Communication 2

**INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (#51426)**

Spring 2016

Reedley College

**Instructor:** Helen Chavez, M.A.

**Email:** [helen.chavez@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:helen.chavez@reedleycollege.edu)

**Classroom: SOC-36**

**Days/Time: Wednesday Night from 6:00-8:50 pm**

**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 will be emphasized. Students will engage in both group communication and the development of oral presentations. Throughout the semester the course will examine basic verbal and nonverbal elements effecting 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 is designed with a dual approach consisting of both theory and application that allows students opportunities 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 patters.
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.

**Course Advisory**

It is recommended that you be eligible to take English 1A (already completed English 125) at the time you take this course. By doing so, it will make this course easier for you.

**E-MAIL POLICY**

Student emails are answered Sunday afternoons/evenings and please know that I am happy to answer questions and review assignments via email. When emailing me, please let me know who you are (Helen Chavez) and the course name, date and time (COMM 2, Wednesday Night).

**CANCELED CLASS NOTIFICATION**

Seldom do I cancel class, but it is a good idea to check your student email right before coming to class because I will try to send a message using Bb if I need to be absent. I will also notify the college so that a notice will be posted on the classroom door.

**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 identify yourself to the college’s Disable Students Services and to your instructor(s) so reasonable accommodation for learning and evaluation within the course can be made.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (plagiarism and cheating)**

So that students are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities, students are encouraged to become familiar with the college’s policies regarding student conduct in classes including cheating and plagiarism, disruptive classroom behavior, and other instructional issues located in the college catalogue and the schedule of courses. Any act of plagiarism or cheating may result in a zero on any and all assignments and/or may result in failing the course. Stating that you did not know what plagiarism/cheating is will NOT be an excuse.

**CLASSROOM DEPORTMENT**

Students are expected to be polite and courteous to both the instructor and fellow classmates. Students will refrain from speaking during presentations, using cell phones, or engaging in private conversations when others are lecturing or presenting. Also, on presentation days, students may not enter/leave the room while a student is speaking. Violations will result in a deduction of points taken off the total grade distribution at the instructor’s discretion. In other words, points will be deducted from the 1000 points and/or you will be asked to leave the classroom.

**DROP DATE and DROP POLICY**

Be advised that after the drop date (end of 9th week for semester-length class) you will be issued a letter grade “A” through “F” if you are still enrolled in class. It is *your responsibility to drop* the course, it is *NOT MINE*! However, I may drop you from the course if you miss more than three nonconsecutive days/nights of class.

**ATTENDANCE**

Read the *PARTICIPATION* section for details on page 4.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away before class. Each time I see/hear your phone or electronics, you will lose points per offense. At the instructor’s discretion, points will be taken off the total grade distribution. In other words, points will be deducted from 1000 points every time you take out your phone, earplugs, or whatever. No exceptions, No warnings.

**MAKEUPS, LATE WORK, EXTRA CREDIT, ETC.**

I accept hard copies and Bb uploads. I will NOT accept any emailed or handwritten papers.

I do NOT accept late work and I do NOT offer extra credit points.

**FYI**

It is your responsibility to monitor your progress in this class, and to know when class assignments are due. I am capable of making mistakes, so you need to be aware of dates, times, grade points, etc. Let me know of any errors and problems that might arise so keep a watchful eye on Bb. If I fail to mark down your points or incorrectly marked down your points on Bb, you must show me the graded assignment if you want me to make any corrections. Therefore, keep every graded assignment that is returned to you as proof of your status in class at least until you receive your final grade at the end of the semester. No proof, no points.

Also, I cannot and will not re-teach a lesson. My PowerPoint presentations are for students who come to class and take notes. Students who are not in class will have to rely on the textbook and/or notes from a classmate. Also, you are NOT allowed to take photos of my Power Point Presentations and I will NOT email them to students!

*Additional class rules, policies, conditions, assignment details, etc. will be stated in class during the course of the semester.*

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Adler, Ronald B., and Russell F. Proctor II. Looking Out Looking In. 15th ed. Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2014.

**Assignments**

*Assignments* *Points*

1. Persuasive Projects:
2. Cultural Artifact Assignment 50
3. Concept Article Assignment 100
4. TV/Movie Assignment 150
5. Children’s Literature Assignment 200
6. Chapter Summaries 200
7. In-Class Assignments 150
8. Participation 75
9. Personal Narratives 75

*Total Points* *1000*

**Assignment Details**

1. Persuasive Projects

The class lectures are presented in three parts. The first part explores “Self”in interpersonal communication. The second part explores “Messages”, and the last part explores “Relationships”. You will present four persuasive projects to the class that will examine each of these parts either in singularity or in combination.

Projects must be given on the day/night scheduled. No late presentations will be possible. The other group members must still present even if missing a member or two. Individuals missing a project presentation could receive zero points for the assignment regardless of the reason (excused or unexcused by the instructor). There is simply no way to make up the assignments.

1. *Cultural Artifact Assignment and Outline*

You will examine your culture and explain the following in front of the class: how important your artifact is in describing who you are, how it symbolizes your culture and what significance it has in your culture. On the date the assignment is due, please bring your cultural artifact to class and present your typed outline to the instructor. Be prepared to discuss (not read) the three main points. The time requirement for the discussion should be no longer than 3 minutes.

1. *Concept Article Assignment and Outline*

You will research one (1) interpersonal concept from the textbook along with a variable. You will be required to use the college’s library databases and summarize your finding in a 3 minute speech. Again, be prepared to discuss (not read) your findings and to turn in your outline on the day/night you are scheduled to present.

1. *TV/Movie Assignment and Outline*

Groups of two to three individuals will develop an analysis of messages in interpersonal communication between characters in a movie, TV program, song or skit. Each group will have 10 minutes to present its analysis to the class. Please keep the presentation of the scenes to a minimum of 3 minutes; the analysis is what is being graded. A typed outline will be handed in at the time of the presentation. Keep everything decent!

1. *Children’s Literature Assignment and Outline*

Groups of two to three individuals will develop an analysis of a mass-marketed children’s book. Again, groups will analyze the messages in interpersonal communication between characters in a book and will present your findings in your speech. Each group will have 10 minutes to present its analysis to the class, and a typed outline will be due at the time of the presentation.

1. Chapter Summaries (in lieu of tests!)

All the details for this assignment is on Blackboard, and you will turn-in these assignments on Bb. If you are unable to use Bb, talk with me so we can make arrangements.

1. In-Class Assignments

You will be asked to complete in-class assignments during lectures. In order to complete these assignments, you must attend class. These assignments cannot be made-up for any reason even if I excused your absence in advance. Points deducted for each *In-Class Assignment* will be determined by the instructor. In other words, some assignments will be worth more points than others.

1. Participation

Participation involves attending prep days/nights and projects. Each student is expected to be on time and stay/be engaged the entire time. Understand that two (2) tardies or leaving early two (2) times (or a combination of the two) equals one (1) absence. If you come in late, be sure to check in with me after class so you will not be marked absent otherwise you will lose points

1. Personal Narratives

Your Personal Narratives are due the night of the final. In front of the class, you will present one narrative for each chapter (12 in total). You may write down your narratives on a piece of paper but I will NOT collect these papers. The length of these narratives is not important. I am grading for substance.

What are Personal Narratives? They are your real-life experiences. They are your stories. Read the textbook and replace the textbook’s examples with your own, personal examples or narratives. Be ready to share with the class.

**Grade Distribution:**

I give numerical scores to all work you do. I do not give letter grades on any assignment. There are 1000 points possible for the semester. Your points are added at the end of the semester to determine your grade. I strictly adhere to the below *Grading Scale*; however, I (the instructor) reserve the right to adjust a student’s final points/grade; for example, I can change your 899 points to 900 points.

**TOTAL POINTS: 1000**

***Points* *Grade***

**1000-900 A**

**899-800 B**

**799-700 C**

**699-600 D**

**599-0 F**

**Tentative Schedule (Could Be Changed!)**

***Wednesday Night***

January 13th

Introduction to the Class

January 20th

Interpersonal Communication

Cultural Artifact Discussion

January 27th

Self

Perception

February 03rd

**Cultural Artifact Assignment and Outline Due**

February 10th

Language Communication

Nonverbal Communication

February 17th

Concept Article Discussion (Field Trip to RC Library-MAYBE)

Listening

February 24th

Relationships

March 02nd

Family, Friends and Lovers

March 09th

Climates (Student Lecture-bring your textbook)

Conflicts (Student Lecture-bring your textbook)

Last Week to drop a full-term class (find out if this is correct!). Letter grade given after this week.

March 16th

Lecture Review: In-Class Movie Assignment (your class notes are needed)

March 23rd

Spring Recess, No Classes but Campus Open

March 30th

**Concept Article Assignment and Outline Due**

April 06th

TV/Movie Discussion/Prep Night Assign Groups and Members

April 13th

Prep Night

April 20th

**TV/Movie Assignment and Outline Due**

April 27th

Children’s Literature Discussion/Prep Night

May 04th

Prep Night

May 11th

**Children’s Literature Assignment and Outline Due**

***(W) MAY18TH***

***Final 6:00-8:00pm***

***Personal Narratives: You will present your twelve narratives in front of the class***

***Required to attend final!***

GOODBYE AND ALL THE BEST ☺