Course Description

This is a review of advanced theoretical constructs and recent research related to interpersonal communication. Comprehension, critical evaluation, and applications are stressed.

Course Objectives

The overall objective of this course is to provide an introduction to the various messages and message strategies that fall within the purview of interpersonal communication. In doing so, I also hope to provide you with an opportunity to reflect upon your own interpersonal communication patterns, to think critically about interpersonal theories and their various applications, and to compare and contrast what you “know” about yourself and others from personal experience with what empirical theory and research has to say. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the historical development of interpersonal communication as a subfield within the communication studies discipline.
- Define *interpersonal communication* and apply different interpersonal communication theories to personal experiences.
- Summarize empirical findings related to various interpersonal constructs.
- Evaluate interpersonal communication scholarship and apply the findings to both your own personal relationships as well as the relationships of significant others.
- Propose an original study designed to test hypotheses or address research questions related to some topic in interpersonal communication.

Instructor
Course Resources


*Selected outside readings as provided or assigned by the instructor throughout the semester. These will be located in a BOX folder that you will have access to.*

*A copy of the APA manual is highly recommended.*

Course Requirements

**READING:** I expect you to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned materials. This means that you have completed the reading assignments for that day and have given some thought as to how this material relates to your personal, professional, and academic pursuits. Given that participation and critical thinking is essential to success in this course, it is *extremely important* that you keep pace with the assigned readings.

**ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:** It is important that students come to class and be actively involved in class discussions – in other words, I expect each of you to contribute to our learning experience in this class. In addition to taking notes (when needed), I expect each of you to contribute your understanding of the material as it relates to your academic, professional, and personal experiences. I also expect each of you to listen with an open mind and respect the opinions of others in class.

Rather than monitor attendance, this course will implement a discussion-method designed to facilitate
critical thinking and classroom participation. Each student is responsible for submitting one question via email based on the assigned readings for a given week. Your question can either be a question of clarification, i.e., a question useful for clarifying confusing material and/or extending our understanding of certain research theories or methods used in the conduct of research, or a question of extension whereby you ask a heuristic/thought-provoking question based on the readings (e.g., a question concerning how we might use the findings practically, whether they are relevant, or providing an idea for extending the research). Questions should be submitted by 10:00am of each Tuesday before class.

Evaluation Methods and Criteria

See assignment page for additional information about evaluation.

Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 % to 93.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>&lt; 93.0 % to 90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>&lt; 90.0 % to 87.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>&lt; 87.0 % to 83.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>&lt; 83.0 % to 80.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>&lt; 80.0 % to 77.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>&lt; 77.0 % to 73.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>&lt; 73.0 % to 70.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>&lt; 70.0 % to 67.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>&lt; 67.0 % to 60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 59.0 % to 0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Schedule/Outline
See the schedule and the assignments page

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**Attendance and Excused Absences Policy**

Attendance in grad school is not optional. All absences will be detrimental to your ability to be successful in this class.

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**Nonattendance Policy**

**Students May Be Dropped For Nonattendance**

If a student does not attend a class during the first week of the term or by the second class meeting, whichever comes first, the instructor may submit a request to have the student dropped from the course. *(This does not remove responsibility from the student to drop courses which he or she does not plan to attend.)* This option is typically used for classes that are full and the instructor is trying to make a seat available for another student, but may be considered for other courses. Requests must be made during the first 20 percent of the course and will be considered on an individual student basis. Students who are dropped from courses will be notified by the Registrar's Office through their preferred e-mail account (see [2018-2019 General Catalog](http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=3955)).

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**Assumption of Risk**

All classes, programs, and extracurricular activities within the University involve some risk, and certain ones involve travel. The University provides opportunities to participate in these programs on a voluntary basis. Therefore, students should not participate in them if they do not care to assume the risks. Students can ask the respective program leaders/sponsors about the possible risks a program may generate, and if students are not willing to assume the risks, they should not select that program. By voluntarily participating in classes, programs, and extracurricular activities, a student does so at his or her own risk. General information about University Risk Management policies, insurance coverage, vehicle use policies, and risk management forms can be found at: [http://www.usu.edu/riskmgmt/](http://www.usu.edu/riskmgmt/)
Library Services

All USU students attending classes in Logan, at our Regional Campuses, or online can access all databases, e-journals, and e-books regardless of location. Additionally, the library will mail printed books to students, at no charge to them. Students can also borrow books from any Utah academic library. Take advantage of all library services and learn more at libguides.usu.edu/rc.

Classroom Civility.

Utah State University supports the principle of freedom of expression for both faculty and students. The University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Read Student Code Article V Section V-3 (https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article5) for more information.

University Policies & Procedures

Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy #403 (http://www.usu.edu/hr/files/uploads/Policies/403.pdf) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.
Academic Integrity – "The Honor System"

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

Academic Dishonesty

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University’s Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating**: using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity. Unauthorized assistance includes:
  - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually;”
  - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
  - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
  - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
  - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.

- **Falsification**: altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.

- **Plagiarism**: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.
For additional information go to: [ARTICLE VI. University Regulations Regarding Academic Integrity](https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6)

**Sexual Harassment/Title IX**

Utah State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free from acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination and to fostering respect and dignity for all members of the USU community. Title IX and [USU Policy 339](http://www.usu.edu/policies/339) address sexual harassment in the workplace and academic setting.

The university responds promptly upon learning of any form of possible discrimination or sexual misconduct. Any individual may contact USU’s [Office of Equity](https://equity.usu.edu/) for available options and resources or clarification. The university has established a complaint procedure to handle all types of discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment ([USU Policy 305](http://www.usu.edu/policies/305/)), and has designated the Office of Equity Director/Title IX Coordinator as the official responsible for receiving and investigating complaints of sexual harassment.

**Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy**

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term ‘extenuating’ circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

**Students with Disabilities**

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the [Disability Resource Center (DRC)](http://www.usu.edu/drc/) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, (435) 797-2444, drc@usu.edu). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

**Diversity Statement**
Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact:

- Division of Student Affairs: [https://studentaffairs.usu.edu](https://studentaffairs.usu.edu), (435) 797-1712, studentservices@usu.edu
- Student Legal Services: [https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services](https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services), (435) 797-2912
- Access and Diversity: [http://accesscenter.usu.edu](http://accesscenter.usu.edu), (435) 797-1728, access@usu.edu
- Multicultural Programs: [http://accesscenter.usu.edu/multiculture](http://accesscenter.usu.edu/multiculture), (435) 797-1728
- LGBTQA Programs: [http://accesscenter.usu.edu/lgbtqa](http://accesscenter.usu.edu/lgbtqa), (435) 797-1728
- Provost’s Office Diversity Resources: [https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity](https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity), (435) 797-8176

You can learn about your student rights by visiting:
The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University: [https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode](https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode)

**Grievance Process**

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: [Article VII](https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article7).

**Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:**

- [Student Conduct](http://www.usu.edu/studentconduct)
- [Student Code](https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode)
- [Academic Integrity](https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6)
- [USU Selected Academic Policies and Procedures](http://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty-life/syllabus.cfm)
- [USU Academic Policies and Procedures](http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=546)
- [Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility Policy](http://www.usu.edu/hr/files/uploads/Policies/403.pdf)
Emergency Procedures

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building by the sound of the fire/emergency alarm system or by a building representative. In the event of a disaster that may interfere with either notification, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., in an earthquake when shaking ceases or immediately when a fire is discovered). Turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs.

Course Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu Aug 1, 2019</td>
<td>Home to do: 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Sep 17, 2019</td>
<td>Topic Approval <a href="https://usu.instructure.com/courses/544879/assignments/2704088">link</a> due by 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Nov 19, 2019</td>
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<td>Fri Dec 6, 2019</td>
<td>Participation <a href="https://usu.instructure.com/courses/544879/assignments/2692033">link</a> due by 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paper 1 <a href="https://usu.instructure.com/courses/544879/assignments/2692028">link</a></td>
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