

COMM 3620: INTRODUCTION TO INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

Spring 2016; TR 2:20-3:40 p.m.; 360 Journalism Building

Professor:

Dr. Amy Nathanson

3142A Derby Hall

247-7952

Nathanson.7@osu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m., or by appointment

Teaching Assistant:

Kevin Collier

3049 Derby Hall

Collier.262@osu.edu

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-2:00 p.m., Friday 11:30-12:30 p.m., or by appointment

Required Reading

DeVito, J. A. (2011). *Interpersonal messages*. (2nd ed). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Course Description

This course analyzes the role that interpersonal communication plays in beginning relationships, achieving intimacy, sustaining a certain relational status, and terminating relationships.

Course Requirements

Readings: Please read the assigned material before each class meeting. This will allow you to see connections and ask questions about the related material presented in lecture.

Lecture and Discussion: Questions and discussion are encouraged during class. The lectures are designed to highlight, explain, update, and enhance material in the text as well as cover issues that the text does not. I encourage you to participate by asking questions, answering questions, and offering comments. If you must miss a class, be prepared to get notes from a classmate. *Neither the professor nor the TAs will supply lecture notes.*

In-Class Assignments: You will regularly be asked to complete in-class assignments. Students can expect roughly 8 to 12 of these assignments throughout the semester, though you will not know in advance which days these will occur. These assignments **cannot be made up outside of class**. That is, you must be in class in order to earn these points. **There are no exceptions to this policy, even for "legitimate" class absences.** However, I will drop your three lowest scores providing you some cushion should you need to miss a class on a day that an in-class assignment is given.

Exams: There will be three exams based on material covered in class and in the assigned readings. Throughout the semester, newer material will build on older material. Thus, each exam is inherently cumulative. Both lecture material and reading assignments will be tested. The exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions dealing with lecture content and the readings.

A general note: Graduating seniors (and other students) who “need” this course to graduate should work especially hard to ensure that they will pass this class. There will NOT be opportunities for students to re-take exams or re-complete assignments in order to raise their grade. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that he or she receives a passing final grade by working diligently and responsibly throughout the semester. Exceptions will NOT be made.

Grading

Your grade in this course will be determined according to your performance on the following.

Exam 1	30%
Exam 2	30%
Exam 3	30%
<u>In-class assignments</u>	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100 %

The grading scale for this course will follow the standard OSU grading scheme, which is:

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

Course Policies

Exams: All exams are to be taken in class on the designated exam dates. No early or late exams are allowed except in the case of an extreme emergency. In the rare event that an emergency arises, it is your responsibility to: 1) inform the professor prior to the scheduled exam time, and 2) provide the professor with written documentation of the emergency (e.g., medical note from a certified physician). Such documentation must be presented before the missed exam whenever possible (and by the next class period when this is not possible). Please note that make-up exams may be of a different format or cover course content in a different ratio than the original.

The final exam is scheduled at the University-mandated final exam time (Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.). No early final exams will be offered.

Use of Email and Carmen: You are responsible for all information sent to you via your OSU email account and/or posted on the Carmen website. Therefore, it is important for you to check your OSU email account regularly and be sure to purge your account of unneeded email so that new messages can get through. Similarly, check the Carmen website regularly for any updates or announcements.

Respect for Fellow Students and Professor: Please turn off watches, phones, etc. during class. If you choose to come to class, you should give your full attention to any person who is speaking (whether it is the professor or another student). During class, avoid reading newspapers, sending text messages/email, updating your Facebook page, sleeping, talking while others are talking, etc. ***Students engaging in these or other disruptive behaviors during class will be asked to leave.***

Academic Integrity

All students at the Ohio State University are bound by the code of student conduct (see http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp). Any evidence of academic misconduct will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct in accordance with the Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct and the rules of faculty governance. Academic misconduct is any activity that compromises the academic integrity of the institution or subverts the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Violation of course rules as contained in the course syllabus or other information provided to the student; violation of program regulations as established by departmental committees and made available to students;
2. Knowingly providing or receiving information during examinations such as course examinations and candidacy examinations; or the possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during those examinations;
3. Knowingly providing or using assistance in the laboratory, on field work, in scholarship or on a course assignment;
4. Submitting plagiarized work for an academic requirement. Plagiarism is the representation of another's work or ideas as one's own; it includes the unacknowledged word-for-word use and/or paraphrasing of another person's work, and/or the inappropriate unacknowledged use of another person's ideas;
5. Submitting substantially the same work to satisfy requirements for one course or academic requirement that has been submitted in satisfaction of requirements for another course or academic requirement, without permission of the instructor of the course for which the work is being submitted or supervising authority for the academic requirement;

6. Falsification, fabrication, or dishonesty in creating or reporting laboratory results, research results, and/or any other assignments;
7. Serving as, or enlisting the assistance of a substitute for a student in the taking of examinations;
8. Alteration of grades or marks by the student in an effort to change the earned grade or credit;
9. Alteration of academically-related university forms or records, or unauthorized use of those forms or records; and
10. Engaging in activities that unfairly place other students at a disadvantage, such as taking, hiding or altering resource material, or manipulating a grading system.

Accommodations

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

COURSE OUTLINE: TOPICS, READINGS, AND IMPORTANT DATES

(Schedule subject to change, with notice;
students are responsible for all changes announced in class)

DATE

TOPIC

Week 1:

Jan 12-14

Introduction; General Approaches to Interpersonal Communication
Course syllabus posted on Carmen

Week 2:

Jan 19-21

Interpersonal Communication: General Approaches
Chapter 1

Week 3:

Jan 26-28

Interpersonal Communication & Culture
Chapter 2

Week 4:

Feb 2-4

Interpersonal Communication & Culture; The Self

Week 5:

Feb 9-11

The Self & Interpersonal Communication
Chapter 3 (pp. 53-61)

Week 6: Feb 16-18	Catch-up & review; Exam 1 on February 18
Week 7: Feb 23-25	Perception & Interpersonal Communication Chapter 3 (pp. 62-78)
Week 8: March 1-3	Perception; Listening and Interpersonal Communication Chapters 4 and 8
Week 9: March 8-10	Verbal Communication; Nonverbal Communication Chapters 5 and 6
Week 10: March 15-17	SPRING BREAK
Week 11: March 22-24	Catch-up & review; Exam 2 on March 24
Week 12: March 29-31	Interpersonal Relationships Chapter 9
Week 13: April 5-7	Interpersonal Relationships; Conflict Chapter 10
Week 14: April 12-14	Conflict & Conflict Management Chapter 11
Week 15: April 19-21	Conflict Management; Catch-up & Review
Final Exam:	Wednesday, April 27 at 2:00 pm