

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COMM218: INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION – Fall 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Zach Harper  
Office: Takena 219  
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00-8:30am and at 1:00pm in Takena 219.  
Also available for prearranged meetings on Zoom.

DEPARTMENT WIDE TEXT: Adler, R. B., Rosenfeld, L. B., & Proctor II, R. F. (2018).  
***Interplay: The Process of Interpersonal Communication*** (15th ed.). New York: Oxford  
University Press

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to various aspects of the communication process in one-to-one relationships. Emphasis is placed on enhancing personal and professional relationships by expanding knowledge, increasing understanding and developing practical skills necessary for competent communication.

## **PERFORMANCE-BASED LEARNER OUTCOMES**

**Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:**

- Apply interpersonal communication research and theory
- Identify interpersonal communication's key functional areas
- Analyze, select, and enact appropriate interpersonal communication behaviors based on the interpretation of the context

**As a result of taking General Education Speech Communication courses, a student should be able to:**

- Engage in ethical communication processes that accomplish goals
- Respond to the needs of diverse audiences and contexts
- Build and manage relationships

## **COURSE POLICIES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Because of this pandemic era we are living in, setting an attendance policy in stone is foolhardy and possibly even unfair. This does not mean attendance for class is optional. Your success will be largely correlated to your presence in class. You cannot and will not pass by simply showing up sporadically or on days we have in-class assignments. Fair warning.

If you are feeling ill, you should not come to class. If you are going to miss a significant portion of class (ex: you test positive for COVID-19) please communicate your situation with me so we can work together to come up with possible alternative arrangements during your absence.

I will do my best to be understanding, compassionate, and flexible. But just know: no matter what, you cannot pass COMM 218 without completing our in-class assignments.

## ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMODATIONS:

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the CFAR Website for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

ACCOUNTABILITY: All participants will be held accountable for their actions in class.

1. Proper respect and decorum will be observed during all class sessions. Civility is critical to ensure all students feel confident and comfortable in the classroom.
  - Displaying respect for all members of the classroom community, both your instructor and fellow students. **This includes mandatory mask-wearing until otherwise decreed by LBCC. Masks must cover your mouth and nose. Face shields are not an acceptable substitute for masks. Any student who refuses to wear a mask while in class (or removes it) will be reported to Campus Public Safety and the ASSH Dean.**
  - Attentiveness to and participation in discussions and in-class activities.
  - Avoidance of unnecessary disruptions during class such as private conversations, using cell phones, or doing work for other classes.
  - Avoid obstructing or impeding the learning process for your fellow classmates
2. It is your responsibility to complete assignments prior to the start of class. This includes any homework, papers, and presentation preparation. This allows us to engage in productive class discussions and is the time to ask relevant questions. I reserve the right to give in-class pop quizzes if it becomes apparent reading assignments are not being completed. **In-class activities (or possible quizzes) cannot be made up.** Student athletes and others who miss class due to College activities must complete assignments prior to an absence.
3. Plagiarism, academic misconduct, and cheating will not be tolerated. Penalties for these actions may result in zero points for the assignment or exam, failure of the course, or possible expulsion from the College. See your undergraduate catalog for the College's definition of plagiarism and academic misconduct.
4. Please don't let tardiness become a problem. If you are late on more than one occasion, I will discuss this issue with you outside of class time. If the problem persists, further instances of tardiness will count as unexcused absences.
5. LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

**BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:** A course catalog contains a very clear summary of the rules of conduct for any class, including academic performance and classroom behavior. If you violate these rules, you may be in violation of the LBCC Judicial Code. Penalties range from grade reductions and failure of the course, to expulsion from the College. In addition to these requirements, I have the following expectations of students:

1. If you wish to speak to me about a grade or any other personal matter, please arrange a meeting outside of class time. It is not suitable to engage in these discussions in front of fellow students.
2. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices (without instructor preapproval) during all class meetings is prohibited.
3. Distractions must be minimized in order for us to use our time effectively in class. This theme extends its relevance to food/drink and visitors.

**CORE ASSIGNMENTS** (All assignments subject to change at instructor’s discretion)

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
In-Class Activities	45 total
Listening Quiz	15
Perception Paper	50
Mid-term Exam	50
Relationship Application Paper	70
Group Presentation	70
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>400</b>

**Grade Breakdown**

A	400-360pts
B	359-320pts
C	319-280pts
D	279-240pts
F	239-0pts

**To contest a final course grade**, you must submit the following to me in writing:

- The course section you are in and the final grade you received
- The grades you received in class on each individual assignment and your own personal calculation of the point total you feel you *should* have
- The specific reasons you are disputing the grade
- Plus have ALL graded course assignments available to serve as a checklist against my records

## **Course Schedule** (Subject to change at instructor's discretion)

### Week One

Tuesday, 9/28: Course Overview

Thursday, 9/30: Chapter 1 – Interpersonal Process

### Week Two

Tuesday, 10/5: Chapter 6 – Language + **ACTIVITY 1**

Thursday, 10/7: Chapter 7 - Nonverbal Communication

### Week Three

Tuesday, 10/12: Chapter 8 – Listening: Receiving and Responding

Thursday, 10/14: Chapter 4 – Interpersonal Communication and the Self

### Week Four

Tuesday, 10/19: Chapter 5 – Perceiving Others + **ACTIVITY 2**

Thursday, 10/21: **LISTENING ACTIVITY/QUIZ**

### Week Five

Tuesday, 10/26: **PERCEPTION PAPER DAY**

Thursday, 10/28: **MIDTERM EXAM**

### Week Six

Tuesday, 11/2: Chapter 10 – Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships

Thursday, 11/4: Chapter 11 – Communication in Close Relationships...

### Week Seven

Tuesday, 11/9: Chapter 9 – Emotions

### Week Eight

Tuesday, 11/16: Chapter 12 – Managing Conflict + **ACTIVITY 3**

Thursday, 11/18: Chapter 13 – Communication Climate

### Week Nine

Tuesday, 11/23: Chapter 3 – Culture and Interpersonal Communication  
Discussion on Group Communication

### Week Ten

Tuesday, 11/30: Group Workshop Day

Thursday, 12/2: **GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

### Finals Week

Tuesday, 12/7: **FINAL EXAM - 9:30-11:20am**