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**Class web address:** <http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>  
**Class Hashtag:** #FALLCMC



Communication 15 - Computer Mediated Communication - Fall 2015

**Required Materials:**

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.

**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 recommended.*

**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** - Since this is an online class, I will not be enforcing any sense of traditional attendance. However, many of the assignments will have multiple due dates, so you should plan on checking in/posting at least 3 days a week.

**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
LinkedIn Project	150		1000-899.5 = A
Twitter Project	100		899.4-799.5 = B
Group Project	175		799.4-699.5 = C
Midterm Exam	50		699.4-599.5 = D
Final Exam	75		599.4 and below = F
Discussions	200		
Lecture Activities	200		
Blackboard Orientation	50		

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. I 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](http://www.reedleycollege.edu/index.aspx?page=500) 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 be removed from the assignment and given a zero. On the second offense, students will be removed from the course and reported to the college. 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 2015** - Other readings may be assigned as the semester progresses. Check Blackboard for an updated schedule.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Defining CMC
2/3/4	CMC + Identity

5	LinkedIn Project
6/7/8	CMC + Relationships
9	Twitter Project
10/11/12	CMC + Collaboration
13/14	Dark side of CMC
15	Group Assignment
16/17	Future of CMC
18	Final