



COURSE OUTLINE: DSS307 - AUG. COMMUNICATION

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Approved: Bob Chapman, Dean, Health

Course Code: Title	DSS307: AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION
Program Number: Name	3070: PER/DEV SUPPORT SERV
Department:	PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKER
Academic Year:	2024-2025
Course Description:	This course will introduce students to the field of communication and specifically augmentative communication. Students will learn how to: understand, analyze, synthesize and evaluate variables which affect the individuals who communicate using complex methods or assistive technology.
Total Credits:	2
Hours/Week:	2
Total Hours:	28
Prerequisites:	DSS300, DSS301, DSS302, DSS303, DSS304
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	3070 - PER/DEV SUPPORT SERV
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 2 Conduct oneself in an ethical, competent and accountable manner in all professional relationships. VLO 3 Provide person-directed and centred support that is sensitive to diverse values, cultures, beliefs and needs to promote client self-motivation and self-integration while maintaining privacy and confidentiality.
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience. EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication. EES 4 Apply a systematic approach to solve problems. EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems. EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems. EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources. EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others. EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals. EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.
Course Evaluation:	Passing Grade: 50%, D



A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.

Books and Required Resources:

Developmental Disabilities in Ontario by Brown
 Publisher: Ontario Association on Developmental Disabilities Edition: 4th
 ISBN: 9781777163709

Technological device (iPad, iPhone, Laptop, Android, etc.)

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
Understand the characteristics of persons with complex communication needs	1.1 Describe communication and the basic components of communication including social skills, receptive and expressive language, speech production and literacy skills. 1.2 Describe the communication characteristics of persons who have complex communication needs including autism, intellectual, physical or multiple disabilities 1.3 Understand the impact of developmental and acquired disabilities on functional communication across a variety of contexts 1.4 Recognize populations for whom augmentative communication may be of benefit
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
Develop a knowledge of evidence-based strategies for promoting communication skills	2.1 Understand and use communication programs and strategies for persons with complex communication needs and developmental disability that reflect evidence-based instructional strategies 2.2 Demonstrate understanding of implementation of functional communication within natural routines across settings, team members, and communication partners
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
Demonstrate awareness of high-tech, mid-tech, low-tech, and no-tech augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) options	3.1 Describe the relationship between AAC, language, and communication 3.2 Describe features of augmentative and AAC devices/systems 3.3 Explore, evaluate, and use assistive technology resources including applications, tools, educational software
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
Define self-advocacy and discuss its relevance to augmentative communication	4.1 Describe roles of communication for an individual's growth and participation 4.2 Reflect on the unique nature of an individual's situation and abilities

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
AAC Assignment	10%
Augmentative Communication Final Quiz	20%

	Complex Communication Needs Presentation	20%
	Participation in Class Discussions	15%
	Reflections (4 at 5%)	20%
	What is Communication? Quiz	15%

Date: December 5, 2024

Addendum: Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.