

Instructor: Tracy Stuntz

Office #: Soc 37

Office hours: Monday/Wednesday 3-3:30, Monday 5-6

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Note: I plan to respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours.

Class web address: <http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>

Class Hashtag: #FALLCMC



Communication 15 - Computer Mediated Communication - Fall 2014

Copyrighted Material
**COMPUTER
MEDIATED
COMMUNICATION**
SOCIAL INTERACTION AND THE INTERNET



Required Materials:

Textbook: Thurlow, C., Lengel, L, Tomic, A. (2004). Computer mediated communication: Social interaction and the Internet. Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.

Google account: We will be using Youtube, and Google Hangouts. If you don't currently have a google account, you will need to create one for this class.

Twitter account: You should set up a Twitter account the first week of class. Please send me a tweet @traftycracy. Use the hashtag #FALLCMC. I will make a class list that everyone can subscribe too.

You will need access to a computer and an Internet connection. A dial-up modem with a minimum connection of 56K speed is required. A DSL, broadband or T-1 line is preferred. Assignments will be submitted using Microsoft Word .doc format. If you do not have Microsoft Word, you can download Open Office Writer for free at <http://www.openoffice.org/>. Using Open Office Writer, save your document as Microsoft Office XP with .doc as the format. Extensions will not be made for assignments submitted in incorrect formats.

Course Description: From email to social networking to online dating new communication technologies have changed the way people build and maintain relationships. This course explores several areas of study related to computer-mediated communication including historical perspectives, relationship formation online, online dating, hyperpersonal communication, the sociology of social networks and online communities, families and online communication, privacy and safety issues, and the convergence of mass and interpersonal communication.

*ADVISORY: Eligibility for English 1A **STRONGLY** recommended.*

It is recommended that you be eligible to take English 1A (already completed English 125) at the time you take this course. This course involves substantial reading and writing and requires research and organization skills that will be an incredible challenge for you if you are not eligible for college-level English.

Since this is an online course, it is also recommended that you have good basic computer skills. It is expected that students in an online class have working knowledge on things like navigating websites, using search engines, word-processing, etc. If you are in any way intimidated by computers or using the Internet, please do not take this course until you have brushed up on these skills.

Course Outcomes:

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

- A. summarize the similarities and differences between face-to-face and computer-mediated communication.
- B. make effective use of the major online communication technologies including, but not limited to, social networks, email, blogs, and the 3D Web.
- C. demonstrate the social implications of the changing face of interpersonal relationships maintained in part or whole through computer mediated communication.
- D. collaborate effectively on tasks utilizing online tools.

Course Objectives:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

- A. define and explain the legal concepts of copyright, intellectual property, harassment, slander and cyberstalking.
- B. explain the ethical considerations of communicating online with virtual anonymity.
- C. explain various theoretical concepts related to computer-mediated communication including, but not limited to, hyperpersonal communication, cues filtered out, rich context, and relational intimacy.
- D. explain the concept of Internet communities as "third places" and how this affects socialization online.
- E. explain how research into computer-mediated communication is conducted and critique such research.
- F. discuss the various methods of determining credibility of individuals met online.
- G. collaborate with other students to complete an online project.
- H. evaluate personal computer-mediated relationships and communication skills.
- I. express and defend positions on various areas of controversy concerning computer-mediated communication such as privacy and intellectual property issues.

Policies and Rules:

Attendance - To reap the benefits of this class, "attendance" online is essential. You will likely need to log-in to the class at least 3-5 days each week and spend a good amount of time in discussions, lessons, and activities.

You are expected to participate in classroom learning activities as assigned and participate in class discussion forums. Specifics on how and how often you should be posting to the discussion forum will be posted under "Participation" when you click the Assignments button in Blackboard. In addition you are expected to read other students' forum postings and class work as appropriate, you're expected to give feedback and comments on certain assignments that their peers have completed.

If you fail to post your introduction message to the discussion forum by the end of the first week of class, I will drop you from the course and add someone from the waitlist. Additionally, within the first nine weeks, if you do not access the website for more than two consecutive weeks of class without notifying me that you still desire to be in the class, I will drop you from the course.

Assignments -

I will keep grades available on Blackboard, but you may also keep track of your own scores here.

Assignment	Points	Your Score	Grading Scale
quizzes (25 pts x 6)	150		1000-899.5 = A
twitter project	100		899.4-799.5 = B
linked in project	150		799.4-699.5 = C
research presentation	150		699.4-599.5 = D
final portfolio	200		599.4 and below = F
class activities, lectures, discussion board participation	250		

You can find more detail about these assignments and grading on Blackboard.

Cheating and plagiarism - I believe very strongly in academic integrity, and because of this, I take cheating and plagiarism very seriously. We will use Turnitin, a plagiarism detection agency, as a safeguard against any temptations. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, please know that I will report it to the college, and you will not receive credit on the assignment. Realize this includes verbal citations as well as in-text citations - if you do not cite sources in a major speech or paper assignment, you will not receive credit for the assignment. Plagiarism also includes “recycling” or using materials from another course for this course. All assignments created for this course must be original work done for this course (even if you are repeating!)

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: Copying or allowing another to copy a test, paper, project, or performance. Using unauthorized materials during a test, for example, notes, formula lists, or “cheat sheets.” 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: Incorporating the ideas of words of another’s work without giving appropriate credit. 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: Will arrange a conference with the student and at that time advise the student of the allegations. Will notify the dean of the division in writing that an act of dishonesty has occurred. 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.

Please feel free to visit our [Writing Center](#) online. The nice thing about it is that the tutors offer online assistance – you won’t even have to go in! Their website is:

<http://www.reedleycollege.edu/index.aspx?page=500>.

Also, if you find yourself needing help with Blackboard, they have a 24-hour telephone help line. The phone number is in the top header always present in Blackboard: 1-866-401-7784.

Classroom Behavior - Rude online behavior is unacceptable. Any student who engages in “flaming” (online name-calling, hate speech, etc.) toward the instructor or another student will find this behavior has a detrimental effect on your participation grade, as well as your right to remain in this class. Opinions are welcome, but they must be posited appropriately. I reserve the right to block you from discussions or ask you to not post if your online behavior becomes disruptive.

E-mail Policy - I answer all emails/calls/texts within 24 hours during the week, and 48 hours on the weekend. Please know that I am happy to answer questions outside of class and office hours. Remember, as you are contacting me, to include your name and which class you are in.

Student Rights - You are encouraged to read the “Campus Policies” section of the Schedule of Courses, so you are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities. Students with disabilities should identify themselves so that appropriate accommodations can be made. 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.

Disclaimer - Due to unforeseen circumstances, I may need to change, add, or delete course assignments or materials. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check on changes, assignments, and announcements you may have missed.

Schedule Fall 2014 - Other readings may be assigned as the semester progresses. Check Blackboard for an updated schedule. In addition to readings and quizzes, there will be a discussion forum post required for each week.

8/11 - Week 1 - Defining CMC, development of CMC
Read: Thurlow, et. al, strand 1, unit 1+2 (pg. 14-34)

8/18 - Week 2 - General theories in CMC
Read: Thurlow, et. al, strand 1, unit 3 (pg. 35-44), strand 3, task 1 (pg. 163-169).

8/25 - Week 3 - CMC + Language - **Quiz #1**
Read: Thurlow, et. al., strand 2, unit 4 (pg. 118-128)
Read: Jones, G. M., & Schieffelin, B. B. (2009). Talking Text and Talking Back: “My BFF Jill” from Boob Tube to YouTube. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 14(4), 1050-1079.

9/1 -Week 4 - Channels of CMC
Read: Schmidt, J. (2007). Blogging Practices: An Analytical Framework. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 12(4), 1409-1427.
Read: Boase, J., & Ling, R. (2013). Measuring Mobile Phone Use: Self-Report Versus Log Data. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 18(4), 508-519.

9/8 - Week 5 - Identity / Presentation - **Quiz 2**

Read: Thurlow, et. al, strand 2, unit 2 (95-106), strand 3, task 6 (192-196)

Read: Utz, S. (2010). Show me your friends and I will tell you what type of person you are: How one's profile, number of friends, and type of friends influence impression formation on social network sites. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 15(2), 314-335.

9/15 - Week 6 - Interpersonal Relationships- **Quiz 3**

Read: Thurlow, et. al, strand 1, unit 4 (pg. 45-57), strand 3, task 4 (pg. 181-186)

Read: Houser, M. L., Fleuriet, C., & Estrada, D. (2012). The Cyber Factor: An Analysis of Relational Maintenance Through the Use of Computer-Mediated Communication. *Communication Research Reports*, 29(1), 34-43.

9/22 - Week 7 - Deception / Trust / Reputation

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 1, unit 6 (pg. 69-80)

Read: Bing, P., Hembrooke, H., Joachims, T., Lorigo, L., Gary, G., & Granka, L. (2007). In Google We Trust: Users' Decisions on Rank, Position, and Relevance. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 12(3), 801-823.

9/29 - Week 8 - LinkedIn Project due

10/6 - Week 9 - Privacy / Surveillance / Online rights

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 2, unit 1 (pg. 82-94)

Read: [Boyd, D., and Hargittai, E. Facebook Privacy Settings: Who Cares?. In First Monday 15\(8\).](#)

10/13 - Week 10 - Internet addiction / Antisocial behavior - **Quiz 4**

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 2, unit 6, 7 (pg. 137-159)

Read: "Like a Drug"? Is Excessive Online Communication a separate form of Internet Addiction?. (2011). *Conference Papers -- International Communication Association*, 1-32.

10/20 - Week 11 - Computer mediated collaboration

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 1, unit 5 (pg. 58-68), strand 3, task 2 (pg. 170-174)

Read: [Rafaeli, S., and Y. Ariel. \(2008\) Online motivational factors: Incentives for participation and contribution in Wikipedia. In A. Barak \(Ed.\), Psychological aspects of cyberspace: Theory, research, applications. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.](#)

10/27 - Week 12 - CMC + social movements

Read: Cammaerts, B. (2013). Networked Resistance: The Case of WikiLeaks. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 18(4), 420-436.

Read: Thackeray, R., & Hunter, M. (2010). Empowering Youth: Use of Technology in Advocacy to Affect Social Change. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 15(4), 575-591.

11/3 - Week 13 - Social networking sites - **Quiz 5**

Read: Thurlow, et. al, strand 2, unit 3 (pg. 107-117), strand 3, task 5 (pg. 187-191)

Read: Boyd, D. M., & Ellison, N. B. (2007). Social Network Sites: Definition, History, and Scholarship. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 13(1), 210-230.

11/10 - Week 14 - Twitter project due

11/17 - Week 15 - Gaming / Virtual Worlds

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 2, unit 5 (130-136)

Read: Teng, C., Chen, M., Chen, Y., & Li, Y. (2012). Loyalty Due to Others: The Relationships Among Challenge, Interdependence, and Online Gamer Loyalty. *Journal Of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 17(4), 489-500.

11/24 - Week 16 - Research presentation due

12/1 - Week 17 - Future of CMC - **Quiz 6**

Read: Thurlow et. al, strand 3, task 6 (pg. 192-196)

Read: [Kramer, A. D. I., Guillory, J. E., Hancock, J. T. \(2014\). Experimental evidence of massive-scale emotional contagion through social networks. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 111\(24\), 8788-8790.](#)

12/8 - FINAL - Week 18 - Final portfolio due