

**Course Outline**  
**SPCM 142**  
**Group Communication**  
**3 Semester Hours**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

Group Communication

Introduces the various types of small groups and how they communicate; provides experience in examining leadership, membership, organization, decision-making and problem-solving in various small group settings.

Prerequisite: (ENGL 052 or LVE 2) and (RDNG 052 or LVR 2). SPCM 101 or SPCM 102 or permission from department coordinator.

**Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. Identify and critically analyze several types of small communication groups;
2. Understand and apply tools for decision-making and problem-solving in a small group;
3. Understand the effects of interpersonal relations and perception on small group communication and apply effective interpersonal techniques in small group process;
4. Understand group leadership theories and function as an effective group leader;
5. Understand the responsibilities of group membership and operate as an effective group member.
6. Understand and apply knowledge of conflict styles and methods of conflict resolution.

**Major Topics**

- Health communication groups
- Family communication groups
- Work communication groups
- Special interest communication groups
- Problem-solving techniques
- Leadership theories
- Functional and dysfunctional group members
- The role of interpersonal relations and perception in small groups
- Conflict resolution

## **Course Requirements**

- One analysis report of a non-classroom small group (work, health, family, special-interest)
- Participation in at least two researched and organized small groups (one as a leader, one as a group member)
- Journal of group leadership and membership activities during the course
- At least two written exams