University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
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General Syllabus

COMM 32043 Critical Listening

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: MCOM 22203 Communication Theory or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Basic theories of listening, including contextual, psychological, and logical bases and practice in listening for comprehension, analysis, and evaluation.

B. Additional Information

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Articulate listening process and models from contextual and psychological theories.
2. Evaluate and improve personal listening skills.
3. Identify effective attitudes of competent listening.
4. Recognize and employ effective visual and auditory cues for listening.
5. Identify and manage listening barriers.
6. Synthesize and employ a variety of listening skills from contextual, psychological, and logic theories.
7. Develop long- and short-term memory skills.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Communication Skills (written and oral)
Students will participate in group projects, make oral presentations, conduct basic oral and written critiques, complete research projects.

Ethical Decision Making
Students will recognize and evaluate implications of listening in a variety of situations.

III. Major Course Topics

A. Listening models
B. Behavioral approaches
C. Hearing, attention, and listening
D. Processes of understanding, memory, and interpretation
E. Critical listening
F. Comprehension
G. Memory paths
H. Evaluation and analysis
I. Responding
J. Gender and listening
K. Empathic listening
L. Discriminative listening
M. Appreciative listening
N. Transactional listening