



Fall 2012

Comm 2: Interpersonal Communication

Instructor: Nicholas Barrett

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Course #: 52694

Room: Portable Classroom Room 2 (8/13-12/14/12)

Monday & Wednesday 3:30-4:45pm

Units: 3 units, 1 hr. 15 min

Drop Deadline: 10/12/2012

**Required Materials:**

I. Adler, R. B. & Proctor II R.F. (2011). Looking out looking in. (13<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston, MA. Wadsworth.

II. Scantron 882-E (2).

**Course Description:**

Interpersonal communication is designed to increase understanding and implementation of effective interpersonal communication behaviors and skills. This course will examine basic practical everyday communicative interaction; behavioral aspects of interpersonal communication, self-concept, perception, listening, non-verbal communication, conflict, language, gender and cultural differences. Students will engage in both group communication and the development of oral presentations. Throughout the semester students will examine basic verbal and nonverbal elements which effect communication between individuals in family, peer groups and work contexts. This course requires participation in activities designed to develop interpersonal communication skills. Interpersonal communication introduces students to the complex interaction of social and psychological forces operating in human communication. The course consists of both theory and application allowing students the opportunity to critically evaluate the intricacies of interpersonal relationships and the communication issues surrounding human interaction in various contexts.

**Course Objectives:**

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with other students in the completion of specific projects.
2. Explore at least one area of interpersonal communication in depth.
3. Evaluate various communication situations for effectiveness.
4. Evaluate interpersonal communication patterns.
5. Read and discuss summaries of the research related to interpersonal communication effectiveness.
6. Develop skill in extemporaneous speaking; students will present a minimum of three speeches in front of an audience.
7. Explore interpersonal conflict management strategies.
8. Listen to others effectively, attending to both factual and emotional information while providing appropriate feedback.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and apply effective communication strategies within the context of various relationships.
2. Construct and deliver dynamic and competent presentations that are adapted to the purpose and audience.
3. Utilize research materials that incorporate sufficient, credible, and relevant evidence.
4. Choose appropriate organizational patterns.
5. Analyze the effectiveness of communication through constructive critique.

**Attendance:**

Unexcused absences in excess of two (2) class sessions will result in the inability to obtain maximum participation points (see **Participation** below). Absences for serious and compelling reasons will be excused with documentation from a legitimate authority (i.e. illnesses with a doctor's note—if you do not go to the doctor, it is *not* an excused absence). State Center Community College District requires that attendance be taken for each class. Arriving late to class and/or leaving early is unacceptable. Absences in excess of two (2) class sessions will be deemed a 5-point penalty per absence.

**Participation:**

This is an interactive class and your participation is vital to the classroom environment. Students are expected to attend class each day and be prepared to discuss ideas and opinions relevant to interpersonal communication. Furthermore, students are expected to interact with their classmates during each class session in order to complete both in-class and out-of-class assignments. Please come to class ready to engage the material and classroom activities.

**Assignments/Speeches (All written work):**

All written assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class period. All written assignments must adhere to APA or MLA guidelines—unless otherwise stated—typed in Times New Roman 12 point font, double spaced and stapled; late and handwritten assignments will not be accepted. This class fulfills the oral component for a general education course, as such, participation in all presentations is necessary for successful completion of this course. Assigned readings are to be completed by the assigned date—see below.

**Group Presentation:**

There will be a group presentation in which all members are required to speak. Students who are absent the day of their group presentation will receive a zero (0) on the assignment—the group must present on their scheduled day regardless of an absent member. Upon completion, each student will create a performance evaluation of the other group members.

**Term Paper:**

In this paper the student shall demonstrate their ability to research and organize information in order to apply it in an interpersonal relationship. Papers must be typed in either APA or MLA format. The paper must be six (6) pages including the cover and reference pages—cover (1), written text (4), and reference (1). Late or e-mailed papers will not be accepted. Plan ahead and be responsible for your work.

**Examinations:**

There will be two (2) examinations and five (5) pop-quizzes consisting of true/false, matching, and/or multiple choice questions.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Student Rights:**

So that students are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities they are encouraged to become familiar with the “Campus Policies” section of the Schedule of Courses. This material includes information regarding cheating and plagiarism, disruptive classroom behavior, and other instructional issues. Students with disabilities should identify themselves so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the State Center Community College District. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the “Academic Dishonesty Policy” below.

**Classroom Deportment:**

Students are expected to be polite and courteous to both the instructor and fellow classmates. Students will refrain from speaking during presentations, or be asked to leave the classroom. On presentation days, students may not enter/leave the room while a student is speaking—violation will result in a 10% reduction on your own speech grade. Texting and the use of cell phones are strictly prohibited.

**Grading Scale:**

**Score:**

Self-Concept Assignment: 150		
i. Presentation -100	_____	
ii. Outline -30	_____	
iii. Reflection -20	_____	
Dyad Interaction Assignment: 150		
i. Ceremonial Speech -50	_____	
ii. Outline -20	_____	
iii. Interaction -50	_____	
iv. Reflection -30	_____	
Group Assignment: 200		
i. Individual -100	_____	
ii. Group -50	_____	
iii. Individual outline -20	_____	
iv. Peer Evaluation -30	_____	
Term Paper: 50	_____	
Participation: 50	_____	
Pop Quiz (5): 50	_____	
Midterm: 50	_____	
Final: 50	_____	
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 750		

**Point Distribution:**

<b>675-750</b>	<b>=A</b>
<b>600-674</b>	<b>=B</b>
<b>525-599</b>	<b>=C</b>
<b>450-524</b>	<b>=D</b>
<b>000-449</b>	<b>=F</b>

The instructor reserves the right to increase points for students who are on the margin; this may be done on the basis of attitude and participation throughout the semester and is solely at the discretion of the instructor.

## Communication 2 – Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Required Reading (Chapter)</b>
8/13 8/15	<b>Course Introduction</b> (Discuss Self Concept Presentations)	
8/20 8/22	A First Look at Interpersonal Communication (Cont.)	<b>1</b>
8/27 8/29	Communication & Identity: Creating and Presenting the Self (Cont.)	<b>2</b>
9/3 9/5	<b>LABOR DAY (NO CLASS)</b> <b>Self-Concept Presentations</b>	<b>(Turn in outline)</b>
9/10 9/12	<b>Self-Concept Presentations</b> <b>Self-Concept Presentations</b>	
9/17 9/19	Perception: What You See is What You Get (Cont.)	<b>3</b>
9/24 9/26	Language: Barrier & Bridge (Discuss Group Presentations)	<b>5</b>
10/1 10/3	Movie (TBA) Finish Movie/Discuss Term Paper	
10/8 10/10	Midterm Review <b>MIDTERM</b>	
10/15 10/17	Communication and Relational Dynamics (Cont.)	<b>8</b>
10/22 10/24	Improving Communication Climates (Cont.)	<b>10</b>
10/29 10/31	<b>Group Movie Presentations</b> <b>Group Movie Presentations</b>	<b>(Turn in outline)</b>
11/5 11/7	<b>Group Movie Presentations</b> <b>Group Movie Presentations</b>	
11/12 11/14	<b>VETERAN'S DAY (NO CLASS)</b> Managing Conflict	<b>11</b>
11/19 11/21	Managing Conflict (Cont.) Dyad Partner In-Class Meeting	<b>Term Paper Due</b>
11/26 11/28	<b>Dyad Presentations</b> <b>Dyad Presentations</b>	<b>(Turn in outline)</b>
12/3 12/5	<b>Dyad Presentations</b> (Final Review & Course Wrap-up)	
	<b>FINAL</b>	

**The schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor – it is the responsibility of the student to check on announcements made during any absence.**

**STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY**

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the State Center Community College District. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the college's educational and social role in the community.

**CHEATING** – Cheating is the act of deception by which a student misleadingly demonstrates that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Examples include but are not limited to:

- a. Copying or allowing another to copy a test, paper, project, or performance.
- b. Using unauthorized materials during a test, for example, notes, formula lists, or “cheat sheets.”
- c. Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone to take a test for you.

**PLAGIARISM** – Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own without giving credit. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- a. Incorporating the ideas of words of another's work without giving appropriate credit.
- b. Representing another's artistic or scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, etc., as one's own.

**DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES** – When a faculty member discovers a violation of the cheating or plagiarism policy, the faculty member:

- a. Will arrange a conference with the student and at that time advise the student of the allegations.
- b. Will notify the dean of the division in writing that an act of dishonesty has occurred.
- c. May give the student an F for the assignment and/or for the course

A student may appeal the faculty member's action to the Academic Standards Committee