



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

COLORADO WOMEN'S COLLEGE

## COMN 2708: NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION

**Spring 2015:** Tuesday evenings, 6:00pm to 9:50pm

### Seven session dates/BLENDED format class:

March 24 (face-to-face=f2f)  
March 31 (online)  
April 7 (f2f)  
April 14 (online)  
April 21 (f2f)  
April 28 (online)  
May 5 (f2f)

**Prerequisites:** WRIT 1122 required and WRIT 1133 recommended (Students are responsible for completing course prerequisites before registering for a class. Students may be removed from a course for which they have not fulfilled the prerequisite course work.)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Noell Ross Jackson, Ph. D.

**Cell/Voice Mail:** 720.987.4244

**E-mail:** [noelljackson1@msn.com](mailto:noelljackson1@msn.com)

I will make every effort to respond to email or voicemail messages within 48 hours.

**THIS SYLLABUS CAN AND PROBABLY WILL CHANGE SLIGHTLY. I WILL ALERT STUDENTS IN CLASS AND VIA CANVAS OF ANY ALTERATIONS IN THE SYLLABUS AND/OR ASSIGNMENTS.**

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed to explore the human communication process devoid of words, this course focuses on the nature and functions of nonverbal communication. The course also identifies a broad spectrum of types of nonverbal communication; explains their uses and impact within a variety of encounters including nonintimate, intimate, professional, and mediated; and outlines the development of these nonverbal communications with attention to individual and cultural differences.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Outline concepts and theories of nonverbal communication
- Recognize their own and others' nonverbal communication behaviors
- Apply criteria to evaluate the appropriateness or non-appropriateness of specific nonverbal communication behaviors in given communication encounters
- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity and recognize the interdependence between theory and practice by identifying, critically analyzing, and evaluating information and assumptions about nonverbal communication
- Identify, examine, and apply quantitative and qualitative methodologies in the construction of knowledge of nonverbal communication via experimentation and observation
- Demonstrate an understanding of how diverse perspectives, life experiences, cultural contexts, and social identities give varied meanings to observations about nonverbal communication
- Develop ability to work productively with others
- Develop ability to connect their internal, unique "voice" with the external world through clear and effective expressions of thought in nonverbal, spoken, written, visual, and technologically mediated forms of communication

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Colorado Women's College fully endorses the University of Denver's Honor Code and the procedures put forth by the Office of Citizenship and Community Standards.

Academic dishonesty—including plagiarism, cheating, and falsification of data and research—is in violation of the code and will result in a failing grade for the assignment or for the course.

As student members of a community committed to academic integrity and honesty, it is your responsibility to become familiar with the DU Honor Code and its procedures ([www.du.edu/honorcode](http://www.du.edu/honorcode)).

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## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

**ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED, ON TIME, IN EACH CLASS SESSION, ALONG WITH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSIONS.** Attendance and participation are **CRUCIAL** to your successful completion of this course and will be deciding factors in your grade.

**If an emergency arises, your responsibility is to contact your instructor AS SOON AS HUMANLY POSSIBLE as to the reason for your absence and to address any missed activities/assignments. You should also immediately contact a classmate to gather any missed class information/activities/assignments.**

## COURSE POINT BREAKDOWN

- Attendance ON TIME, ACTIVE class community sharing, and demonstration of completion of assigned readings PRIOR to f2f or online session	2 pts./session =14 pts.
- Completion of Assignments (posted on Canvas and/or presented in class):	
-Nonverbal Multimedia Journal 1 <sup>st</sup> chapter due Session 2	3 points
-Concept Facilitation topic due Session 2	3 points
-Reflection Assignment A due Session 3	15 points
-Course Media 1 due Session 4	11 points
-Concept Facilitation due Session 5	20 points
-Reflection Assignment B due Session 6	15 points
-Nonverbal Multimedia Journal 2 <sup>nd</sup> chapter due Session 7	7 points
-Course Media 2 due Session 7	12 points
<b>TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>100 POINTS</b>

## \*ATTENDANCE/CLASS COMMUNITY SHARING

In each session we will spend time discussing the required textbook, the “Course Documents” and/or “Course Media posted on Bb, if any, and your responses to the issues that these materials raise. Your instructor will facilitate group discussions and activities wherein you will use this time to think, write, and SPEAK more deeply about the readings. Physical presence in the sessions alone does not equate with participation. **Participation is evaluated on positive contributions to the functioning of the session in accomplishing its assigned tasks and a DEMONSTRATION THAT THE STUDENT HAS READ THE ASSIGNED COURSE MATERIALS.** A lack of participation in any session and/or coming to class late or leaving early will be negatively reflected in the attendance/class community sharing. Participation is based on the instructor’s observations of the class interactivity and student contributions. **Please understand that your attendance and participation in all activities is CRUCIAL to the functioning of the course!**

## GRADING POLICY

Percentage	Grade
95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
0-59	F

## ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE POLICY

Please know that I take your work and my work at CWC seriously. A commitment to professional, personal, and academic growth requires effective time-management and a dedication to excellence. As such, assignments must be turned in during class sessions or via Canvas, as specified. Assignments turned in on time will have full access to the

maximum number of points available. **Assignments turned in within 48 hours following your session ending times will be subject to substantial grade penalties.** Please know that if you turn in any assignment more than 48 hours after session ending times, you will **NOT** earn any points. For example, if your session ends at 9:50pm (MST) on Tuesday, the last possible time you could turn in an assignment to be considered for partial credit is 9:50pm (MST) on Thursday. I recognize that we all have busy, hectic lives; however, unless you have a documented medical emergency, and/or you have made prior arrangements with me, I expect all assignments to be turned in when requested DURING the designated sessions. Please feel free to contact me throughout the quarter with any questions, concerns, updates, etc. A grade of incomplete will be granted only under special circumstances, as determined by the instructor. Please see <http://www.du.edu/registrar/records/incompletepolicy.html> if you have further questions.

## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

All students should have the following:

- Reliable access to a computer and the Internet
- The ability to attach a Word document to an email message and/or to upload that Word document via Canvas
- The ability to scan a document into their computer and email or upload that same document as an attachment

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## **DIVERSITY, INCLUSIVENESS, AND RESPECT**

CWC is committed to fostering a diverse learning community that is inclusive and respectful. We encourage and appreciate expressions of different ideas, opinions, and beliefs, so that conversations and interactions that could be potentially divisive instead turn into opportunities for intellectual and personal growth. Respecting what others say, their right to say it, and listening to each other are the ways that we all can further thoughtful and enlightening dialogue.

## **TECHNOLOGY USE IN THE CLASSROOM**

In order to create and maintain an optimal learning environment in the classroom, students should use technology appropriately, as directed by the instructor for the purposes of the course. Work done on laptops, cell phones, and other devices that is not relevant to the class can hinder the process of communication and shared discussion of ideas that require full engagement by all participants.

## **ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act must contact the instructor to discuss their needs. Failure to notify the instructor immediately may hinder the college's ability to accommodate accordingly. Students with learning disabilities should also contact the University Disability Services Program at <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/disability/>. University Disability Services houses the Learning Effectiveness Program (LEP) and the Disability Services Program (DSP).

## OBSERVATION OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Students wishing to observe a religious holiday not celebrated on the academic calendar may do so provided advanced written notice is given the instructor during the first two weeks of the quarter. With advanced written notice, the absence will be considered an excused absence. For additional information, contact DU's Center for Religious Services <http://www.du.edu/crs/>

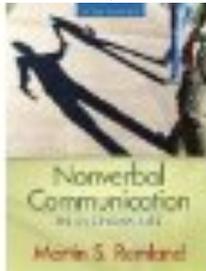
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## REQUIRED READINGS AND COURSE MATERIALS

The required text is available at the DU Bookstore or by online purchase via various Internet sites. Additional materials, if any, will be posted on Canvas and/or supplied by the instructor.

1. Remland, M. S. (2008). *Nonverbal communication in everyday life* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.).

Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.



(ISBN-13: 9780205582198 or ISBN-10: 0205582192,  
Paperback, 2008, Edition: 3<sup>rd</sup>)

2. Postings under *Course Documents* and/or *Course Media* on Canvas for each session, if any.

## **CLASS AND ASSIGNMENT CALENDAR**

**Before attending Session 1, read Chapters 1 & 2 in your textbook and look over the ENTIRE textbook to see what concepts particularly interest you, and if applicable, any other Course Documents and Course Media posted on Canvas associated with Session 1.**

<b>SESSION # AND TYPE</b>	<b>DATE/TIME</b>	<b>READINGS DUE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS DUE</b>
1 F2F	MARCH 24 6-9:50pm	Chapters 1 & 2	None
2 ONLINE	MARCH 31 6-9:50pm	Chapters 3 & 4	Nonverbal Multimedia Journal 1 <sup>st</sup> chapter & Concept Facilitation topic
3 F2F	APRIL 7 6-9:50pm	Chapters 5 & 6	Reflection A
4 ONLINE	APRIL 14 6-9:50pm	Chapters 7 & 8	Course Media Assignment 1
5 F2F	APRIL 21 6-9:50pm	Chapters 9 & 10	Concept Facilitation
6 ONLINE	APRIL 28 6-9:50pm	Chapter 11	Reflection B
7 F2F	MAY 5 6-9:50PM		Course Media Assignment 2 & Nonverbal Multimedia Journal 2 <sup>nd</sup> chapter