

CMST 3140 Communication in Family Contexts

Fall 2014

Instructor: Clair Canfield

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Office: Main 002G

Office Hours: M 1-2:30, W 2-3, by appointment

Course Text: Galvin, K. M., Brathwaite, D. O., & Bylund, C. L. (2015). *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change* (9th ed.). NJ: Pearson.

Course Description: The goal of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to explore communication in the context of families. This will be done through exploring communication theories through readings and class discussion, reflecting on your own experiences with family, and by applying what you have learned. This will present an opportunity for you to increase your awareness, choices, and skills when communicating within a family context.

Course Objectives:

1. Understand the complexity and implications of how family is defined and the process of family communication.
2. Understand theories and scholarly research in the field of family communication and how their relate to your own family experiences.
3. Develop increased awareness and choices in how to communicate in a family context.

Course Standards: Teaching and learning is a process that is impacted by each person in the room. It is our collective experiences, ideas, and questions that create increased awareness and understanding of how we communicate and the impact it has on all of our relationships. It is the personal responsibility of each member of the class to show up and be willing to engage in that process. Learning often feels threatening and I am committed to creating a space for each of us to take risks, make mistakes, and create the type of trust and respect that makes it possible to be vulnerable.

Course Assignments: Details for each assignment can be found via canvas. Assignments must be submitted through canvas before end of day on the due date. Late assignments are subject to deductions. Make all necessary arrangements to have them submitted in a timely manner.

University Standards:

The Americans with Disabilities Act

Students with ADA-documented impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. Accommodations are

coordinated through DRC in Room 101 of the University Inn, 7-2444 voice, 7-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact DRC as early as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

Academic Misconduct

In accordance with university policy (as articulated in the Student Code, see: <http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/pdf/StudentCode.pdf#page=4>), academic misconduct—including cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism of written or spoken work—is not tolerated in this course. Do not present or turn in work for this class that you have turned in for other classes. You do not have my permission to submit work from this class to fulfill requirements in other classes. Plagiarism is submitting/presenting someone else's work as your own as well as quoting others without giving credit. Any quotation or paraphrasing of sources must be cited in text as well as orally during your speeches. Plagiarism can result in an F for the assignment, an F for the course, and other disciplinary measures. If at any time you are unsure whether your actions constitute academic misconduct, please see the instructor in order to clarify the matter.