

Interpersonal Communication

Instructor: Terri Main

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Textbook: Devito The Interpersonal Communication Book

Course Web Page: <http://members.tripod.com/speechone/index.html>

This Course can Change Your Life!

I know that sounds like a pretty bold statement. It is. Nearly every year I have someone come and tell me that something they learned in interpersonal communication class has made a significant difference in their relationships with others, in their careers, in their marriages and family relations. It's one of the few classes I've taught where I can say that.

In this class you will learn about the principles of effective communication in an interpersonal setting, you will learn how self concept, automatic thoughts and perceptions can affect communication and ultimately relationships. You will learn about social anxiety and shyness and how to overcome both. You will also learn about managing relationships including friendships, family, love and work relationships. You will also grapple with questions of ethics and learn to take control of your most powerful asset - Communication.

This is all day to day stuff. You don't have to wait until you graduate to put it to work. You can do that today. So, let's get started by checking out the ordinary syllabus stuff.

Grading

Book Review -- 100 points (Due September 15)

Midterm -- 100 Points

Final -- 100 Points (Due December 16)

Group Project 100 Points (Due December 2)

Term Paper - 200 Points (Due November 25)

Oral Report - 100 Points (Due December 16)

(Note all dates are tentative and subject to change)

A=630-700 points

B=560-629 points

C=490-559 points

D=4200-489 points

Speech 2
drop deadline

F=0-420 points

Attendance

Yes, I want you to attend class. I will give your three free unexcused absences to use any way you want. After that, every unexcused absence loses you five points. If you miss on a day when you are scheduled to speak, that absence is worth 10 points deducted from your grade.

Valid Excuses:

- 1. Death in the family. (And remember I can count. I'll allow two grandmothers, after that I get suspicious)**
- 2. Personal illness. (And if it's contagious, just call, don't come to class to tell me in person.)**
- 3. Auto accidents, car troubles, etc. (But please if you have an accident a week, you might consider walking to school.)**
- 4. Family emergencies. (If you have more than three children, let me know so I can determine the full extent of the epidemic)**
- 5. Giving Birth. (No comment necessary)**

Invalid Excuses:

- 1. Too tired. (Aren't we all)**
- 2. Had to clean my house. (I don't have time to clean mine, why should you clean yours)**
- 3. Wanted to leave early for Thanksgiving. (Why? Afraid they'd run out of turkey?)**
- 4. Came back late from Thanksgiving (I see you found turkey was plentiful)**
- 5. Had to study for an *important* class. (And this isn't?)**
- 6. Anything that implies you were having more fun than the rest of us.**