Common Course Outline
CMNS 250
Interpersonal Communication
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

CMNS 250 – Interpersonal Communication develops student competence in applying theories of interpersonal communication between individuals in a variety of contexts, such as personal relationships, professional interactions, and social media relations.

3 Credits

Prerequisites: CMNS 101 and ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. develop strategies to improve interpersonal relationships based upon course theory;
2. apply theories of perception and impression management to interpersonal behaviors;
3. discuss the effects of nonverbal communication upon interpersonal relationships;
4. evaluate the effects of language choice and use upon interpersonal relationships;
5. analyze effectiveness of listening styles and responding skills in various interpersonal contexts;
6. analyze the impact of culture and diversity in interpersonal contexts;
7. evaluate the impact of emotions upon interpersonal communication;
8. analyze the effectiveness of conflict management models and skills in various relationships;
9. explain the influence of power dynamics in interpersonal relationships; and
10. assess the effects of technology on interpersonal communication competency and relationships.

Major Topics

I.   Theories of Interpersonal Communication
II.   Intrapersonal Communication
III.   Impression Management and Self-Disclosure
IV.   Perception
V.   Language Use
VI.   Nonverbal Communication

VII.   Listening and Responding
VIII.   Cultural Communication and Diversity
IX.   Relationship Theories
X.   Emotions and Interpersonal Communication
XI.   Social Media Influences
XII.   Communication in Family, Friend, and Professional Contexts
XIII.   Conflict Management
XIV.   Power Dynamics

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by individual faculty members but will include the following:

Grading/Exams:
- minimum of 2 written tests
- minimum of 1 group project resulting in an oral presentation and requiring academic research sources and professional audio-visual aids
- a minimum of 1 paper of at least 1000 words, using academic research sources
- minimum of 1 substantive assessed assignment as defined by instructor, such as a group project, analysis of communication simulation, reflective paper, and/or journal

Written Assignments:
Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information:

This course is a requirement for the Communication and Media Studies Area of Concentration.

This course is the first in the required 2-semester sequence for Humanities and Social Science.