NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY  
CST 110 - INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION (3 CR.)

Course Description

Examines the elements affecting speech communication at the individual, small group, and public communication levels with emphasis on practice of communication at each level. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

Provides the student with a theoretical and practical survey of the field of speech communication, including the opportunity to practice competencies with feedback to enhance communication confidence.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Fluency in Standard American English. Recommend proficiency in reading and writing at English 111 level.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- comprehend and apply communication principles in personal, small group, and public situations
- report increased self-confidence in communication settings
- express their ideas with verbal fluency
- apply knowledge of nonverbal communication in sending and receiving messages
- demonstrate critical thinking competencies
- demonstrate the ability to organize information
- adapt messages and behaviors to different communication contexts
- employ appropriate listening and responding behaviors
- demonstrate understanding and respect for cultural and social diversity

Major Topics to be Included

A. Communication foundation
   1. ethics of communication
   2. language and meaning
   3. listening and responding
   4. communication models
   5. nonverbal communication
   6. perception and self-concept
   7. planning goals/objectives and communication techniques

B. Interpersonal communication
   1. Assertiveness
   2. stages of relationships
   3. strategies for dealing with defensiveness and managing conflict
C. Small group
1. decision-making
2. leadership behaviors and responsibilities
3. problem-solving
4. roles
5. norms and agendas

D. Public speaking
1. analyzing and adapting to audiences
2. delivery styles in presenting information
3. verbal and nonverbal messages
4. objectives and goals for specific speech situations
5. organization and supporting materials