

Spring 2023

COMM 218: Interpersonal Communication

Instructor: Erin Cook

TR 9:30am – 10:50am in CH 203, CRN: 42169

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Office Hours: TR 8:30am – 9:30am, Zoom, or by appt.

Welcome to COMM218: Interpersonal Communication. I hope that you can benefit from this course related to your own interpersonal relationships, regardless be they face-to-face or online. Below you will find the course syllabus. Please read through it CAREFULLY, paying special attention to assignment deadlines. A calendar with ALL assignment due dates for the ENTIRE TERM is included, so late assignments are not accepted.

We will focus on the development of interpersonal communication knowledge and the improvement of interpersonal communication skills, both in the context of face-to-face and online relationships. We will move toward these goals by exploring various aspects of theory and practical skill development in the interpersonal communication process. The various aspects of interpersonal communication which we will explore include the communication process, self- concept, perception, emotions, language, nonverbal communication, listening, relationship development, communication climates and conflict resolution. Exploration of these topics will involve readings, in-class discussions, group activities, videos, written assignments, presentations, and exams.

Success in this course is largely dependent upon your willingness to be an active participant. Additionally, students who successfully complete this course are willing and able to use the technology necessary to access web information, down/upload assignments, and communicate. You must also be a self-disciplined, independent learner with college level reading and writing skills. Completion of WR121 AND RD90 is STRONGLY recommended. Students who successfully complete this course 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 context interpretation.

TEXT (required): Adler, R.B., Rosenfeld, L.B., & Proctor II, R.F. (2020). Interplay: The process of interpersonal communication (15th ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780197501382 Make sure to have a copy of the text (either physical or digital) NO LATER than Wednesday of Week 2.

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

Assignments	Points	Grade Scale
Homework (7 @ 20 pts. ea.)	140	A 540 – 600
In – Class Example Sharing**	20	B 480 – 539
In – Class Activities (10 @ 10 pts. ea.)	100	C 420 – 479
Exam #1	140	D 360 – 419
Exam #2	120	F ≤ 359
Film Presentation (40), Form (10), and Outline (30)	80	
Syllabus Quiz (extra credit)		
Total	600	

NOTE: Final letter grade may be lower at the end of the term. See the “ATTENDANCE” policy for more information.

COURSE MATERIALS: internet, knowledge of Moodle, and Word/PDF/ODT application; NO PAGES FILES.

IN – CLASS/HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES: Each week there will be a variety of in – class/homework activities, that you will earn points for by completing and uploading assignments to Moodle. You must be in class for the entire class period to complete, submit, and earn points these assignments. Due dates for all homework assignments are listed on the course calendar. Late assignments are not accepted.

ATTENDANCE: Your attendance is based on both your presence and participation in class. You are allowed three (3) unexcused absences for the term. Additionally, you must arrive to class on time and stay for the full class. If you are going to be gone for a college sanctioned event, documentation needs to be submitted PRIOR for the absence to be excused. Documentation after the fact will not be accepted. Last, missing class for another class is unacceptable.

FILM PRESENTATION: We watch clips from shows/films that demonstrate interpersonal concepts. This presentation requires you to analyze course concepts in a film/show of your choosing and present week 10.

DEADLINES: All assignments are due via Moodle by 11:59pm on the dates listed. After these times, assignments are late and not accepted. If you miss a deadline, it is NOT acceptable to email me an assignment.

24 HOUR POLICY: Once graded work is returned, you must wait 24 hours before asking questions about the grade. Comments are given on work, so read through the comments as questions may be answered there.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: For all written assignments, they must be typed, double-spaced, stapled, and proofread. Conventional spelling, complete sentences and a formal approach is required.

FOOD AND DRINKS: You may eat and drink in class. However, if you abuse this privilege, you will lose it.

TECH: If your phone rings, I will answer it and you lose ten (10) points. If a device is out and not focused on class, you lose ten (10) points. Remove headphones during class. Recording is prohibited without consent.

END OF TERM GRADE DISCUSSIONS: Please accept responsibility for the grades you earn. I do not give out grades. You earn them based on the efforts that you put into the course. I understand that “life” happens, the unexpected arises, and the unthinkable emerges at inopportune times. I am here to discuss situations with you if want. I will not engage reasons why work is incomplete, I will not haggle for points, nor will I change grades especially at the end of the term. Claim responsibility for your grades. The grade you want is a result of the work you put in, empower yourself. (Adapted from a statement provided by Nikki Roberts, Ph.D.)

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic honesty is always expected. Using someone’s work, ideas or information as your own without proper citation can lead to failing the assignment/class. In short: do your own work.

COMMUNICATION: Email is the best way to get in touch with me. Though, keep in mind a few stipulations:

- All correspondence needs to be from your LBCC student email account. ONID email works too.
- Include your name, class day/time, and 218 in the email so I can better answer your questions/concerns.
- I respond to emails during office hours or when on campus, NOT in the evenings or on weekends.
- If you email me a picture of a cute baby animal, you will earn 5 extra credit points. Limit one per term.

CENTER FOR ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES: Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency should speak with their instructor during the first week of class. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), please visit the [CFAR](#) for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

NONDISCRIMINATION: LBCC maintains a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in employment and admissions, without regard to race, color, sex, marital and/or parental status, religion, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, Vietnam era, or veteran status.

INCLUSION: The LBCC community is enriched by diversity. Each individual has worth and makes contributions to create that diversity at the college. Everyone has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill. Everyone has the right to their own opinion and to express their opinion though not impose those opinions upon others. Keeping the expression of ideas open is beneficial for all in the learning process. You might just be surprised at what you not only learn about interpersonal communication but about yourself as well.

COVID – 19 SAFETY AND SUCCESS POLICY: Due to the rise in COVID-19 variants and consistent with CDC guidance and OHA requirements, Linn-Benton Community College has established rules and policies to make the return to the classroom as safe as possible. It is required for everyone to follow all the campus rules and policies. To participate in this class, LBCC requires all students to comply with the approved face covering policy, which means you must wear an approved face always covering while indoors. Your approved face covering must be properly worn (fully covering nose and mouth and tight-fitting). Mesh masks, face shields, or face covering that incorporates a valve designed to facilitate easy exhalation are not acceptable. Please see me if you have concerns with meeting this expectation. If you have a medical condition or a disability that prevents

you from wearing a mask or cloth face covering, you must obtain an accommodation from CFAR (Center for Accessibility Resources) to be exempt from this requirement. State guidelines do not limit class size. Physical distancing accommodations can be made upon request and cleaning supplies are also available for personal use. LBCC's COVID-19 policies can be found [here](#). This class is scheduled to be offered face-to-face on campus at the Benton Center. If things change, the class will be designed to optimize your interactions with me, the material, and your classmates. If you experience symptoms of COVID-19 or are caring for someone who is, please consult [LBCC's COVID-19 Information Page](#) for information and your next steps. I am here to support your success during these challenging times. You need **NOT** disclose private medical information or provide documentation of your illness.

ASSIGNMENT CALENDAR: (I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS ANY TIME DURING THE TERM.)

		In – Class	Ch.	Assignments
1	4/4 4/6	Course Intro; Overview; Process; Models; Needs (1); <u>Autograph Party</u> Principles; Misconceptions; Interpersonal Defined; Competence (1)	1	Syllabus Quiz due 4/9 Shrek due 4/9
2	4/11 4/13	<u>Shrek Share</u> ; Mediated Communication; Masspersonal Competence (2) <u>Nomophobia</u> ; Culture; Intercultural; Values/Norms (3)	2 & 3	The Office due 4/16
3	4/18 4/20	<u>Office Share</u> ; Competence (3); Self; <u>Reflected</u> ; Identity (4) <u>Bridget Share</u> ; Disclosure (4) Benefits Risks; Alternatives (4); <u>Positive</u>	3 & 4	Bridget Jones due 4/19
4	4/25 4/27	Perceptions; <u>Explore</u> ; Influence; Checking; Empathy (5) Language; Rules; Worldview; Names; Power; Precision; Online (6)	5 & 6	
5	5/2 5/4	Nonverbals; Characteristics; Functions; Types (7) Exam #1: Ch. 1 – 7; in – class	7	Travels due 5/7
6	5/9 5/11	<u>Travels Share</u> ; Listening; <u>Factual</u> ; Styles; Challenges; Ineffective; <u>One Up Share</u> ; Process; Responses (8); Emotions; <u>Green Beans</u> (9)	8 & 9	One Up due 5/10
7	5/16 5/18	Influences; Guides; Managing; Thoughts; Fallacies; Minimize (9) <u>Inside Out Share</u> ; Maximize (9); Relationships; Knapp (10)	9 & 10	Inside Out due 5/17 D & G due 5/21
8	5/23 5/25	<u>D & G Share</u> ; Dialectical; <u>Phone Swap</u> ; Meta; Damage; Repair (10) Friends; Family; Romantic; Intimacy (11)	10 & 11	FP Form due 5/28
9	5/30 6/1	Conflict; Styles; Systems; Manage (12); <u>Play to Win</u> Climates; Development; Defensive (13)	12 & 13	Outline due 6/4
10	6/6 6/8	Analysis Presentations – A Analysis Presentations – B		
F	6/13	Exam #2 (Ch. 8 – 13) at 9:30am Tuesday 6/13		

****HOMEWORK EXAMPLE SHARING**

A – C	D – G	H – J	K – N	O – Q	R – U	V - Z
Shrek 4/11	The Office 4/18	Bridget 4/20	Travels 5/9	One Up 5/11	Inside Out 5/18	D & G 5/23