



## **Interpersonal Communication (SPCH 1318)**

**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None

### **Instructor Contact Information:**

### **Course Description**

Application of communication theory to interpersonal relationship development, maintenance, and termination in relationship contexts including friendships, romantic partners, families, and relationships with co-workers and supervisors.

### **Required Textbook and Materials**

1. *Interpersonal Messages* by Joseph A. DeVito, Third Edition  
Published by Pearson. ISBN 978-0-205-93180-4
2. Scantrons (2) and #2 pencils
3. Notebook for Journal or Use of electronic journal

### **Objectives**

#### **Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Exhibit understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.
3. Identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, and applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender and age influences on human communication.
6. Demonstrate ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups.
7. Identify types of and barriers to effective listening.

#### **Core Objectives**

1. Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

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### **Course Syllabus**

3. Teamwork: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others.
4. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

### **Course Outline**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. A First Look at Interpersonal Communication                   | F. Nonverbal Communication: Messages beyond Words |
| B. Communication and Identity: Creating and Presenting the Self. | G. Listening: More Than Meets the Ear             |
| C. Perception: What You See Is What You Get                      | H. Communication and Relational Dynamics          |
| D. Emotions: Feeling, Thinking, and Communicating                | I. Communication and Relational Dynamics          |
| E. Language, Barrier and Bridge                                  | J. Communication in Close Relationships           |
|  | K. Improving Communication Climates               |
|  | L. Managing Interpersonal Conflicts               |

### **Grade Scale**

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

### **Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Projects	18%
2. Student Journal	52%
3. 2 Tests	15%
4. Group Presentation/Critique	15%

### **Course Requirements**

Students are required to complete a journal of interpersonal experiences. Students are required to complete 3 small projects based on the lecture and discussion conducted during class. Students are required to complete 2 tests. Students are required to participate in the group presentation development and delivery. Further directions for assignments will be provided in class.

### **Course Policies**

1. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
3. Do not bring children to class.

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4. No late assignments will be accepted.
5. Students that miss a test are not allowed to make up the test. Students that miss a test will receive a grade of '0'.
6. Attendance Policy. Three absences are allowed. If a student is tardy to class or departs early three (3) times, it will be equal to one (1) absence. Each absence beyond two absences results in a 5 point deduction from your final grade.
7. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
8. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

**Disabilities Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building.

**Course Schedule**

See Individual Instructor Calendar