



COM 3010 Nonverbal Communication

Communication Studies Department

Spring 2022 ◊ 3 Units ◊ T/TH 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. ◊ C104

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Office hours: zoom appointments or phone calls upon request

PLNU Mission

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Catalog Description

Theory and research on nonverbal aspects of speech communication, emphasizing the importance of time, space, body language, touch and vocalics.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competence in explaining, illustrating, and interpreting basic principles of nonverbal communication by being able to:

1. Define the general terms related to the academic study of nonverbal communication and behavior.
2. Explain the primary codes of student within nonverbal communication, including: physical appearance, gesture and movement, face and eye behavior, vocal behavior, space and territoriality, touch, environment and physical surroundings, and time.
3. Explain how nonverbal behaviors function in communication interactions including mediated contexts.
4. Understand the applications of the nonverbal codes in a reflexive manner as related to interpersonal relationships, organizational communication and culture.

Required Texts

Nonverbal Communication for a Lifetime by Diana Ivy and Shawn Wahl. 3rd Edition.

Assessment and Grading

Below you will find the assignments for the semester. Your grade will be calculated by dividing the number of points you earn by the total number of points at the end of the semester. Course assignments and scheduling are subject to change due to the nature of the course. All changes will be made orally in class, provided in writing and posted on Canvas.

1. **Interactive Lessons:** Canvas-based review of lecture and text material (points vary)
2. **Exams:** Three exams over course material. (100 points each)
3. **Research Paper** (100 points)
Students will be assigned a topic and prepare a six-page research paper. Expectations for the project will be handed out in class.
4. **Cultural Presentation & Infographic** (50 points)
Students will be paired with a group to prepare a seven-minute presentation and infographic based on the nonverbal functions of a foreign country including: physical appearance, gesture and movement, facial behavior, eye behavior, vocal behavior, space and territoriality, touch, environment and time. Expectations for this presentation will be handed out in class.

5. **Practicums & Participation** (points vary) Students will complete various activities to support experiential learning of course material.

Grade Scale

A- = 90-92%; A = 93-100: Excellent (*exceptional, superlative presentations, engaged in class lecture and discussion, attendance, posture, interest, etc. Comprehensive excellence is needed for a superlative grade in this course.*)

B- = 80-82%; B = 83-87%; B+ = 88-89%: Above average

C- = 70-72%; C = 73-77%; C+ = 78-79%: Average (*mediocre, passable, fair, midpoint between extremes of excellence and failure.*)

D- = 60-62%; D = 63-67%; D+ = 68-69%: Below average

F = 59% and below: Failure (*omission or lack of satisfactory performance of action or task, inadequate, impassable, etc.*)

Method of Instruction

The course is taught through lecture, discussion, class activities, and a semester project all designed to help you develop critical thinking abilities as they relate to organizational life. Lectures will often introduce material beyond that which is covered in readings and will assume information supplied in the text. Lecture and text should complement, not substitute for each other. It is your responsibility to come to class ready to think, challenge, analyze, and apply the material covered.

Additional norms include the following:

1. Due to our current pandemic conditions, our class will follow all of the PLNU policies related to Covid-19. Please see the [PLNU Covid-19 website](#), the Covid-19 Canvas course, and the [PLNU catalog](#) for the most current policies.
2. Students will answer the questions on the Campus Clear app each day before coming to class. All of us, including me, can show our respect and care for each other by not coming to class if we don't pass the Campus Clear app or have any covid symptoms.
3. During our in-person class we will all wear well-fitting face masks (over the mouth and nose) and maintain as much distance as possible.
4. If I (or a member of my household) must quarantine, our class will meet remotely for that time. Please check your PLNU email before coming to class in case there is a last-minute change in the modality of class.
5. If you are quarantined, please follow the syllabus, complete the work on Canvas (if any) and get missed notes from a classmate.
6. Students are expected to attend class and be on time. Failure to make presentations on schedule will result in a failing grade for that presentation. In the event of absence students seek missed information/notes from classmates and/or Canvas.
7. PLNU allows up to 25% of course work to be completed in Canvas so we will utilize it throughout the semester. Canvas will have your assignments listed with due dates set and all the materials needed for the course beyond the textbook. Students should set their Canvas user preferences to get daily reminders for assignments due. All written work must be typed, and attention should be paid to form (including grammar, punctuation, spelling, APA formatting and general appearance) as well as content. Late work will receive an automatic point deduction unless there is EAC accommodation for illness.
8. Integrity is of great importance. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated and will result in a grade of "F" for the project and possibly the course. See university notifications below for specifics.
9. Classroom disruption by cell phones or other electronic devices (i.e. text messaging) is prohibited. All laptops, cell phones and similar electronic devices must remain turned off and out of sight for the duration of class unless we are using them for course work. A student may face a zero and/or failure in the class if an electronic device is used for cheating during a test.
10. Please be super considerate of our learning process. Please do not walk in/out of the classroom during lecture. Also, please do not carry on side conversations while the professor is lecturing.
11. This syllabus serves as the contract between the students and professor. Your continued enrollment in the course serves as agreement to abide by the policies and information set forth here within.

Course Schedule

Please note: Due to the nature of this course, the schedule is subject to change. All changes will be posted on Canvas and announced in class.

Date	Plan for the Week	Preparation for the Week
Session 1 Week of Jan 11 Zoom Meeting Jan 13	Course Intro Introduction to Communication Course Information	Read Syllabus and Text Overview Pre-read Chapter 1
Session 2 Week of Jan 17	Chapter 1: Foundations of Nonverbal Communication (NC)	Read Chapter 1 and complete Interactive Lesson Pre-read Chapter 2
Session 3 Week of Jan 24	Chapter 2: NC Development: A Reflexive Approach	Read Chapter 2 and complete Interactive Lesson Pre-read Chapter 3
Session 4 Week of Jan 31	Chapter 3: Environment as NC: Our Perceptions and Reactions	Read Chapter 3 and complete Interactive Lesson Pre-read Chapter 4 Complete Practicum Assignment #1
Session 5 Week of Feb 7	Chapter 4: Proxemics: Our Use of Space	Read Chapter 4 and complete Interactive Lesson Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4) Pre-read Chapter 5
Session 6 Week of Feb 14	Chapter 5: Physical Appearance: The Body as NC	Read Chapter 5 and complete Interactive Lesson Complete Practicum Assignment #2 Pre-read Chapter 6
Session 7 Week of Feb 21	Chapter 6: Kinesics: Body Movement, Gestures, and Posture	Read Chapter 6 and complete Interactive Lesson

		Complete Practicum Assignment #3 Pre-read Chapter 7
Session 8 Week of Feb 28	Chapter 7: Face and Eyes: Revealing, Modifying, and Deceiving	Read Chapter 7 and complete Interactive Lesson Pre-read Chapter 8 Complete Practicum Assignment #4
March 7-11 Spring Break		
Session 9 Week of March 14	Chapter 8: Touch: Our Bodies in Contact	Read Chapter 8 and complete Interactive Lesson Exam 2 (chapters 5-8) Pre-read Chapter 9 Article Review: Leveraging the Power of Nonverbal Communication Select country for Cultural Presentation and Infographic
Session 10 Week of March 21	Chapter 9: Vocalics: Our Voices Speak Nonverbal Volumes Culture Presentation Conferences	Read Chapter 9 and complete Interactive Lesson Complete Cultural Presentation and Infographic
Session 11 Week of March 28	Application Time! Cultural Presentations & Infographics	Pre-read Chapter 10 Decide on topic for Research Paper
Session 12 Week of April 4	Chapter 10: Nonverbal Communication, Technology, and Social Media Chapter 11: Nonverbal Communication in Professional and Educational Contexts	Read Chapters 10 & 11 and complete Interactive Lessons Complete Practicum Assignment #5 Pre-read Chapter 12

		Research and Outline Research Paper
Session 13 Week of April 11	Chapter 12: Nonverbal Communication: Relationships	Read Chapter 12 and complete Interactive Lesson Work on Research Paper Prepare for Exam 3 (chapters 9-12)
	April 14-18 Easter Break	
Session 14 Week of April 19	April 19-Research Paper Conferences April 20- Exam 3	Read Chapter 12 and complete Interactive Lesson Complete Practicum Assignment #6 Write and submit Research Paper (Due 4/24)
Session 15 Week of April 25	Research Paper Roundtable	Course Conclusion/Evaluation
	Final Exam: Thursday, 5/5 at 10:30 am	

University Notifications

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the due date. Late work will receive a reduction in points. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. 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. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#).