



COM 423 Emotions in Communication

Summer 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email:TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This is an advanced course exploring the nature of emotion within various aspects of human interaction and communication. Emphasizing the pivotal role emotions play in shaping and influencing communication contexts, the course will examine theory and research concerning the functions of affect and emotion, and their impact on thinking, feeling, mood, memory, and expression across a range of human social interaction settings.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Grasp key theories and models of emotion within the field of communication.
2. Explore the role of emotions in organizational communication, leadership, and decision-making.
3. Analyze and interpret research methodologies related to emotional communication.
4. Analyze the role of gender, ethnicity, and social norms in shaping emotional expression.
5. Develop emotional intelligence skills for effective communication in interpersonal relationships, groups, and organizational settings.

PREREQUISITES

N/A

GRADING



Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
3 Quizzes	15 Points
2 Short Papers	20 Points
Midterm	20 Points
Final Presentation	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Jennings Bryant, David R. Roskos-Ewoldsen, Joanne Cantor, *Communication and Emotion: Essays in Honor of Dolf Zillmann (Communication)*, Routledge, 2003.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p>Topics: Topic 1: Essential theories and concepts in communication and emotion Topic 2: Excitation-transfer theory and three-factor theory of emotion Topic 3: Disposition-based theories of enjoyment Topic 4: Mood management and selective exposure</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#1</p>



Module 2	<p>Topics: Topic 5: Entertainment theory Topic 6: Gender socialization of horror Topic 7: Exemplars in the news: a theory of the effects of political communication Topic 8: Rethinking empathy</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#2 Short Paper 1</p>
Module 3	<p>Topics: Topic 9: Empirical advances in media effects Topic 10: Media violence effects and interventions: the roles of communication and emotion Topic 11: Humor and learning Topic 12: The role of rhetorical questions in persuasion</p> <p>Assessments: Midterm</p>
Module 4	<p>Topics: Topic 13: Empirical advances in research on media entertainment Topic 14: humor and mirth Topic 15: Enjoyment and social functions of horror Topic 16: Enjoyment of violence</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#3 Short Paper 2</p>
Module 5	<p>Topics: Topic 17: Fitness and excitation Topic 18: Communication and emotion in the context of music television Topic 19: Theoretical advances and emerging perspectives Topic 20: Theory of affective dynamics: emotions and moods</p> <p>Assessments: Final Presentation Final Exam</p>

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow



University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.