

Communication 6 – Interpersonal Communication Spring 2019

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Text: Looking Out Looking In by Adler & Proctor – 14th Edition
Office Hours: TTh 8:30 – 9am or by prior arrangement
Location: Our Classroom

Requirements: The text above, a Composition Book (journal), online access to Canvas and the ability to print.

Description: Interpersonal Communication examines the one-on-one communication behavior displayed in our most significant, personal relationships. We study how perception, self-concept, disclosure, listening, nonverbal and verbal messages, relationship dynamics, language and conflict shape, and are shaped by, our Interpersonal Communication behaviors. You will have the opportunity to improve your Interpersonal Communication skills through experiential activities, discussion, reading, writing and assignments involving individual, partner and group work.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to...

1. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of interpersonal communication concepts and principles.
2. Show an awareness and appreciation of the complexities of the communication process.
3. Improve listening ability by understanding the key elements of this aspect of interpersonal communication.
4. Identify, interpret and demonstrate appropriate uses of verbal and non-verbal communication.
5. Describe and discuss how choice of words and gender influences can significantly impact interpersonal interactions.
6. Explore and analyze social and gender roles as they apply to relational communication.
7. Identify the difference between passive, assertive and aggressive behavior.
8. Explain ways that communication creates develops and changes personal identities.
9. Examine one's own self-esteem through journal writing and other self-exploratory tasks.
10. Identify and practice constructive conflict management skills.
11. Analyze the role of technology in interpersonal communication.
12. Identify effective use of interpersonal communication in various contexts including personal and professional.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Attendance is mandatory, weighed in both attendance and participation points and accounts for a large portion of your grade. This is a participation intensive class and not being here robs you and others of comprehensive learning. I enforce the SRJC attendance policy and take roll every class, so please consider this carefully if you tend to have attendance issues, or have trouble showing up on time.

If you have any individual concerns regarding attendance, please speak to me directly ASAP

ATTENDANCE: THE SRJC ATTENDANCE POLICY states in section 3.1 that 'no instructor shall be required to make a distinction between excused and unexcused absences.' I adhere strictly to this policy to avoid unfair treatment. Please consider this policy very seriously if you anticipate attendance issues. The penalties listed below are deducted from your 'start' of 100 participation points, are MINIMUMS and are strictly enforced.

0 absences: 110/100 (10 point bonus)
1 absence: 100 (no penalty)
2 absences: 85/100 max

3 absences: 60/100 max
4 absences: 0/100 (you've missed 2 weeks)
5 absences: ALL points deducted, and you will be DROPPED

If Absent: If you are absent it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get all notes, class material, assignments, calendar changes, etc. from another classmate, Canvas, me or all of the above. You often cannot make-up work, especially group, partner and in-class exercises, and often lecture material describing key concepts and practices differs from that of the text so if an absence cannot be avoided please be diligent about ensuring you have all relevant information.

Lateness: Being late is disruptive and unacceptable. We start class on time, every time, so be here and ready to begin at our scheduled time. 3 late arrivals are the equivalent of an absence, every two after that, another. **If you arrive more than 9 minutes after class begins or leave any time before class ends you will be marked absent. NO EXCEPTIONS** to ensure fairness. If you choose to be later than 10 minutes you may stay in class but will still be marked absent.

Late Work is NOT Accepted: If something is due and you are absent for ANY reason, it is considered late and therefore unacceptable. This applies to ALL course work. If you feel you deserve an exception to this policy, let's talk, but most circumstances do not qualify for exception.

Participation: Participation is a HUGE part of this class. You are expected to be FULLY present and a positive participant in all class exercises and activities. The rules of conduct below are to be followed at all times. Not doing so will result in participation point reductions and a possible 'invitation' to drop the class. Because we have semester partners you are profoundly missed when absent.

Stay in Class: Leaving class is not okay, so take care of your personal business before or after. When you leave it is noted and if it happens more than once or twice you will lose participation points and we will need to have a discussion about how to solve.

Bottom Line: ALL behavior has communicative value. When you choose to be present, on time, prepared and participating, you're communicating a specific message. When you choose to arrive late, leave class, be unprepared, act uninterested and distract others, you're communicating a specific message. You are 100% accountable for your own behavior and actions, so do it right and take credit, or do it wrong and take responsibility.

The SRJC 'Rules of Conduct' are included at the end of this syllabus for your reference.

Written Assignments

ALL work must be TYPED and meet college level standards of formatting, grammar, spelling and citation except journals and when specified. Essays must be physically PRINTED and turned in on or before the due date to receive full credit. You will be given more details about each written assignment and a chance to ask questions. Below is an overview of the written work in this class.

Movie Model Paper: After the first week of class you will choose a movie to which you may refer throughout the semester to exemplify interpersonal communication concepts explored in class and to use as the subject of this paper. The film must be available for you to view, review, and possibly share during the semester. There must be some level of focus on interpersonal communication. The communication behaviors and the relationships must be dynamic, varied, and interesting enough to warrant discussion and repeated viewing. As is expected for ALL source materials, include full and appropriate referencing in a works cited or reference page.

In a **2-4 pages** use the movie you have chosen to demonstrate your understanding of at least 3 different, specific Interpersonal Communication terms or concepts from your text. In **NO MORE THAN ONE, CONCISE PARAGRAPH** explain the basics; the title, a **BRIEF** description of the plot, the key character or characters, the climax and the resolution/end, in **ONE PARAGRAPH ONLY!** In the rest of the paper explain why you've chosen this movie to explore Interpersonal Communication concepts. Choose at least 3 specific terms or concepts from our text and tie them to the movie in a way that demonstrates that you understand them. No less than 2 FULL pages not including a works cited or reference page.

25 points

Emotional Expression Essay: Choose a concept or concepts from Chapter 4 on Emotions that you find interesting. Using your text as a jumping off point, go deeper by examining the most current research on your topic, examine the most relevant, connected theories, published material and any information that gives additional, updated insight. You may use personal examples from your film and include **AT LEAST 2 different, additional, reputable outside sources** from a publication, website, journal or a different text that helps to verify your argument or observations. **3-5 pages** not including reference or works cited page

25 points.

Partner Papers 1 & 2: After the first week of class you will be assigned a semester partner. This person will be your partner until midway through the semester, after which you will be assigned partner #2. For each partner experience write a **2-4 page** paper explaining the strengths and weaknesses of the interpersonal communication within the partnership using specific examples and terms and concepts from class. This paper will remain private – between you and me ONLY – and should not be shared or discussed with your partner, good or bad. You will turn in the same type of paper for partner #2 near the end of the semester.

50 points possible (25 points for each paper)

Journal Collections: There will be frequent in-class and homework journal writing assignments to be written ONLY in your journal. Please keep class notes separate from your Journal writing. Journal 'Collections' contain several writing assignments and will be noted as "Journal 1, assignment A" in Canvas. Journals must be brought to each class. **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR JOURNAL WITH YOU AT THE TIME OF COLLECTION, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE POINTS.** You cannot make up journals or turn them in late so **BRING YOUR JOURNAL TO EVERY CLASS.** Point values will vary – longer assignments may warrant more points.

100 points (4 Collections – 25 points each)

Presentations & Projects

Partner Presentations: 4 times during the semester you and your partner will be given a term from the text on which you are to give 3-minute presentation explaining the concept more in depth. Requirements for each presentation will be discussed in class.

First Presentation: Provide the text definition and give an alternative definition or explanation from a source other than your text (you must have the name and date of the source). Each of you will give a real-world example demonstrating the concept. You may use notes but do not read directly, word for word from a page. If you are present, demonstrate an understanding of the concept and put effort into the assignment, then it would be really tough not to get 10 points. Nothing is collected for Partner Presentations.

40 points (each partner, 10 points per presentation)

Class Exercises: There are 3 assignments in this group; the t-shirt exercise, coat of arms project, and the photo scavenger hunt. If you are present and prepared you get points. If you are not present or prepared, you don't.

30 points (10 points each)

Social Experiment Project: Mid-semester you will choose a 'social experiment' project. More details to come, but as a general overview, you will choose 2 concepts from different chapters and design a social experiment that seeks to find new information about these concepts' relevance to INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION by conducting the experiment, recording and presenting your results. The Social Experiment is graded in 3 parts. 1. Your written proposal to me about what you will do, how, your means of analysis, etc. 2. The outcome of the experiment. 3. You will do a 3-minute presentation with a visual aid explaining your experiment and results. More details will be provided closer to assignment time.

PROPOSAL - 20 points / ANALYSIS PAPER - 50 points / PRESENTATION – 30 points.

100 points total

Exams & Quizzes

EXAMS: There will be one midterm exam worth 100 points covering text and class material in chapters 1-5. The final exam will be comprehensive, worth 150 points, and will cover chapters 1-12.

250 points Midterm-100 points Final Exam – 150 points

QUIZZES: There will be 5 quizzes covering the chapters assigned, based on the partner presentations.

50 points (10 points each)

Class & Partner Expectations

Interpersonal Communication is just that, Interpersonal. You are expected to fully participate in all class discussions, activities and assignments. It is not mandatory to reveal your deepest and darkest, but it IS required that you participate FULLY. I encourage you to make real world connections between class material and your REAL life, experiences, knowledge, curiosity, interests and ambitions.

Teaching Philosophy

I am casual and candid in my teaching style, but do not interpret this as a willingness to be compromise SRJC rules or standards. I enforce all SRJC policies, including attendance, to ensure fairness to ALL students and to maintain the integrity of the course. I am also approachable and empathetic. Given the often personal nature of this subject-matter, sometimes things surface that you may feel need to be addressed. If you have challenges or concerns of any kind, please use my office hours, or contact me in one of the ways listed above so that I can try to help you succeed.

GRADING

Assignment	points possible	your points
Papers		
Movie Model	25	_____
Emotional Expression	25	_____
Partner #1	25	_____
Partner #2	25	_____
	100 possible	_____ TOTAL
Journals		
#1	25	_____
#2	25	_____
#3	25	_____
#4	25	_____
	100 possible	_____ TOTAL
Partner Presentations		
#1	10	_____
#2	10	_____
#3	10	_____
#4	10	_____
	40 possible	_____ TOTAL
Class Exercises		
T-Shirt Exercise	10	_____
Coat of Arms	10	_____
Photo Scavenger Hunt	10	_____
	30 possible	_____ TOTAL
Exams		
Midterm	100 points	_____
FINAL	150 points	_____
	250 possible	_____ TOTAL
Quizzes		
#1	10	_____
#2	10	_____
#3	10	_____
#4	10	_____
#5	10	_____
	50 possible	_____ TOTAL
Social Experiment		
Proposal	20	_____
Presentation	30	_____
Assessment Paper	50	_____
	100 possible	_____ TOTAL
Attendance	100 possible	_____ TOTAL
	770 points possible	_____

The Rules of Conduct:

1. Do not participate in side conversations.
2. Do not use or view electronic devices during class unless I have approved them. Phones away.
3. Food should not be consumed in class. Beverages are okay but please clean up and recycle.
4. Once you are in class you must STAY in class. Do and get stuff prior to our meeting time.
5. During class please **do not do anything distracting. NO PHONES (See Above)**
6. Your communication should be, at all times, respectful to every member of this class including me.
7. Any and all types of academic dishonesty are unacceptable and will be dealt with harshly. This is a big one. At the end of this syllabus I have a FULL explanation of PLAGIARISM and CHEATING as defined by this institution and myself, which, if violated will be grounds for failure of this course.