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| **CMN2630-001**  **CUs: 3**  **INTRODUCTION TO INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION**  **Spring 2017**  Meeting Time: T & TH 11:00 a.m. - 12:55 p.m.  Meeting Location: COL 1110  Instructor: Rodney K. Marshall, Ph.D. (aka: dr rod)  Office: Coleman 1763  Office hours: T & TH 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m., 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.  Phone: (217) 581-2016 (main office)  E-mail: [rkmarshall@eiu.edu](mailto:rkmarshall@eiu.edu) |

**Required Texts:**

Trenholm, S., & Jensen, A. (2013). *Interpersonal Communication* (7th Ed.). New York: Oxford

University Press.

**Course Description**:

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of interpersonal communication. Students will be exposed to principles of human communication in a variety of contexts with special emphasis placed on critical thinking as a tool for improving everyday communication skills.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Three Exams: Three exams (to include a final exam) will be given to evaluate student understanding and application of selected concepts and terminology introduced in the text and during class lectures/discussions.
2. Reflection Papers: Students will write two reflection papers during the course of the semester. Reflection papers will be 2-3 pages each and will cover some aspect of the course readings. More details TBA.
3. Discussion Facilitation- Each class period, one student will be selected to share an “interpersonal fact” for the day. These facts should be well researched, be intriguing and interesting, and should fit within the assigned content for that day’s class. Each student will facilitate a 15-minute discussion period at the beginning of class as it relates to the shared “fact” and assigned course content. Sign-up for dates/times TBA.
4. Final Reflection/Critical Thinking Research Paper- Students will write a final paper assessing what they have learned about interpersonal communication and how this information has assisted them in understanding something more about themselves and/or the outside world. More details TBA.
5. Attendance/Participation: Participation is an important part of your responsibility as a member of this class. You will be expected to participate in several written and/or oral engagements during class time. If you are not present, you cannot be evaluated in these areas.

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| **Grading**  Assignment \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Points Percent %  Exams 3 @ 100 ea. 300 48%  Reflection papers 2 @ 50 ea. 100 16%  Discussion Facilitation 25 4%  Final Paper/Presentation 100 16%  Attendance/Participation 100 16%  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total Points 625 100% |

**Classroom Standards and Evaluation:**

All faculty in the Department of Communication Studies uphold the standards of good scholarship and expect our students to do the same. We expect that students earning a degree in Communication Studies will develop superior reasoning/critical thinking, argumentation, writing, and presentational skills while also building comprehensive knowledge of their content area. Students in Communication Studies classes will be expected to read all assigned materials, write extensively, complete their own work, and engage in respectful classroom interactions.

**Grading Criteria for Papers:**

**A** An *exceptional* paper/assignment-- Content is original and form/style is executed according to guidelines taught in class. Technical excellence includes proper format, organization, and language usage; proper sentence structure; no spelling errors or improper words; and adherence to APA style. All elements of the assignment are addressed thoroughly–content goes beyond the basics.

**B** A *good* paper/assignment-- Content is technically well developed. There are few problems with format and grammar; however, format is not followed “to the letter.” Some editing is required to correct errors in grammar or punctuation. Two or more elements of the assignment were weak–not developed beyond basic detail.

**C** An *acceptable* paper/assignment-- Grammar and punctuation errors draw reader’s attention away from the purpose of the paper. Organization is awkward (e.g., transitions between ideas are unclear or abrupt). There are frequent misspellings or other style errors. There are serious problems with one or more elements of the assignment. At least one element of the assignment is missing.

**D** An *unacceptable* paper/assignment. Student does not demonstrate a full grasp of the purpose of the assignment. Organization is weak and ideas are hard to follow and understand. Assignment is filled with errors in grammar and punctuation. More than one element of the assignment is completely missing.

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions, read the assigned reading material before class, pass exams, deliver four speeches, complete the peer and self-evaluations, and complete additional assignments as indicated by the instructor. Federal guidelines dictate that institutions should expect students to work for at least two hours outside of class for each hour of in-class instruction. That means that you should expect to work, on this class, at least six hours a week in order to earn credit for this course.

**Student Standards Statement:** All faculty in the Department of Communication Studies uphold the standards of good scholarship and expect our students to do the same. We expect that students earning a degree in Communication Studies will develop superior reasoning/critical thinking, argumentation, writing, and presentational skills while also building a comprehensive knowledge of their content area. Students in Communication Studies classes will be expected to read all assigned materials, write extensively, complete their own work, and engage in respectful interactions in the classroom. We, as a faculty, agree to hold our students to these standards.

**Statement Regarding Disabilities:** If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006 or call 217-581-6583.

**Make-up Policy:** You are expected to complete all work on time. Copies of all homework assignments and handouts will be made available to you on Desire 2 Learn (D2L). If there are u*niversity approved* circumstances that prevent you from completing the work on time, you should complete the work *in advance* of the expected absence. LATE WORK ***WILL******NOT*** BE ACCEPTED! In general, in-class quizzes/engagements may NOT be made up; these are in-class activities that require active participation. In addition, oral reports that are missed due to an unexcused absence will result in a zero for that assignment. You should make every effort possible to present your report on the assigned speaking day.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is a minimum expectation. Any academic dishonesty will result in an appropriate penalty. Penalties may range from failure on an assignment to expulsion from the university. It is also expected that you will treat others, as well as yourself, with courtesy and respect. Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU’s Code of Conduct (<http://eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>).

**Absences:** The 2010 Student Catalog states: “Students are expected to attend class meetings as scheduled. When an absence occurs, the student is responsible for the material covered during the absence.”

Your grade will be reduced due to absences according to the following:

1. 0-2 absences = no reduction

2. For each absence beyond 2, 5 pts will be deducted from your final grade for each day.

Your allotted two absences should be reserved to take care of emergencies or illness. If you use these days as “personal days” and later become ill or have an emergency, your final grade will be penalized. Although the first two absences do not directly affect your final grade, you will still be held to the late work/make-up work policies, which means any absences may indirectly affect your final grade.

**Other Class Rules:**

1. Read assigned material BEFORE coming to class
2. Be on time—you will be marked absent even if you show up late to class
3. Be respectful of the instructor’s and classmates time; we will not revisit information you have missed should you decide to show up late to class or skip class
4. Turn off or silence cell phones and other electronic devices
5. No texting or playing on Facebook or other web sites during class
6. Type all assignments
7. Check D2L periodically for class announcements and assignments
8. Be supportive and respectful of yourself and others during classroom discussions
9. Participate actively in class discussion
10. Familiarize yourself with the course calendar and assignment due dates; Extra credit is not offered in this course

PLEASE NOTE: Your performance on assignments is directly proportionate to the amount of time you are in class. Students who attend class regularly tend to perform better on assignments and receive higher overall grades in the class. Please feel free to visit with me during office hours if you have questions about your grades and/or performance in class.

COURSE CALENDAR

Date Readings/Discussion Topics Assignments

**Week 1**

1/10 Introduction to Course/”Syllabus” Day

1/12 Chp. 1 Communication & Competence

**Week 2**

1/17 Chp. 2 Interpersonal Communication

1/19 Chp. 2 Cont.

**Week 3**

1/24 Chp. 3 Nonverbal Communication

1/26 Chp. 3 Cont.

**Week 4**

1/31 Chp. 4 Language and Inter Communication **Reflection #1 Assigned**

2/02 Chp. 4 Cont.

**Week 5**

2/07 Chp. 5 Listening

2/09 Chp. 5 Cont. /Review for Exam 1

**Week 6**

2/14 Exam #1

2/16 Chp. 6 Perceiving and Interpreting Social Worlds

**Week 7**

2/21 Chp. 6 Cont./

2/23 Chp. 7 Meeting Social Expectations

**Week 8**

2/28 Chp. 7 Cont.

3/02 Chp. 8 Establishing Individual Identities

**Week 9**

3/07 Chp. 9 Achieving Personal and Relational Goals

3/09 Chp. 9 Cont.

**Week 10**

3/21 Chp. 10 Understanding Family Relationships **Reflection #2 Assigned**

3/23 Chp. 10 Cont.

**Week 11**

3/28 Review for Exam #2

3/30 **Exam #2**

**Week 12**

4/04 Chp. 11 Creating Intimate Relationships **Final Paper Assigned**

4/06 Chp. 12 Managing Professional Relationships

**Week 13**

4/11 Chp. 13 Interpersonal Communication, Culture, and Change

4/13 Technology/CMC and Interpersonal Communication

**Week 14**

4/18 **Student Presentations**

4/20 **Student Presentations**

**Week 15**

4/25 **Student Presentations**

4/27 Review for Final Exam

**Tuesday, May 2 Final Exam** **2:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.**