Course Description/Purpose

This course studies the use and meaning of the language of body movement and gestures, facial expressions, eye contact, clothing, space, etc., as related to the communication process. This science attempts to correlate nonverbal behaviors with underlying conscious/unconscious feelings, attitudes, emotions, mood and state. Students will be provided with the knowledge of the psychological processes underlying nonverbal communication: learning and using communication in interpersonal relations. Applications to education, mental health, business, government, religion, speech and drama will also be covered. Effects of communication themes, techniques, symbols and formats on the thoughts, attitudes and personality of others.

Major Units

- Nonverbal Communication (henceforth NVC)
- Vocal Expression
- Actions
- NVC in Animals
- Different Gestures
- Office and Home
- Gaze Behavior
- Foundations of NVC
- Territorial Behavior
- Communicating through Space and Touch
- Status Displays
- Social Dimensions of Physical Appearance
- Proxemics
- Kinetics and Paralanguage
- Psychology of Clothing
- Time, Smell, and Internal States
- Language of Legs and Walking Behavior
- NVC in Social Situations
- Gender Signals
- NVC within Home and Family
- NVC in Different Settings
- The Basis of NVC
- Metasignals and Touching
- Research Designs for NVC

Educational/Course Outcomes

Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, journals, essays, papers, projects, laboratory/clinical exercises and examinations, presentations, simulations, portfolios, homework assignments, and instructor observations.

Cognitive Each student will be expected to Identify/Recognize . . .

- the various facts and scientific principles of nonverbal communication.
**Performance** Each student will be expected to *Demonstrate/Practice* . . .

- personal “Development of nonverbal communication within family from birth to present age” using text, instructor’s verbalizations and research;
- verbally describe/discuss/explain the concepts, terms, experiments in the nonverbal texts;
- “experiential” periods where course content is related to the student’s nonverbal behaviors for self-understanding and application to life;
- the skills necessary to conduct a psychological project related to different aspects of nonverbal communication. Literature on subject, methodology (designing the study), collecting data, analyzing and discussing results.

**Attitudinal** Each student will be expected to *Believe/Feel/Think* . . .

- and display verbal and psychological self-confidence;
- this is an overview, and further course work and research would be more helpful in satisfying their interest and curiosity of nonverbal behaviors and its influence on our personal and interpersonal interactions and relationships.