

COMM 20001
Interpersonal Communication
Section 001 Call # 11718

Meeting Time: Tuesday, Thursday 9:15am-10:30am
Location: MSP D304
Instructor: Gwen A. Hullman
Office Hours: 10:30am-12pm, T/TH, D207
Contact: (330) 672-0284, ghullman@kent.edu
Prerequisite: none

Course Goals:

Communication is something many people participate in everyday, but few take the time to formally study the process of interpersonal communication. The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of basic concepts of interpersonal communication, to apply theories of interpersonal communication to everyday encounters, to understand the verbal/nonverbal messages processes, and to understand how communication affects interpersonal relationships.

Required Text:

DeVito, J. A. (2001). *The interpersonal communication book* (9th ed.), New York: Longman.

Exams:

There will be two exams during the semester. Each exam will cover one half of the interpersonal communication textbook, as well as any lecture/supplemental material covered with the chapters. The format of the exam will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, true/false, and matching. The second exam is not comprehensive. Each exam is worth 25% of the final grade. Review guides will be posted to WebCT one week prior to each exam.

Journal Assignment:

The journal assignment is designed to help familiarize students with communication journals and databases available in our library. The assignment will be posted on WebCT. You may handwrite your answers on the paper if your handwriting is legible. Otherwise, please type and number your answers to the questions. This assignment is worth 10% of the final grade.

Communication Essay and Mini-presentation:

Students will write a 4-5-page essay explaining the major assumptions of an interpersonal communication theory or concept. In addition, students will apply the theory/concept to everyday experiences. Finally, students will evaluate the theory or concept's practical application to everyday interpersonal communication situations. The textbook can be used as the citation for the material and must be cited appropriately in the paper and in a reference page. The papers should be: in 5th edition APA style, double-spaced, 12-point, Times New Roman font. Use the paper guidelines link on WebCT to check your paper before turning it in. On the assigned day, students will verbally share (not read) their essays with the rest of the class (approximately 5-7 minutes). The paper and presentation are worth 15% of the final grade.

Literature Review:

The final theory paper (7-8 pages) should be a literature review on research in a specific interpersonal context or on a specific communication theory. The research should include 8-10 scholarly peer-reviewed sources, preferably from academic communication journals. The literature review should include a summary of the research area, strengths and weaknesses of the research, and future suggestions for continuing research. The papers should be: in 5th edition APA style, double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman font. Use the paper guidelines link on WebCT to check your paper before turning it in. The literature review is worth 25% of the final grade.

Attendance/Participation Policy:

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class during the semester. Part of your responsibility as a student is to come to class to participate in activities, discuss material, and share relevant examples. Attendance includes more than only physical presence. Side conversations, studying for other classes, and reading the newspaper are not considered attending class. More than three unexcused absences will result in a 3% deduction off the final grade for each additional absence. Documentation for excused absences must be presented to the instructor within one week of returning to class.

Grade Calculations:

	%	Points
Exam One:	_____ x .25=	_____
Exam Two:	_____ x .25=	_____
Journal Assignment :	_____ x .10=	_____
Essay:	_____ x .15=	_____
Literature review:	_____ x .25=	_____
Attendance deduction:		_____
Final Grade:		_____

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Cheating is the intent to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Plagiarism is presenting as one's own ideas and material or a portion of the ideas and material, derived from an existing source without full or proper credit to the source. This includes handing in materials turned in previously for other classes or signing the attendance sheet for someone else.

Disabilities:

In accordance with university policy, students who have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this class should contact Student Disability Services at (330) 672-2972.