

Communication

Communication ~~ Reedley College ~~ Fall 2021

Communication 15: Computer Mediated Communication

Instructor: Dr. Linda Carvalho Cooley "Dr. C"

Check Canvas for current Zoom office hours or email me for an appointment!

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Required:

- There is NO textbook for this class but students will be assigned articles and videos online, which are a mandatory portion of the course content. Therefore students must have access to high speed internet.
 - Students will be asked to create online accounts in gmail, twitter and LinkedIn.
 - These accounts only need to be open during this semester and can be deleted after grades for those assignments are posted.
- Submitted assignments must be in .DOC or .RTF or PDF file formats (this is important for the Mac users in the class.) Make sure you have the capability to convert your files to these formats.
- Students should have a working knowledge of computer technology. But the point of this course is to explore new ways of using CMC to communicate.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Summarize the similarities and differences between face-to-face and computer-mediated communication.
 2. Make effective use of the major online communication technologies including, but not limited to, social networks, email, blogs and the 3D Web.
 3. Demonstrate the social implications of the changing face of interpersonal relationships maintained in part or whole through computer mediated communication
 4. Collaborate effectively on tasks utilizing online tools.
- SLO's will be assessed via Mock Job Interview, online discussion boards and the group webpage.***

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. This class will also require proper online etiquette. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing in my class will receive a zero on the assignment and any assignment connected to that assignment. If plagiarism is detected students will earn a zero on that assignment and will forfeit all of their participation points. If the plagiarism is repeated students will earn a zero in the course and will be reported to the dean of student services. Be aware that students will be submitting all papers through anti-plagiarism software, **Turn It In**. Any assignment that indicates a 35% or more match via Turn it in must be addressed and resubmitted by the student. References will not count.

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 contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Classroom Advisory, Requirements and Department

Since this is an online course, it is recommended that students have good basic computer skills. If students are intimidated to utilize computer programs and do not want to conquer the fear, this is not the class for you. Students should have access to a computer and an internet connection. A DSL/broadband line is preferred since you will need to upload documents and watch videos.

Additionally an online course requires a high degree of independent learning. Students must have self-discipline to stay on top of their work without reminders from me or anyone else or you will fail this class. Although you do not physically attend the course you must log in and engage in the material on a weekly basis. Successful students are those who log in and engage in the material on a regular basis at least two to three times a week.

Students must respect the other students in the class. Comments and posts should be respectful and appropriate. I reserve the right to block any student whose comments are out of bounds. If necessary students can be reported to the dean of student services or removed from the course. As a communication course, part of the content is to recognize that our messages should be created for a specific audience. The audience for this course is: “educated adults” and I will expect the discussions and posts to be appropriate for an educated adult audience. Under no circumstances will flaming (online name-calling, hate speech, etc.) be allowed.

Please know that due to the nature of this class (with students having freedom of choice in some discussion board and project topics), it is possible that some of the subjects and language in this class could delve into the PG-13 or R-rated area. Students can use adult material if it truly fits the assignment.

This course is purely online and as such it is the students' responsibility to stay connected via Canvas. Due dates are firm and late assignments will not be accepted.

Assignments

Graded Item	Points Possible
Various Discussion Boards	
Regular Discussion boards (DB) 10 @ 20 pts each **SA (4 of the 10 will be used as a signature assignment.)	200
Special Discussion Boards (SP DB) Intro video submission 50 pts (+ 20 pts above for responses) Mock Job Interview Responses 50 pts McLuhan-ism Discussion 50 pts Pod Cast Discussion 50 pts	200
Projects	
LinkedIn Profile (Set up = 20, Engagement/Submission = 80)	100
Mock job interview **SA Live (Interview = 100)	100
Twitter Assignment (Set up = 20, Engagement/Submission = 80)	100
Screen Cast PSA (App selected = 10, Submission = 90)	100
Exams	
Mid-Term	50
Final	50
Participation	
Participation, & Engagement	100
Total Points Possible	1000

**SA indicates signature assignments which are required.

Students who do not complete signature assignments will forfeit **all** participation points.

The chart to the right will be used in the assignment of final grades.	900-1000 = A 800-899 = B 700-799 = C 600-699 = D 599- 0 = F
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Canvas – Assignments, and all interaction will be handled via Canvas. Due to the format for this class students will be asked to participate on a regular basis via Canvas and other formats. Make sure you have the internet connection necessary to fulfill the course components. Some of the items you will need: Gmail account, Twitter account, LinkedIn account, video camera or capability to film and upload videos. Keep in mind when looking at Canvas that the point total is the **ONLY** thing that matters, percentages do not reflect true grade. The instructor is not responsible for technical difficulties, and technical difficulties are **NOT** a valid excuse. The course will also employ a 12 hour window to allow for technical issues. For a 5 point deduction students will have 12 hours to submit their work. The 12 hour window will only be allowed for assignments designated as “projects” in the list above.

Attendance/Engagement = Participation: This might sound crazy but students must have good **attendance** even in an online class. Students must check in regularly or they will be dropped. Class contact must happen every week on a steady basis. Students are expected to log in at least 2 times per week and spend a good deal of time in discussions, lessons, and activities. Online classes require time management on the part of the student! Check in and check often to make sure you stay on track. Participation points will be drastically affected if you do not log in consistently during the semester. Not completing signature assignments will also result in forfeiting all participation points.

Exams: There are two exams – a mid-term and a final exam. The questions will be pulled from the assigned readings, videos and discussions. Questions will be mixed between multiple choice and short answer formats. These quizzes are open-resources exams. They are timed, but you will have three chances to take the exam. No one will be able to access the exam once the closing date has passed. Canvas will record the highest grade earned in your three attempts.

Projects: This course is designed as a project based course. In other words you will have projects to complete during the semester and you can get them done any time prior to the due date. The projects are to be interactive, educational and hopefully fun. Students should seek out their questions to technical issues – there are a great deal of how-to YouTube videos available online that can assist you with some of the technology. Look for answers but feel free to contact the instructor or tech services at the college for any additional help.

Discussion Boards: This portion of the course is interactive. You will be asked to post an initial post in the discussion board on various topics throughout the semester. Those will all be due by Friday of that same week then students will respond to each other for a full week. Students who post their initial post after the due date will lose points but can still earn points for the discussion board until it closes. Make sure your posts are thoughtful and offer collegiate level responses. Also the edit ability will be disabled for discussion boards so that students will need to make sure their post is ready to be graded when they post their initial post to the prompt. Students who submit blank posts or posts that are not complete (detailed and college level discussion quality) will lose points. This course is graded heavily on discussion board posts.

“Per Title V Regulation 58170(e), students must be referred to academic support services by counselors or instructors. With this statement on my course syllabus, I am referring any students in my class in need of academic support to tutorial services. Tutorial services may include: the tutorial center, writing center or the communication lab. Referral reason: Mastering the content, study skills, and basic skills of this course is aided by the use of trained peer tutors.”

My Teaching Philosophy

Teaching for me has always been about helping students. If you are having an issue – talk to me. I’m not near as scary as I may look. Please reach out to me and I promise I will listen to you and together we will come up with a solution to help you be the best student possible. Especially in this online environment all I can do is be here – but you have to be willing to ask and meet with me. I will meet you day or night. Please ALWAYS keep in mind my intention is to help you. I care and want you to succeed. Meet me half way – check in regularly, and pay attention to the announcements! Since there is no textbook please watch the videos and read the directions for each week. I believe that all students are capable of learning in ANY modality. Courses offered online are not for everyone but in times of crisis we rise to the occasion to make the best of what we can do rather than dwelling on what we have lost. As a certified online instructor I know that online education can work. Please give it your best effort and trust that I am here to help you through the course.

No one wants you to succeed more than I do!