Advanced Nonverbal Communication
COM4930 | 3 credits | Spring 2025

Instructor: Diana Karol Nagy | dnagy@ufl.edu | 352.273.1870 | 412 Rolfs Hall

Virtual Office Hours: Anytime by appointment.

Course website: http://elearning.ufl.edu

Semester Schedule: The weekly schedule can be found by checking the calendar on the class website. A schedule listing university holidays, drop deadline and other important dates is found online at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2024-2025/#spring25text

Course description: COM930 — Advanced Nonverbal Communication is a three-credit course.

Over 90% of our communication is nonverbal. With that comes a responsibility to dig deep into the theories of nonverbal communication. Through lectures and case studies, this course will explore the world of nonverbal communication in order to understand the nuances of this very important form of communication.

This course may be different from many you have taken in college. This is primarily because you are actively and daily engaged in the subject matter of this communication course. You have already had much experience, and you will likely want to share those experiences with the rest of the class. In addition, you may also bring to this class some preconceived expectations of this class. Discussion will be encouraged.

Prerequisite
SPC 3331 – Nonverbal Communication or permission of instructor

Course Text
Liberman, C.J. and Wrench, J.S. (2021). Casing Nonverbal Communication. Kendall Hunt. Dubuque, IA. ISBN: 978-1-7924-7455-2.

You may obtain the e-book at the following link:
https://he.kendallhunt.com/casing_nonverbal_comm

You are responsible for having access to this text no later than Sunday January 19, 2025, in order to complete assignments and quizzes.

Course requirements
Internet Access and your Gatorlink Email Address that you should check on a regular basis. (For any questions on this policy, please see the Computer Requirements as discussed under the General Requirements in the University catalog or UF Computer and Software Requirements on the web.),and MS Word (You may obtain this software free at: https://it.ufl.edu/services/?search=free+software.

Course Objectives

- As a student, you can expect to increase the range of options available to you in nonverbal communication. In the personal effectiveness approach, this is referred to as the development of the communication repertoire. The more options you have, the more likely you are to make effective choices.
- You can also expect to increase your ability to analyze communication situations. Enhanced personal effectiveness is dependent upon understanding situations and what is needed for successful interaction in those situations.
- As odd as it may sound, you can also expect to be able to make more reasoned and reasonable choices regarding family communication.
- Last, in addition to learning new information, you can expect to acquire new and/or improved communication skills

COURSE POLICIES

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: Late assignments or make-ups will not be permitted without a University-approved absence.

LATE POLICY: Assignments not turned in on the due date are considered late. There is a one week (7 calendar days) grace period to turn in late assignments for partial credit, after which, your work will not be accepted and you will receive a zero for that assignment. The penalty for late assignments turned in during the grace period is as follows:

- Minus 1 point per day for assignments up to 30 points.
- Minus 2 points per day for assignments from 31-100 points.
- Minus 3 points per day for assignments from 101 – 200 points.

This late policy does not apply to Quizzes. There is no grace period nor is there any make-up policy for Quizzes. If you miss a Quiz, you will receive a zero for that assignment. However, I will drop the lowest quiz grade when calculating final grades.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION: Unless otherwise indicated, assignments should be submitted through the course website by 11:59 PM on the due date. Do not wait until the last minute to turn in an assignment because of the possibility of technical difficulties.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Students will complete chapter readings, quizzes, discussions, online activities and watching lectures.

CASE STUDIES:

Each module will have one or two case studies to read and respond to. After reading the chapter, answer the assigned questions. A paragraph is the minimum requirement per question.

FINAL PROJECT:

The final project will consist of writing a literature review based upon a nonverbal subcode. More details will be discussed in class.

READINGS: Students are responsible for all the assigned readings. See the course calendar on eLearning for reading due dates.

COURSE GRADING

Quizzes (Reading and Lecture)	20 percent
Online Discussions Questions	20 percent
Online Discussion Board	10 percent
Project (Literature Review) Proposal	10 percent
Annotated Bibliography	10 percent
First Draft	10 percent
Final Project	20 percent

Final Grades
Grading Scale (for letter grades)

93-100 %	A
90-92 %	A-
87-89 %	B+
83-86 %	B
80-82 %	B-
77-79 %	C+
73-76 %	C

70-72 %	C-
67-69 %	D+
63-66 %	D
60-62 %	D-
> 60 %	E
E1*	
There will be no curving of final grades. * Stopped attending or participating prior to end of class	

Grade expectations:

Assigned grades	Quality of work
A /-	In addition to excellent quality and performance, work that earns an "A" exceeds minimum requirements and expectations.
B+/-	A grade of "B" indicates successful completion of all assignment requirements with little room for improvement. Please note that all minimum requirements must be satisfactorily completed to earn a grade of "B" or better. Writing skills and overall performance are above average.
C +/-	A grade of "C" is the most commonly earned grade on course assignments. It indicates work in good standing. All minimum requirements are met, although some might need improvement. Writing skills are average to excellent.
D +/-	Passing…but below average. The assignment's minimum requirements are not met and/or quality of work is less than average.
E	Not passing. Minimum requirements are not met and quality of work is poor, or work displays plagiarism.

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For more information on UF's Grading Policy, please visit:

https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#hgrades

http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html

UF POLICIES

ACCOMMODATIONS: University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (https://disability.ufl.edu/). The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive; therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE: Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code published in the Undergraduate Catalog (http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html). Please become familiar with the policies of the Honor Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) as all violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. Research misconduct, such as plagiarism or cheating, will result in an automatic failing grade for the assignment.

NETIQUETTE: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats. All members are expected to follow these guidelines: http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf.

Getting Help

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- https://elearning.ufl.edu/student-help-faqs/

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help such as:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu.

Any questions regarding the planning, administering and teaching of COM 4930 should be discussed with me individually. As needed, questions can be discussed further with Emily R. Butler, Director, Dial Center for Written & Oral Communication.

The current syllabus and weekly schedule can be found on e-Learning.

A tentative schedule is below (subject to change):

Week	Module	Topic	Due
1	1	Temporal Characteristics of Speech	Questions Quiz
2	2	Nonverbal Communication in Couple Conflict Nonverbal Communication in a Clinical Context	Questions Quiz Discussion Board
3	3	Voice and Gestures in Nonverbal Communication: Evidence from Psychophysiological Studies Sync or Sink? Nonverbal Synchrony in Interviews at a Career Fair	Questions Quiz Discussion Board Proposal
4	4	The Power of the Setting in Nonverbal Communication First Impressions on First Dates: A Case Study Exploring Nonverbal Cues and Dating	Questions Quiz Discussion Board
5	5	The Ambiguity of Emotional Exchange Through Haptical Messages: The [Mis]Communication of Nonverbal Touch Following Bradley's Receipt of Bad News Do Faces Lie? Ted Bundy and the Smiles of Strangers	Questions Quiz
6	6	Examining the Impact of Nonverbal Immediacy and Nonverbal Teacher and Student Misbehaviors on the Academic Experience Nonverbal Communication Provider-Patient Interaction: A Case Study of a Mental Health Patient During COVID-19	Questions Quiz Annotated Bibliography
7	7	Doctors We Like and Doctors We Don't: How Nonverbal Immediacy Impacts Patient Satisfaction Behavioral Deception Detection: A Criminal Case Study	Questions Quiz
8	8	Lying to Ourselves: A Case Study in Nonverbal Cues and Deception Detection Expertise Personal Artifacts and Nonverbal Identification: A Case Study	Questions Quiz
9	9	Don't Stand so Close to Me: Unexpected Proxemic Violations Proxemics & COVID-19: Interpersonal Communication and Spatial Preference	Questions Quiz Discussion Board
10		Spring Break	
11	10	Everything but the Kitchen Sync: A Review and Case Study of Interactional Synchrony on the Job Interview	Questions Quiz First Draft

		Casing Presidential Debates: Nonverbal Communication in the Town Halls of 1992, 2000, and 2016	
12	11	From Yelling to Whispering: The Curious Case of Perceptions of Nonverbal Messages in Text-Only Environments Nonverbal Communication in Human-Machine Communication: Wait, Robots Can Have Faces?	Questions Quiz Discussion Board
13	12	Zooming in on Privacy: Nonverbal Communication During a Pandemic Casing Nonverbal Communication Codes on the Screen: A Leadership Story	Questions Quiz
14	13	Nonverbal Appropriateness and Gender Performance in American Football Communicating in a Land Not Your Own	Questions Quiz Discussion Board
15			Work on Final Project
16	14	Literature Review Due	Final Project

Instructional materials for this course consist of only those materials specifically reviewed, selected, and assigned by the instructor(s). The instructor(s) is only responsible for these instructional materials

Last Update: 1/10/2025