Communication 2

**INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (#56399)**

Fall 2015

Reedley College

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

**Email:** helen.chavez@reedleycollege.edu

**Classroom: SOC36**

**Days/Time: Wednesday Nights 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, 6pm).

**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**

Participation is vital once presentations begin. Each student is expected to attend class 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 (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 only. 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, etc. Let me know of any errors and problems that might arise. I do not search out students to inform them of their grade or anything else. I do not post grades on Bb. It is a good idea to keep every assignment that you do in this class (actually, in every class) as proof of your status at least until you receive your final grade at the end of the semester.

I cannot and will not re-teach a lesson. My PowerPoint presentations are for students who come to class. 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!

*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. 14th ed. Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2014.

**Assignments**

 *Assignments* *Points*

1. Persuasive Projects:
2. Cultural Artifact Assignment 100
3. Concept Article Assignment 150
4. TV/Movie Assignment 200
5. Children’s Literature Assignment 250
6. In-Class Assignments 100
7. Personal Narratives 150
8. Participation 50

*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. In-Class Assignments

During some lectures, you will be asked to complete in-class assignments. In order to complete these assignments, you must attend class. As in the Personal Narrative Assignments, these assignments cannot be made-up for any reason or excuse especially those that have been discussed or excused by the instructor. Points for each In-Class Assignment will be determined by the instructor. In other words, some assignments will be worth more points than others.

1. Personal Narratives (in lieu of tests!)

You will follow the outline in the back of each chapter and write a personal narrative for each heading, concepts, etc. Bring your Personal Narrative Assignment to each class meeting and be ready to present what you wrote to the class when your name is called. I will NOT collect these papers until the December 16th; however, if your name is called and you are NOT able to present your narrative, you will lose points. The amount of points deducted will be determined by the instructor.

1. Participation

You are expected to attend class. You must come to class for the four Persuasive Projects, prep days/nights and for “normal” class lectures. You must be on time, stay in class, and be engaged the entire session (read the *ATTENDANCE* section on page 2).

**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 up at the end of the semester to determine your grade. Save and add up all graded work that is returned to you, so you can have a rough idea of the grade you are earning in class. Plus, your saved work is your receipt.

**TOTAL POINTS: 1000**

***Points* *Grade***

**1000-900 A**

**899-800 B**

**799-700 C**

**699-600 D**

**599-0 F**

**Tentative Schedule**

You must read the Chapters in advance and bring your Personal Narratives to each class session!

**Wednesday Night**

August 19th

Introduction to the Class and Chapter One

August 26th

Cultural Artifact Discussion and Chapter Two

September 2nd

Chapters Three and Four

September 9th

**Cultural Artifact Assignment and Outline Due**

September 16th

Concept Article Discussion and Chapter Five

September 23rd

Chapters Six and Seven

September 30th

Chapters Eight and Nine

October 7th Assign Groups and Members

Chapters Ten and Eleven

October 14th

Chapter Summaries Movie In-Class Assignment

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

October 21st

**Concept Article Assignment and Outline Due**

October 28th

TV/Movie and Children’s Literature Discussion

November 4th

Prep Night

November 11th

No Class Held, Campus Closed

November 18th Reassign Groups and Members

**TV/Movie Assignment and Outline Due**

November 25th

Prep Night (Thanksgiving Eve)

December 2nd

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

December9th

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

***December16TH***

***Final 6:00-7:50pm***

***Personal Narratives Due (hard copies only)***

 ***Required to attend class!***

GOODBYE AND ALL THE BEST ☺