

**COM 190: Interpersonal Communication**  
**Department of Communication & Theatre**  
**Point Loma Nazarene University**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kathleen C. Czech  
**Office:** 204 Cabrillo Hall  
**Office Hours:** TR 1-2pm  
**Phone:** 619-849-2315  
**E-mail:** [kczech@pointloma.edu](mailto:kczech@pointloma.edu)

**TA:** Tierra Gindt [tgindt4824@pointloma.edu](mailto:tgindt4824@pointloma.edu)

**Required Text:**

📖 Beebe, S.A., Beebe, S.J., & Redmond, M.V. (2010). *Interpersonal Communication: Relating to others* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

📖 E-class will also be used to post articles and course information.

**Course Description:**

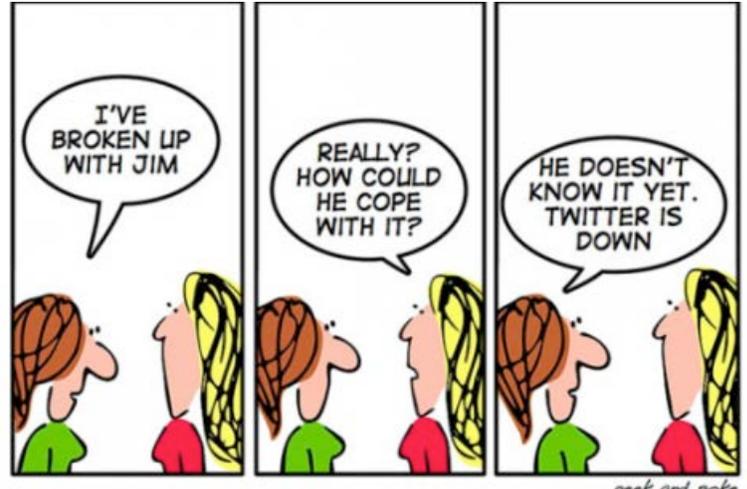
This course is designed to introduce students to interpersonal communication theory and skills related to interpersonal communication. This course will integrate theory and practice in such a way as to stimulate self-awareness, highlight taken-for-granted aspects of the communicative process, and collaborate with others through dyadic interaction.

Specifically, students in this course will be provided opportunities to work toward the following learning outcomes:

1. To become familiar with selected interpersonal theory
2. To obtain a working knowledge of the communication process in on-going interpersonal contexts.
3. To become more aware and critical of your own and others communicative behavior
4. To utilize and receive feedback on written, oral, and group communication skills during the course of the semester

**Assignments:**

All assignments must be typed. Hand written work will not be accepted. Please note that standard font and margins are expected of one inch and 12 point font (New Times

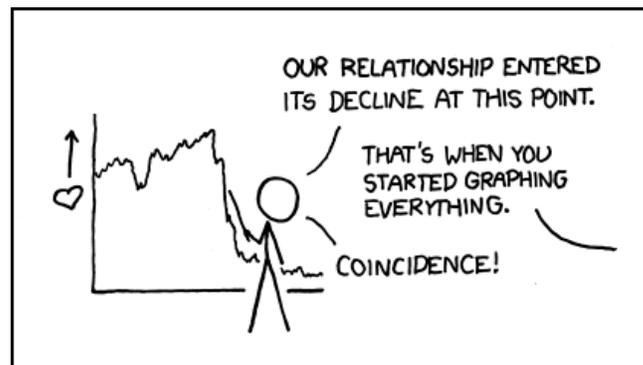


Roman). All papers should be double-spaced. There should be no grammatical errors or misspelled words in your assignments. Always proofread your assignments and have someone else proof them too.

All assignments are due on the day specified and on time. Late assignments will not be accepted.

### *Explanation of Class Assignments:*

- ✎ **Journals:** There will be 6 analytic journal assignments. These journals will promote understanding and retention of knowledge about interpersonal communication. The essay questions will reflect and represent your cognitive knowledge of the subject matter as well as your ability to apply theory to real life examples and instances. The instructor will provide the journal questions; and answers should range from approximately 4-5 pages per journal entry.
- ✎ **Dyadic Theory Presentation:** You will be placed in a dyad that will choose some aspect of interpersonal communication to research. Your dyads' research will result in a 15 minute presentation to the class. The theory presentation should expand on a specific area of interpersonal theory that was **not fully developed or discussed** in class. The instructor will provide topic choices.
- ✎ **Mid-Term:** The mid-term exam covers all material in the text and includes any material that I have lectured on or handed out in class. You are responsible for material in the book even if I have not lectured on it. Keeping up with the readings will be key to preparing for the mid-term. Save all handouts as these may also come in use for reviewing for the mid-term. The format for the mid-term will use a variety of questions including multiple choice, fill-in-the blank, matching, true/false, and essay.
- ✎ **Final:** The final exam is a comprehensive assessment of your knowledge of the materials we have covered in this class. You are responsible for all material presented in the text and in class. The format for the final will use a variety of questions similar to those used on the mid-term.



*Grading:*

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Your Scores</i>
Journals	150 Points	
Mid-term	120 Points	
Theory Presentation	75 points	
Final	120 points	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>465 points</b>	

*Grading Scale:*

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Points</b>
A	93-100	431-465	C	73-76	338-357
A-	90-92	417-430	C-	70-72	324-339
B+	87-89	403-416	D+	67-69	310-325
B	83-86	384-402	D	63-66	291-309
B-	80-82	370-383	D-	60-62	277-290
C+	77-79	356-369	F	0-59	0-276

*Grading Standards:*

“A’s”.....are awarded for work that is highly exceptional and goes beyond all minimal requirements.

“B’s”.....are awarded for work that is above average and goes beyond minimal requirements.

“C’s”.....are awarded for work that meets basic standards and requirements.

“D’s”.....are awarded for below average work that usually lacks minimal requirements.

“F’s”.....are awarded for work that clearly does not meet minimal standards, or is not completed.

*Grade Concerns:*

If you feel that you were unjustly evaluated on any assignment, please talk with me within 1 week after the assignment has been returned. An appeal is welcome by scheduling an appointment or coming to my office hours. Do NOT approach me immediately after a grade has been returned in class. Please come with a well reasoned and written explanation of why the grade should be changed, and I will be happy to discuss it with you. Please note: Asking for an appeal and defending your case does not secure, nor imply a change of grade. If at any point during the course you are concerned with your overall class grade or other issues in the course, please feel free to make an appointment or stop by my office. I want to help you learn and succeed in this course.

### *Attendance Policy:*

This course is a course in communication and presentation. In order to do both you must be present in class regularly. Therefore, attendance will be taken every class period. Each student is allotted 2 excused/unexcused absences for the semester. Upon the third absence the students FINAL grade will be lowered a half step. This means if you are getting a B in the class your grade will be dropped to a B-. For each subsequent absence the FINAL grade will continue to drop a half grade step each time! The only excused absence is one that is university approved. There for if you are ill or have to take a friend to the airport this does not count as excused and will be counted as an absence. In addition attendance in class means that you are attending to the class. Sleeping in class, excessive texting or talking during class will count as an absence for that day.

In the tragic event that you do miss class please get notes from someone in the class. **Do NOT ask me for notes.** You will be expected to get notes, handouts, and assignments from someone in class. Please do not ask me for my lecture notes!! You are responsible for missed material and should try to make a friend or two in this class that you can count on. In addition I do not post lecture material or power point presentations on e-class.

### *Make-ups & Extra Credit:*

All assignments are due on the date specified in the syllabus. I am not responsible for turning in your assignments on time – YOU ARE! In the event of an unexpected and unavoidable scheduling conflict, it is your responsibility to make prior arrangements (well in advance) with me to resolve the problem. Excuses after the assignment dates are unacceptable with the exception of extreme circumstances. Extra credit is not available, so please do well on the assignments in the course.

### *Academic Dishonesty:*

Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts, as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Therefore, cheating and/or plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course.

### *Classroom Conduct:*

While I enjoy a relaxed classroom atmosphere, with lots of discussion and jokes, disrespect will not be tolerated. This means respect towards your peers as well as your instructor. Do not speak rudely to others or the professor. I appreciate a lively and bit disordered class that allows communication to happen. Your participation is highly encouraged in class and can even affect your attendance grade. While the course will encounter lots of opinions and views, it is everyone's responsibility to keep an open mind, and avoid character attacks, stereotypes, and racist or sexist language. You are welcome to challenge ideas in class, but must do so in a manner of the utmost respect!!

### *Presentations:*

Please remember that attendance is mandatory for all on these days!! Presentations can be a nervous experience for some. Please NEVER walk in on a presentation under any circumstances. Do not leave either, but simply wait until you hear applause and then enter the classroom quietly and quickly. Furthermore, when presentations are occurring this is not the time to talk with your neighbor, read the paper, rearrange your backpack, or text message someone.

### *Appearance:*

Your physical appearance on presentation days is important. You should be neatly groomed and dressed in a way that suggests you expect to be taken seriously. **At a minimum** this means a dress shirt and dress slacks for men, and dress skirt or dress slacks and blouse for women. Please do not wear hats, tennis shoes, shorts, or chew gum during your presentations. Physical appearance has been shown to affect the credibility of public speakers and as a result will also affect yours in this class!

### *Academic Accommodations:*

All students are expected to meet the minimum standards for this course as set by the instructor. Students with learning disabilities who may need accommodations should first discuss options and services available to them in the Academic Support Center (ASC) during the first two weeks of the semester. The ASC, in turn will contact professors with official notification and suggested classroom accommodations, as required by federal law. Approved documentation must be provided by the student and placed on file in the ASC prior to the beginning of the semester.

### *Technology:*

The use of electronic devices during class is NOT permitted. This includes cell phones, i-pods, and laptops! This means you should bring something else to take notes on! Students are not permitted to listen to music while taking a test or to use their cell phones during tests. Continued use of technological devices during class will result in an absence for that class period.

## Daily Syllabus

<i>Date</i>	<i>Classroom Discussion</i>	<i>Readings</i>
T Jan. 14	Interpersonal Communication	Chp. 1
W Jan. 15	Perception	Chp. 3
M Jan. 20	Perception/The Self	Chp. 2
W Jan. 22	The Self	
M Jan. 27	Verbal Communication <i>Journal 1 Due!</i>	Chp. 6
W Jan. 29	Nonverbal Communication	Chp. 6
M Feb. 3	Nonverbal Communication	Chp. 7
W Feb. 5	Listening	Chp. 5
M Feb. 10	Communication Competence <i>Journal 2 Due!</i>	
W Feb. 12	Communication Competence	
M Feb. 17	Review	
W Feb. 19	<b>MID-TERM</b>	
M Feb. 24	Relationships <i>Journal 3 Due!</i>	Chp. 9
W Feb. 26	Relationships	
M Mar. 3	Relationships	Chp. 10
W Mar. 5	Relationships	
MW Mar. 10-14	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>	
M Mar. 17	Relationships <i>Journal 4 Due!</i>	
W Mar. 19	Gender Communication	
M Mar. 24	Conflict/Forgiveness	Chp. 8

*Daily Syllabus*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Classroom Discussion</i>	<i>Readings</i>
W Mar. 26	Friendship & Love	
M Mar. 31	Marriage & Family	Chp. 12
W Apr. 2	Dyadic Preparation <i>Journal 5 Due!</i>	
M Apr. 7	<b>Dyad Presentations</b>	
W Apr. 9	<b>Dyad Presentations</b>	
M Apr. 14	<b>Dyad Presentations</b>	
W Apr. 16	<b>Dyad Presentations</b>	
M Apr. 21	<b>No Class – Easter Break</b>	
W Apr. 23	<b>Dyad Presentations</b>	
M Apr. 28	Dark Sides of Relationships	
W Apr. 30	Dark Sides of Relationships/Review <i>Journal 6 Due!</i>	

**FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE**  
**Wednesday, May 7, 2014 - 10:30-12:30**

