

NR 5884 Communication and Influence
Offered: Spring Semester

INSTRUCTOR: Emily Talley, BA, MA, MNR emtalley@vt.edu

REQUIRED TEXT:

Becker, E. F., and J. Wortmann. 2009. *Mastering Communication at Work: How to Lead, Management, and Influence* (\$17.50 hardcover, \$12.99 ebook). ISBN: 978-0071625029

Ellis, R. 2009. *Communication Skills: Stepladders to Success for the Professional, 2nd Edition* (\$26.42 paperback, \$20 ebook). ISBN: 978-1841502496

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Communication is a discipline that's important for every field and function, but it's particularly critical for sustainability professionals, who work with countless stakeholders across a variety of sectors. This course introduces the field of environmental communication, including historical contexts, public participation, media, risk communication, and conflict management. Students will also explore their own communication strengths and opportunities, through the lenses of personal awareness, interpersonal connection, building trust, influence and persuasion, framing a message, and creating a shared context and vision. Individual consultation and career coaching will be offered by the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Students will have a great deal of ownership in addressing the scope of assignments to best meet their professional development needs

Student profile:	5%
Reflections (5 x 50 pts):	25%
Self-Assessments (2 x 40 pts)	8%
Instructor Consultations (3 x 40 pts)	12%
Deeper Dive Study	20%
Final Project	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

SCHEDULE:

Module I	Emotional Intelligence and Self-Awareness
Module II	Interpersonal and Group Communication
Module III	Public Speaking and Presentations
Module IV	Influence, Conflict Management, and Negotiation
Module V	Deeper Dive on Student Selected Topic(s)