

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMM218: INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION – Fall 2019

INSTRUCTOR: Zach Harper
Office: SSH 203
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-10:00am

DEPARTMENT WIDE TEXT: Adler, R. B., Rosenfeld, L. B., & Proctor II, R. F. (2018). *Interplay: The Process of Interpersonal Communication* (14th ed.). New York: Oxford University Press

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

Student Learning Objectives

Students who pass this class will demonstrate the ability to:

- Use theory to explain behaviors in interpersonal relationships
- Monitor, analyze and adjust their communication behaviors
- Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings
- Manage conflict more effectively
- Empathize with people who have different thoughts, beliefs and lifestyles

COURSE POLICIES

ATTENDANCE: Attendance for this course is a requirement. And rest assured I do take attendance. Students with more than **3** absences can expect an automatic deduction of points from their overall point total/grade. The fourth and every subsequent absence will result in a progressive deduction of points from your overall grade. Should you miss more than six class periods, you should not expect to pass the course. Fair warning.

You must provide written verification for all *excused* absences. I will only excuse an absence of you provide evidence that you were either ill (and received medical care) or had to deal with a family emergency.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMODATIONS:

Students with **documented** disabilities, who have special needs, are reminded that it is your responsibility to identify yourself to your instructor no later than the first week of the term so reasonable accommodations for learning and evaluation within the course can be made. For further information, contact LBCC's Accessibility Resources at 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.
 - 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.
 - Avoidance of racist, sexist, homophobic, or other negative language that may unnecessarily exclude members of our campus and classroom community.
 - 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>
Total Points	400

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, 10/1: Course Overview

Thursday, 10/3: Chapter 1 – Interpersonal Process

Week Two

Tuesday, 10/8: Chapter 5 – Language + **ACTIVITY 1**

Thursday, 10/10: Chapter 6 - Nonverbal Communication

Week Three

Tuesday, 10/15: Chapter 7 – Listening: Receiving and Responding

Thursday, 10/17: Chapter 3 – Interpersonal Communication and the Self

Week Four

Tuesday, 10/22: Chapter 4 – Perceiving Others + **ACTIVITY 2**

Thursday, 10/24: **LISTENING ACTIVITY/QUIZ**

Week Five

Tuesday, 10/29: **PERCEPTION PAPER DAY**

Thursday, 10/31: **MIDTERM EXAM**

Week Six

Tuesday, 11/5: Chapter 9 – Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships

Thursday, 11/7: Chapter 10 – Communication in Close Relationships...

Week Seven

Tuesday, 11/12: Chapter 8 – Emotions

Thursday, 11/14: Chapter 11 – Managing Conflict + **Activity 3**

Week Eight

Tuesday, 11/19: Chapter 12 – Communication Climate

Thursday, 11/21: Chapter 2 – Culture and Interpersonal Communication

Week Nine

Tuesday, 11/26: Group Communication

Week Ten

Tuesday, 12/3: Group Workshop Day

Thursday, 12/5: **GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

Finals Week

Tuesday, 12/10: **FINAL EXAM**