to the health and safety of campus community members. Any allegation of discrimination or harassment, including, but not limited to, sexual misconduct, which includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, sexual exploitation, dating violence or domestic violence, child abuse or neglect, and/or credible threats of harm to yourself or others, will be reported to College officials and may trigger contact from a College official who will want to talk with you about the incident. You do not have to speak with the official. To report an incident you may contact:

- Red Rocks Campus Police Department in person, or at rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu and 303-914-6394.
- Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu and 303-914-6224
- Further information may be found on the College website: <http://www.rrcc.edu/human-resources/sexual-misconduct>

Classroom Time, Breaks, Policies

We meet from 9 AM until 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday, for 3 weekends. 8 hours is a huge commitment, and I commend you for taking up the challenge. I will offer several, short breaks throughout the day, in addition to a break for lunch. Leaving early, and arriving late, however, can devastate your overall grade. Please be here on time, and do not plan to leave early. You can use your phone for activities, but I do count off for 'distractions' as a part of the participation score. Participation, in addition to attendance, is a big part of your grade. Share your thoughts in class, listen to others, and be inclusively active during activities. Remember that I want you to do well in the course! Following this general series of guidelines will really help you achieve the score you want. 😊

Instructor Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to alter any or all parts of the scheduled activities and/or work identified in this syllabus. These rights extend to assignments, evaluation, and all other aspects of the course.

Assessment Overview:

Public Health Campaign Project	75
Participation	50
Media Images & Health Reflection Paper	50
Family & Social Support Paper	50
Quizzes (on D2L)	50
<u>Exegesis Presentation/Discussion</u>	<u>25</u>
Total	300

Assessment Detail:

Participation

Because attention and preparation are essential for success in this class, classroom participation scores will be assessed based on completion of assignments and exercises, meaningful contribution during discussions, attendance, etc. Not all contributions are meaningful: Incorporate vocabulary, theory, health care issues in the news, and other course material into your discussion responses. Absences, failure to complete assignments on time, and lack of meaningful contribution will negatively affect participation grades. The instructor reserves the right dock points if (s)he feels participation is lacking on your part, and it is your job to inquire with the instructor if you have questions.

Leaving Early/Arriving Late/Missing Portions of Class (+/- 45 minutes)

- 1st : No points lost
- 2nd: 10 Points docked on final participation
- 3rd: 1 letter grade reduction (final grade); (-10) Participation
- 4th: 2 letter grades reduction (final grade); (-10) participation
- 5th: 3 letter grades reduction (final grade); Zero on participation
- > 5: Failing grade; Zero on participation

Absence from Class - *Missing an entire class will result in 1 full letter grade reduction, applied to your final grade in the course. The instructor reserves the right to decide whether to excuse or not excuse any absences in the class.*

Exegesis - Research Presentation/Discussion

An *exegesis* is defined as "the critical explanation or analysis of a text" (American Heritage Dictionary, online). There are two parts to this assignment. Further instructions for both the paper and presentation are posted on the *Course Content* page, in the *Assignments* folder.

Locate one article from a **communication or healthcare journal** that relates to information learned in this class and analyze it. Create a 4-5 minute presentation on the article, and write 5 questions for the class discussion. You will sign up for a specific day to lead this discussion. The article you select should be clearly linked to the assigned reading/topic for the day you present.

Family & Social Support Paper:

Compose a 3-5 page (Double Spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman) research paper on a topic related to supportive communication in areas of health and well-being. This paper is research oriented (i.e., Not based on personal experience).

Cite at least 4 sources in the paper (i.e., In-text citations), and include your sources on a (separate) reference page (NOT works cited or bibliography page) at the end of this paper. Your paper is required to be 3 (full) pages in length. Failing to reach this minimum requirement will result in a loss of 15 points (out of 50). Follow APA formatting instructions given in class.

Possible Topic Ideas/Examples -

- *Children Caring for Parents (Cultural Perspectives)*
- *Eating Disorders & Family Communication*
- *Postpartum Depression*
- *Communicating Health Behaviors in The Family*
- *Mental Health & Close Relationships; Abuse & Finding Support*
- *Addiction (e.g., Alcoholism) - Social Support*

Media Images & Health Reflection Paper:

Compose a 2 to 3 (Double Spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman) research paper on a topic related to media and images of health in contemporary society. This assignment may be based on your own personal experiences, and you are only required to cite our textbook. If you want to use additional sources, you are welcome to do so. Please make sure the paper is 2 (full) pages in length, at a minimum.

Possible Topic Ideas/Examples -

- *Healthy Body Image (Female or Male)*
- *Nutrition Images in the Media (e.g., Diets; Supplements; Sugar)*
- *Health Crises Management & Media (e.g., CDC; FDA; FEMA Cases)*
- *Mental Health - Depression/Bipolar/Abuse in Relationships/Addiction*
- *Smoking/Alcohol/Marijuana (Media) Campaigns*
- *Senior Citizens and Fitness*
- *Kids & Fitness in Schools*
- *Diabetes/Heart Disease/Arthritis - Media Campaigns*

Public Health Campaign Project:

The final project requests that you create and deliver a 7 to 10 minute presentation. The presentation should be an original public health campaign on any issue studied or examined in our course (e.g., Benefits of reducing sugar consumption) . You will

need a visual aid (e.g., PowerPoint), as well as a promotional flyer or brochure (for the class). The rubric and instructions for this final assignment will be distributed in a separate handout during class. Elements of speech presentation (e.g., Verbal Delivery) will be evaluated in addition to the organization of your content, ideas, and thoughtful application of your topic. Due to time demands, I cannot accept any late presentations.

Quizzes:

There will be 5 quizzes, taken on D2L this semester. Quizzes will be multiple choice or true-false. All quizzes are timed (20 minutes), and make-up quizzes or extensions are not given under any circumstances.

Initiate

Date	9 AM - 12 PM	12 PM PM-3 PM	3 PM-5 PM	Assignment(s)
4/23	Syllabus, Introduction, History of Healthcare	Caregiver & Patient Communication/ Perspectives; DD-MM, MI Theories	Documentary; Overview of Papers and Assignments; Research Plans	Read Chapters 1-3 Sign Syllabus Agreement
4/24	Patient & Caregiver Perspectives	Healthcare & Society	Culture & Social Factors	Read Chapters 4-7 Exegesis Discussion Due
4/30	Social Support & Family Communication	eHealth, mHealth, Telemedicine	Marketing & Public Relations; Human Resources	Reflection Paper Due on D2L (4/30) Chapters 8-10
5/1	Media Images and Health - e.g., Gender, Age, Nutrition, Medication, Policy	Ideas for Reforming Healthcare; Public Health Campaigns	Designing and Promoting Public Health Campaigns	Research Paper Due on D2L (5/5) Chapters 11-12
5/7	Crisis Management Communication	Public Health Response; Role in Society	Planning Campaigns Overview - Review of Final Assignment	Chapters 13-14 Final Project Due before class on 5/8 (D2L)
5/8	Documentary in class; Discussion	Presentations	Presentations	Students will present their campaign

COM-126 Syllabus Agreement (SP 2016 - RRCC)

I, (Print Name) _____, have read and comprehend the syllabus for COM 126: Communication in Healthcare. I fully understand the attendance policy, grading procedures, and assignment requirements as stipulated in the syllabus. I recognize that it is my responsibility to complete the reading assignment before the lecture, and to participate in class discussions and practice activities to achieve the best grade possible. I realize that I am responsible for my academic success or failure, and I will seek the help of the instructor immediately should I become lost in the material or experience problems. Any confusion I may have experienced through reading the course policies stated in the syllabus has been clarified through either the explanations of the instructor or questions I have asked. As a student member of this class, I acknowledge and agree to adhere to these policies.

Signature of Student

Date: _____