

Interpersonal Communication CMST 2110

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Required Materials:

Wood, J. (2016). *Interpersonal communication: Everyday encounters* (8th ed.) Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Description: This is a three-credit course in interpersonal communication. The course centers around reading-, experiential-, and discussion-based learning with an emphasis on knowledge and application of best interpersonal communication practices.

By the end of this course you will have:

Gained factual knowledge:

- Understand the relationship between verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Articulate how perception and identity-management work.
- Comprehend and utilize effective ways to listen and express yourself.
- Understand the complexities of beginning, building and ending relationships.

Learned fundamental principles of interpersonal communication:

- Understand the different ways to view communication and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

Learned to apply course materials to your own life:

- Demonstrate a self-reflexive awareness of the communication in your life.
- Apply theories of interpersonal communication to your relationships.

My Expectations:

I am at my best as a teacher in situations where students are consistently present, actively participating in the learning process (this includes work done outside the classroom), and taking responsibility for their course-related actions. Our satisfaction with the course depends largely on the extent to which you honor these expectations to the best of your ability.

Your Expectations:

You should also have some expectations of me as an instructor. I believe my responsibilities as a teacher include starting and ending class on time, being prepared to teach, attending office hours, returning your work promptly, grading fairly and fostering a respectful, open learning environment. If at any time you feel I have not met these expectations or if you have any additional concerns, please let me know so that your needs as a student can best be met.

Grade distribution:

100-93% = A	76-73% = C
92-90% = A-	72-70% = C-
89-87% = B+	69-67% = D+
86-83% = B	66-63% = D
82-80% = B-	62-60% = D-
79-77% = C+	59-0% = F

Evaluations:Gain factual knowledge and learn theories and principles:

Quizzes & Course involvement	07%
Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4)	18%
Exam 2 (Chapters 5, 7, 8)	20%
Final exam (Chapters 10-12)	20%

Apply the course materials to your life:

Interpersonal Development Project Proposal	05%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Interaction Analysis	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Assignments:

Quizzes and course involvement: Quizzes will take place during the first 5 minutes of class. Quiz material will come from the reading assigned for that day or class activities. Course involvement points will come from participating during in-class activities. No makeup quizzes, involvement points, or extra credit will be given for absences or late attendance. Please come to class on time.

Exams: Exams will be one class period long. The exams are designed to test your understanding of and ability to apply course concepts. Exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. You will be provided with a study guide before the exam. Study groups are strongly encouraged.

Interpersonal Development Project (IDP): In order to give you an informed and practical understanding of communication and interpersonal relationships, you will conduct a semester-long project designed to develop your interpersonal and relationship building skills. This Interpersonal Development Project (IDP) will consist of an annotated bibliography and a practical application paper. *Detailed guidelines will be provided.*

1. Proposal: A two page description of a relationship you would like to improve during the course of this semester.
2. Bibliography: A list of academic sources that you think you might be used for your annotated bibliography. We will spend a class period with a resource librarian who will help us find information that will be useful for your projects. Source lists will be sent as an attachment to my email account.

3. Annotated Bibliography: This paper provides you with scholarly information that you will use for your interaction analysis. This information will help explain the circumstances and dynamics of your relationships and interactions. You will obtain this material from scholarly articles and books and demonstrate your knowledge and ability to apply the information you find.

4. Interaction Analysis: The purpose of the interaction analysis is for you to *apply what you learned through your research AND the concepts and theories you learned in class* to your communication choices and your IDP relationship. You will want to make specific connections between communication theories and concepts and the choices you make in your own interactions. This paper should be a culmination of what you have learned over the course of the semester.

READING THE SCHEDULE

1. *This schedule is subject to change if the demands of the course require it.*
2. The reading assignment will be **discussed** the day it is listed.
3. Read the first half of the chapter for the first day it is on the calendar, the next half for the second day.
4. Graded assignments and special instructions are written in **bold type**.

DATE	TOPIC	READING	ASSIGNMENT
Week 1 Aug. 29, 31	Tues: Introduction to course Thurs: Interpersonal Communication	Thurs: Chapter 1	
Week 2 Sept. 5, 7	Tues: Interpersonal Communication Thurs: Communication & Personal Identity	Tues: Chapter 1 Thurs: Chapter 2	
Week 3 Sept. 12, 14	Tues: Communication & Personal Identity Thurs: Perception & Communication	Tues: Chapter 2 Thurs: Chapter 3	Thurs: IPD Proposal Due
Week 4 Sept. 19, 21	Tues: Perception & Communication Thurs: Meet in the library room 122.	Tues: Chapter 3 Thurs: Reread annotated <u>bibliography assignment</u>	
Week 5 Sept. 26, 28	Tues: World of Words Thurs: World of Words	Tues: Chapter 4 Thurs: Chapter 4	Thurs: Bibliography list of sources due via email.

<u>Week 6</u> Oct 3, 5	Tues: Exam Thurs: Annotated bib. work day (no class)		Tues: Exam 1
<u>Week 7</u> Oct. 10, 12	Tues: Beyond Words Thurs: Beyond Words	Tues: Chapter 5 Thurs: Chapter 5	
<u>Week 8</u> Oct. 17, 19	Tues: Annotated bibliographies Thurs: <i>Attend your Friday classes!</i>	Tues: Thurs:	Tues: Annotated bibliography due! In class presentations
<u>Week 9</u> Oct. 24, 26	Tues: Mindful listening Thurs: Mindful listening	Tues: Chapter 6 Thurs: Chapter 6	
<u>Week 10</u> Oct. 31, Nov. 2	Tues: Relationships Thurs: Relationships	Tues: Chapter 8 Thurs: Chapter 8	
<u>Week 11</u> Nov. 7, 9	Tues: Exam 2 Thurs: Friendships	Tues: Thurs: Chapter 10	Tues: Exam 2
<u>Week 12</u> Nov. 14, 16	Tues: Friendships: Thurs: Interaction Analysis Work Day (no class)	Tues: Chapter 10 Thurs:	
<u>Week 13</u> Nov. 21, 23	Tues: Romantic relationships Thurs: <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	Tues: Chapter 11	
<u>Week 14</u> Nov. 28, 30	Tues: Romantic relationships Thurs: Interaction analyses	Tues: Chapter 11	Thurs: Interaction Analysis due and discussion
<u>Week 15</u> Dec. 5, 7	Tues. Family relationships Thurs: Family relationships and course conclusion.	Tues: Chapter 12 Thurs: Chapter 12	
<u>Final exam</u>	Thursday, December 14, 1:30-3:20	Please note: I will only reschedule exams only for emergencies. <u>Do not</u> plan to leave for break until after the exam.	

Please keep in mind the following:**Assignments:**

- All presentations must be performed and assignments turned in on the due date in order to receive full credit. Exceptions will be made for extreme documented circumstances.
- Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of the class period that they are due or else they will receive 5% off the final grade each day the assignment is late including with the due date. An assignment will not be accepted after three days past the due date.
- Plagiarized work will receive an F for the assignment and may, depending on the severity of the infringement, receive a failing grade for the course and/or expulsion from the university.
- Students may not use a paper written in another class for credit in this one, or vice versa, without instructor consent.
- Please refer to the university honesty/honor code for further policies pertinent to this class.

In the classroom:

- If you have a disability, I strongly encourage you to contact the Disability Resource Center or myself so that the classroom environment can be made conducive to your learning style.
- I also encourage all students to take advantage of my offices hours, phone or e-mail if you have any concerns or questions over any aspect of the course. I am here to help you learn!
- Finally, I try to create a comfortable classroom environment that contributes to your education. For that reason I ask that you turn off your telephones which means absolutely no text messaging! Laptops may be used during lecture, but must be turned off during class discussion and activities. Please refrain from bringing anything else to class that may be a distraction for you or any of the other students. Thanks!