



Communication ~~ Reedley College ~~ Spring 2015
Communication 2 Interpersonal Communication

Instructor: Stephanie Briones

E-Mail: stephanie.briones@reedleycollege.edu

Class Time: MW 2-3:15 in SOC 36

Office Hours: Communication lab MW from 5-5:45 (please email before)

TEXTBOOK: R. B. Adler, R. F. Proctor, *Looking Out, Looking In*, 14th ed. (Belmont, CA: Thompson Wadsworth, 2013).

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.

Classroom Department

Each student is expected to respect the rights of the other students in the class and the instructor. The exploration of controversial ideas is an essential component of this class. During this semester, we will delve into many assignment and discussions that explore a variety of interpersonal relationships and these conversations should be kept in the classroom only. Students who do not behave in a respectful manner will be asked to drop the class. Inappropriate behavior will absolutely not be tolerated in this professional classroom setting.

When presentations are in progress students arriving late are to stay outside until the presentation is complete. Interrupting a presentation for any reason other than a severe emergency is inconsiderate and will not be tolerated. Cell phones, and pagers should be turned off before coming to class. Cell phone usage during class will result in a loss of participation points.

Laptops are not to be used in class, except for presentation days. If you need to use a laptop for note-taking purposes, please let me know in advance. Please note that the use of the internet (checking email, fb, etc.) will not be tolerated.

Hats and/or sunglasses may not be worn in class during presentations or exams.

Email Etiquette: When emailing me, please include a salutation, a body, and a closing. Sometimes students send me emails that say things like "When is the quiz?" I teach up to six courses a semester and have up to 160 different students. When you email me, please use proper punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and grammar. In addition, please have a salutation (e.g, Hello Ms Briones), a body (i.e., the request or comment), and a closing. The closing should have your name, the course name or number, and the course and time (e.g., Stephanie Briones, Group Communication, COMM 8, 1-1:50pm). **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The average response time is between 24-48 hours, so do not wait until the last minute for assignment questions. Also, emails received after 5 pm on Friday may not be answered until Monday morning.

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.

Specific Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

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 their own communication patterns.
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 Rights

Students are encouraged to become familiar with the "Campus Policies" section of the Schedule of Courses. This material includes information regarding cheating and plagiarism, disruptive classroom behavior, and other instructional issues. Any act of plagiarism or cheating will result in a zero on that assignment and a zero on all connected assignments, a zero on participation points and paperwork will be filed with the Vice President of Student Services. Stating that you did not know what plagiarism is will not be an excuse. I do not give warnings! So read your catalogue and know the regulations. In addition NO extra credit can be earned by individuals who commit plagiarism.

Students with disabilities: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, ASL interpreter, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Important Dates to Remember

Last day to drop for a refund- January 23, 2015

Last day to register for classes w/o permission number- January 30, 2015

Last day to change Pass/No-Pass- February 12, 2015

Last day to drop with a letter grade- March 13, 2015

Finals week- May 18th- May 22, 2015

Assignments

Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) speech- This first speech is designed to help you better understand how your interpersonal relationships are connected to a personal identification. In this speech, you as an individual will share identity characteristics that are publicly known as well as privately known to better understand identity markers and how your identity affects your relationships.

Group Movie Assignment- Groups will be assigned after the first month of instruction. As a group, select a movie that has several significant interpersonal relationships and conflicts. Examine and dissect common themes from your interpersonal readings and present these to the class. Also provide thought provoking discussion questions for the class to aid in movie reflection.

Communication Article Presentation- Your final presentation will teach you how to incorporate scholarly research to class definitions and chapter theories. You are required to select a scholarly article from a Communication article database and present a thorough and accurate reading of the article. After, you will present your findings in class as well as visual examples to help the class better connect to the article findings. This presentation is indeed the most complex of the semester and requires much time and effort.

Reflection paper/ Participation folders- In this class you will think about many of the relationships that you have in your life. The final paper is a reflection and analysis of one interpersonal relationship. Throughout the semester you will keep a reflection journal that will aid you in your final paper writing, as well as a rough draft. The final paper will be 6 pages long (not including title pages or Works Cited) and is due at the end of the semester. All papers and journals are private and will only be viewed by the instructor for grading purposes.

In class assignments- Each day is important to attend and participation assignments will be given on most class days. These assignments are important and cannot be made up without proper verification of an excused absence. Please note the importance of coming to class each lecture day to ensure that you do not lose critical points.

Assignment	Score	Your Score	Total
BYOB speech	50		
Interpersonal Analysis Paper	100		
Participation	100		
Final Presentation Assignment	200		
Group Movie Assignment/ Peer evaluation	150		

Tests (3 x 100)	300		
-----------------	-----	--	--

The following numerical guidelines will be used in the assignment of final grades.

810-900 = A
720-809 = B
630-709 = C
540-609 = D
539-0 = F

The instructor reserves the right to increase points for students who are on the margin; this will be done on the basis of attitude and participation throughout the semester and is solely at the discretion of the instructor.

Attendance

Attendance is a crucial aspect of learning, therefore each day is important and should be attended. There will be either a quiz, test, critique or assignment due for each class period, therefore missing class also means losing points towards your final grade. Remember to be in class at the scheduled time, most of the assignments will be due at the beginning of the class period.

If you are absent due to a medical or school affiliated activity, remember to provide valid documentation (i.e. a doctors note) to receive an opportunity to make up assignments missed during attendance. If you do not provide documentation, then I cannot allow you to make up the assignment.

**All documentation must be submitted to the instructor NO later than one week following the absence.
Note that all documentation will be verified by the instructor.**

Please note that work schedules, lost keys, car trouble, parking trouble, or vacations are not excused absences. If however you know in advance that you will be absent please inform the instructor so that accommodations can be made for speeches or quizzes **prior** to your absence. Also understand that notifying the instructor does not excuse the absence.

Late and Missed Assignments

***I will NOT accept any emailed or handwritten papers.
I have a very strict policy on late work.***

***ALL WORK IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS –
DO NOT COME IN LATE AND ASSUME I WILL ACCEPT YOUR WORK.***

Additional Point Assignments: In addition to the assignments I will be offering limited extra credit assignments. They will be briefly announced in class and posted on Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to look them up and turn them in by the deadline posted on the webpage. Extra credit assignments do not "take the place" of other work – extra credit will only be accepted from students who have submitted and attempted all assignments. Students with excessive absences will not be allowed to submit any extra credit. Students who miss a speech cannot submit any extra credit.

Finals: are held in the same classroom but not necessarily at the same time. Please note schedule on calendar. One important rule for Finals – I will not allow anyone who is 20 minutes late to take the final unless there is a verifiable excused reason for the tardy. Please be aware of this and be on time. I will NOT allow anyone to take the final prior to finals week without a documented medical excuse. Accommodations will not be made for holiday, vacation or travel reasons.

The schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor – it is the responsibility of the student to check on announcements made during any absence.