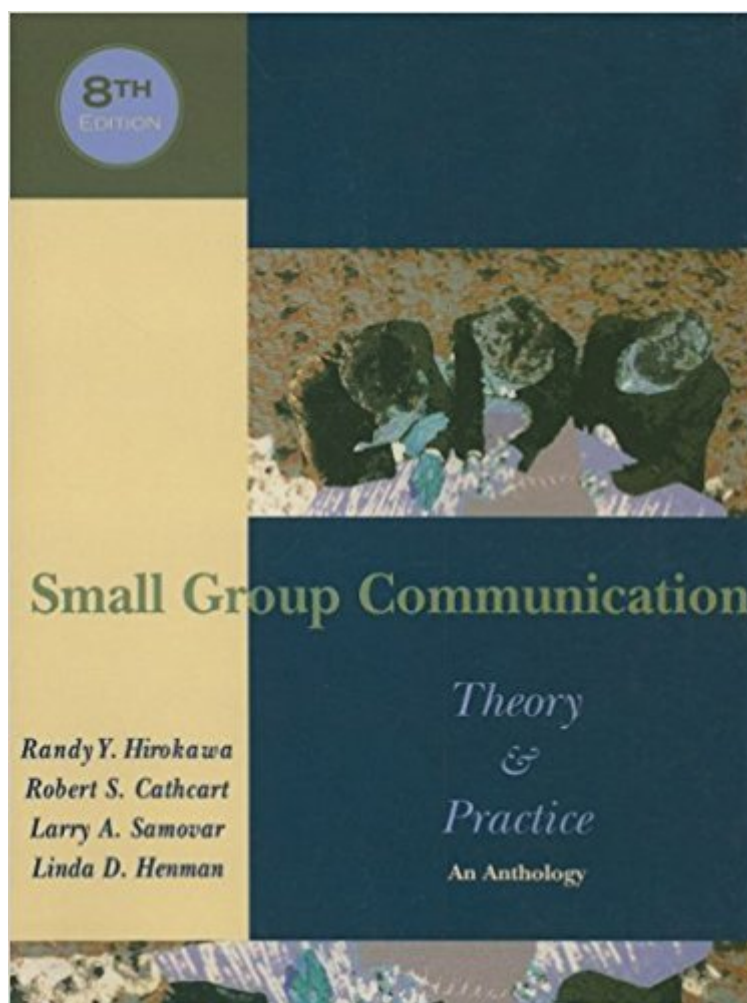


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# Small Group Communication: Theory & Practice: An Anthology



## Synopsis

The eighth edition of *Small Group Communication: Theory and Practice* presents a collection of readings from the most well-known researchers and practitioners in the field. This comprehensive anthology spans a broad range of topics in communication theory, research, and practice. These include contemporary views of small groups, theories of group communication, group development and organization, group communication processes, group and team performance, group leadership, culture and diversity in groups, and methods for analyzing group communication. New to the Eighth Edition: New lead coeditor Randy Hirokawa (University of Iowa) brings a strong background in small group communication to the new edition, which features fourteen new and three updated chapters. New topics include:\*

- \* The bona fide group perspective\*
- \* The functional perspective\*
- \* Symbolic convergence theory\*
- \* Multiple sequence models of group development\*
- \* Virtual group communication\*
- \* New communication technologies\*
- \* Social influence processes in groups\*
- \* Counteractive influence and group leadership\*
- \* Characteristics of effective health care teams\*
- \* Sex, gender, and communication in groups\*
- \* Narrative analysis of group communication\*
- \* Methods for evaluating group communication

In addition, two new sections have been added: "Theories of Group Communication" and "Observing Group Communication," with three new chapters in each section. Thought-provoking introductions to each section provide internal cohesiveness and structure to the book. Importantly, each reading offers its own individual introduction, which alerts readers to key points and integrates the selection into the larger themes of the section. These introductions serve as a "road map" as students travel through the ongoing intellectual developments, diverse views, and continuing debates that make the study of small group communication an exciting adventure.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The editors have done a good job of updating the volume while at the same time retaining the best essays from earlier editions. The eighth edition is a balanced and coherent set of readings that will give students an excellent overall perspective on group communication."--Dennis S. Gouran, Pennsylvania State University

Randy Y. Hirokawa is at University of Iowa. Robert S. Cathcart is at Queens College of the City University of New York (Emeritus). Larry A. Samovar is at San Diego State University.

Excellent digestible articles for small group communication

I was very happy with the condition of the book I purchased. I got it in a timely manner and it was the best deal I found on a book.

In the popular 1980s movie *Back to the Future*, the main characters go into the past to save the future. The Eighth Edition of *Small Group Communication* likewise draws on previous editions to produce a cutting-edge reader that should sustain the intellectual needs and pique the interest of today's students. As in the past, this anthology was to serve as a general reader. Therefore, the editors have included materials that are broadly based and comprehensive. They avoided advocating any one particular theory or methodological approach to studying small group communication, preferring instead to give the reader a balanced sampling of the diverse philosophies and concepts that constitute the fascinating study of small group communication. This edition continues a long-standing tradition of providing students with the most current thinking from the top scholars in the field of small group communication. Carry-over selections from previous editions have been updated, and a number of new readings have been added to make this anthology as up-to-date as possible. What has not changed in this edition is the philosophy on how this book is put together. Group communication is a social activity with consequential outcomes. In other words, communication makes a difference in small groups. The reader will note that all selections focus on the link between communication and its group outcomes. The Eighth Edition presents an organizational structure that departs from the "mini-textbook" format of the previous

edition. Here, the readings are organized into eight parts. Part I, The Nature of Groups, presents three chapters introducing students to the definitions and characteristics of small groups. Part II, Theories of Small Group Communication, provides three chapters that elaborate on major theories of group communication. Part III, Organization of Groups, contains two chapters that discuss how groups and their communication develop and change over time. Part IV, Group Processes, has three chapters that present different aspects of group communication processes as they are exhibited in small groups. Part V, Groups and Teams, includes four chapters that focus on communication and performance in various kinds of groups and teams. Part VI, Leadership in Groups, provides three chapters that review major concepts and theories relevant to an understanding of small group leadership. Part VII, Diversity in Groups, features three chapters focusing on diversity and intercultural issues related to small groups. Part VIII, Analyzing Group Communication, consists of three chapters that elaborate on different methodological approaches to analyzing and studying communication processes in small groups. The Editors begin each part with a short introduction explaining the importance of the area and topics covered.

The book sometimes turn boring, but always it is instructive and full of knowledge.

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