

**Northwest Arkansas Community College**  
**Standard Course Outline**

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**Comm 2503 Small Group Communication**

**Catalog Description:** The process of communication in small groups. Emphasis on problem-solving techniques, understanding leadership, group roles, and group process.

**Prerequisites:** No prerequisites required

**Credit/Load Hours:** 3 hours

**Target audience and transfer:** This course is intended for college students in a wide range of majors. It encourages critical thinking and application of material to and is beneficial in any career choice that includes teamwork skills, people skills, and organizational skills. Because this course deals with group work, conflict management, and decision making, it is information that most people, regardless of major, will find valuable. The course will transfer as an elective course. It is a required course for most degree programs in Communication

**General Objectives:**

- To familiarize students with basic small group communication theory
- To provide students with experience working in small groups
- To teach students the skills needed for decision making and conflict management
- To encourage students to do scholarly research and enhance writing skills
- To allow students to freely express opinions on course related subjects
- To direct student learning through lecture, videos, guest speakers, group discussions, direct experience, and reading assignments

**Text:** In Mixed Company: Small Group Communication, Fourth Edition by J. Dan Rothwell

**Topics Covered:** Communication Competence, Groups as Systems, Group Development, Roles and Leadership, Decision Making and Problem Solving, Managing Conflict

**Required instructional activities:**

1. One midterm exam
2. One final exam
3. A minimum of one analytical paper
4. A minimum of one graded group assignment

**Required forms of assessment:**

Small group communication is offered once per academic year. No assessment is conducted at this time.