

Communication and Conflict: Navigating Difficult People and Difficult Conversations

Session Details

Faculty:	Dr. Jarrod Atchison	Date:	Wednesday, July 22, 2020
Location:	Las Colinas Country Club 4400 North O'Connor Road, Irving, TX 75062	Sign In:	8:30 AM
Phone:	(972) 541-1141	Session:	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Session Description

Do you struggle with problem employees that challenge you at every turn? Does it seem like these people enjoy "debating" you more than contributing to the goals of your organization? Have you ever had a proposal flounder simply because the room was resistant to change? Many communication experts focus on interpersonal communication techniques to help resolve these difficult situations. Dr. Jarrod Atchison, known for his Great Courses series on The Art of Debate, takes a different approach that focuses on preventing and resolving conflict through learning the theory and practice of argumentation.

Biography

Dr. Jarrod Atchison is the director of debate and an associate professor in the Communication Department at Wake Forest University. The Wake Forest University debate team dates back to 1835 and has won multiple national championships. As an undergraduate debater, Dr. Atchison was Presidential Scholar in Debate who was ranked the second overall team in the nation and the third overall individual speaker at the 2001 National Debate Tournament. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia where he helped coach the 2007 Rex Copeland Award winners which is awarded to the top ranked debate team in the nation headed into the National Debate Tournament. Participants may have seen Dr. Atchison's teaching in action through his course, The Art of Debate, which was produced and is distributed through the Great Courses. Dr. Atchison has published extensively on the study of argumentation and rhetoric. He is the 2015 recipient of the George Ziegelmüller Award, which is a lifetime achievement award from the Board of Trustees of the National Debate Tournament. Dr. Atchison has also been nominated twice for the Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching at Wake Forest University. Beyond the classroom, Dr. Atchison is a consultant for Speech Labs specializing in executive communication and organizational decision-making.

Time Allocation - Topics

10% What is Debate and How can we Use it?

- When should managers consider utilizing debate?

40% Argumentation as Inquiry

- What is the structure of an argument?
- How do we evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of an argument?
- How can we use debate to improve decision-making?

40% Argumentation as Advocacy

- What are the key techniques for winning an argument?
- What are the pitfalls associated with poor debating?
- How do we prepare for Spontaneous Argument Environments (SPE)?

10% How do we win the debate without losing the war?

- What is the role of saving face in management settings?

FOR REGISTRATIONS PLEASE CONTACT: **Mike Godwin**
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