COURSE PURPOSE: Nonverbal variables of communication include gestures, environment, touch, proxemics, paralanguage, facial expressions, eye behavior, clothing, appearance, time, smell and taste. The impact of these variables will be explored through theory, research and application.

GOALS: (1) awareness of the role nonverbal communication plays in the communication process; (2) working knowledge of nonverbal theory and research; (3) development of behavioral research skills through class exercises and research project; and (4) awareness of the impact of both gender and culture on nonverbal communication.

TEXT: Knapp, M.L. and Hall, J.A. Nonverbal Communication in Human Interaction, 8th Ed.

Additional Readings and Handouts will be distributed.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Exam #1: 25%
Exam #2: 25%
Final Exam: 25%
Quizzes: 10%
Research Presentation: 15%
There will be three EXAMS covering readings, lectures, handouts, and class discussions. These are worth 75% of your grade. Missed exams must be made up within a week at Career Services (and testing) located on the second floor of Crooker Center. You may call for an appointment at (713) 525-3160. Please do not abuse the use of the testing center.

Research Presentation: This power point presentation should be approximately 10-12 minutes in length. Thoroughness of your research, the creativity of your research question, the degree of insight you bring to your topic and presentational effectiveness will be criteria for grading. These presentations will be given in class during the final three weeks of the semester. Undergraduates can work with a partner. There are two possible options for the research presentation:

(A): Literature review and observational study: Summarize a body of literature in one of the many areas of nonverbal communication (e.g. deception, kinesics, territory, etc.) From that body of literature create a research question, a hypothesis, an observational study to test your hypothesis and a discussion section analyzing your results.

(B): Literature review and media case study. Choose an area of research (e.g. nonverbal indicators of deception, eye contact or paralinguistic cues in political speeches, etc.) and summarize the findings in detail. Apply that research to a media event, television program, political campaign commercial or speech, or film. Demonstrate how the nonverbal cues in question illuminated your understanding of the media event or artifact.

Quizzes: There will be three quizzes over the reading materials spaced throughout the semester and noted on your syllabus.

ATTENDANCE AND ACADEMIC HONESTY ARE EXPECTED!

GRADUATE STUDENT ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

(1) For every exam, extra essays will be required showing advanced synthesis of theory and research.

(2) Graduate students must complete Option A of the Presentation Requirement. Your presentation should be 13-15 minutes in length.

SCHEDULE:
1/12 - Overview
1/14 - Foundations (Ch. 1)
1/19 - MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY
1/21 - Foundations continued; work on Roots exercise
1/26 - Roots (Ch. 2)
1/28 - Environment (Chapter 4)
2/2 - QUIZ #1 (Ch. 1 & 2); Research Methods (Handouts) and Presentation discussion
2/4 - Territory & Personal Space (Ch. 5)
2/9 - Territory & Space continued; Review for Exam #1
2/11 - MUSEUM (DEMENIL) EXERCISE
2/16 - EXAM #1 (CHS. 1, 2, 4, 5 AND RESEARCH METHODS)
2/18 - Physical Appearance & Clothing (Ch. 6)
2/23 - Gestures & Posture (Ch. 7)
2/25 - Gestures & Posture continued
3/2 - QUIZ #2 (CHS. 6 & 7); Touch (Ch. 8)
3/4 - Touch continued; Facial Expressions (Ch. 9)
3/9 - SPRING BREAK
3/11 - SPRING BREAK
3/16 - Facial Expressions (Ch. 9) continued; Eye Behavior (Ch. 10)
3/18 - Review for Exam #2; Eye Behavior (Ch. 10) continued
3/23 - EXAM #2 (CHS. 6, 7, 8, 9)
3/25 - Paralanguage (Ch. 11)
3/30 - Nonverbal Behavior in Daily Interaction (Ch. 12)
4/1 - QUIZ #3 (CHS. 9 & 10); Nonverbal Behavior in Special Contexts (Ch. 13)
4/6 - Ability to Send and Receive Messages (Ch. 3); Work on Research Presentations
4/8 - Work on Research Presentations
4/13 - RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
4/15 - RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
4/20 - RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
4/22 - RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
4/27 - RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
4/29 - REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM
5/13 - FINAL EXAM (3:00-5:30 PM)

NOTE: Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact me after class or during office hours. Additionally, students will need to contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at (713) 525-2169 or 6953.