

COMM 267: Gender and Communication

Fall 2014

Dr. Jenifer L. Lewis

Nazarbayev University

TEXTBOOK:

Wood, J. T. (2013). *Gendered lives: Communication, gender, and culture* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Wadsworth.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course is an examination of the interplay of communication and gender. We will first explore the interaction of gender and communication. Then, we will assess the influence of gender and communication in various contexts such as organizations, interpersonal relationships, and the media. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- identify and analyze the foundational theories related to gender and communication;
- apply the different theories to questions of gender and communication in their own cultural contexts;
- discuss the history of scholarship in the area of gender and communication and compare its relationship to issues within their culture;
- recognize the ways in which gender roles and identities are communicated in society, as well as in various contexts such as interpersonal relationships, organizations, and the media;
- recognize the complexities of difference that affect people's communication behaviors and others' perceptions of those communication behaviors;
- identify some of their own gendered practices and how those practices influence their perceptions and actions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Exams (40%). There will be two exams in the course: a midterm and a final (not cumulative). Each exam will be worth 20% of your final grade

2. Discussion Question (DQ) Responses (15%). You will have the opportunity to respond to at least one discussion question (on Moodle) for each chapter that we read. We will use your responses as discussion starters for class. Depth of thought and your ability to apply the textbook material to your experienced world are the key issues in your responses. Using written, visual, or media examples in your response is highly appreciated and provides us with valuable class discussion tools. You are required to respond to half of the discussion questions during the semester.

3. Final Project: Gender Study (30%). This project will be a cultural application of a previously published investigation about an issue related to Communication and Gender. You will replicate a gender study found in our textbook for the purpose of comparing the findings

from your culture to those of the original study. The final product will be a paper and a presentation describing your findings and comparing them to the original findings.

4. Participation (15%). This is a discussion-based class. Your participation will be noted in each class session. In addition to participation in the class discussions, we will have various in-class activities that will contribute toward your course participation grade. These activities cannot be made up if you are absent from class. Any homework that is assigned will also contribute toward your participation grade.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Week	Topic	Reading	Assignments Due
1	Introduction to class		
	What is Gender?	Syllabus	Policy on Originality of Student Work
2	Studying Gender Communication	Chapter 1	DQ 1
	Studying Gender Communication		
3	Theoretical Approaches to Gender Development	Chapter 2	DQ 2
	Theoretical Approaches to Gender Development		
4	Gender and Women's Social Movements	Chapter 3	DQ 3
	Gender and Men's Social Movements	Chapter 4	DQ 4
5	Gendered Verbal Communication	Chapter 5	DQ 5
	Gendered Verbal Communication		
6	Gendered Nonverbal Communication	Chapter 6	DQ 6
	Gendered Nonverbal Communication		
7	<i>Exam 1</i>		
	Becoming Gendered	Chapter 7	DQ 7
8	Gendered Close Relationships	Chapter 9	DQ 8
	Gendered Close Relationships		
9	Gendered Education: Communication in Schools	Chapter 8	DQ 9
	Gendered Education: Communication in Schools		
10	Gendered Organizational Communication	Chapter 10	DQ 10
	Gendered Organizational Communication		
11	Gendered Communication and Health		DQ 11
	Gendered Communication and Health		
12	Gendered Communication and Media	Chapter 11	DQ 12
	Gendered Communication and Media		

13	Gendered Power and Violence	Chapter 12	DQ 13
	Gendered Power and Violence		
14	Review/Catch-up Day		
	<i>Exam 2</i>		
15	Final Examination Week <i>Final Project Due</i>		