



**Department of Communication Studies**  
**COM 1000: Principles of Human Communication**  
**3 Units**  
**Spring 2024**

**Meeting days/times: Tuesdays | 3:00 – 5:45 PM**  
**Meeting location: Cabrillo Hall 202 (C 202)**  
**Final Exam: Tuesday, 4/30, 4:30 – 7:00 PM**

<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Nick Pertler, Ph.D.
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**PLNU Mission: To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

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 is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**Foundational Explorations Mission**

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A survey of the human communication process. Emphasis is placed on intrapersonal, interpersonal, and public communication. Particular attention is paid to the preparation and presentation of speeches.

**PROGRAM AND COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who successfully complete this course will:

1. Be able to describe and discuss the process of human communication.
2. Be able to identify and explain the basic components of an effective speech.
3. Be challenged to interact competently in dyadic, and small group experiences.
4. Be able to construct and deliver informational and persuasive speeches.
5. Develop the theoretical, practical, and spiritual foundations for effective communication.

## FOUNDATIONAL EXPLORATIONS LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1) Here is the link to FE (formerly GE) courses and corresponding FELO's:  
<https://assessment.pointloma.edu/academic-assessment/general-education/assessment-plan/>
- 2) FELO 1b. Oral: Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through oral communication.
- 3) Signature Assignment for COM 1000: Informative Speech Assignment

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

Berko, R.M., Wolvin, A. D. & Wolvin, D. R. *Communicating: A social and career focus.* (12th Ed.). New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

Turkle, S. (2016). *Reclaiming conversation: The power of talk in a digital age.* Penguin.

## Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3-unit class delivered over 16 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes.

## Assessment and Grading

Grades will be based on the following:

Assignment	Points
Journals (9 @ 20)	180
Group Deliverables (5 @ 15)	75
Peer Reviews (6 @ 10)	60
Online Recording/Discussions (2 @ 30)	60
Speech Outlines (2 @ 25)	50
Group Presentation	125
Midterm Exam	100
Informative Speech	125
Persuasive Speech	125
Final exam	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

## Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

## Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact

each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

### **Incompletes and Late Assignments**

All assignments are to be submitted by the due dates. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

### **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 your professor or the Office of Spiritual Life and Formation.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy**

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g, ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski) is not permitted, and use of these tools will be treated as plagiarism.

### **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](mailto: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 withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

### **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.

## Calendar

Week	Date	Reading	Assignment
1	Jan. 9	Berko: Chapters 1 & 2	Group Deliverable #1
2	Jan. 16	Berko: Chapters 9 & 10 + Miller Article Turkle: "The Empathy Diaries" & "The Flight from Conversation"	Group Deliverable #2 Journal #1
3	Jan. 23	Berko: Chapters 3 & 4 Turkle: "Solitude" & "Self- Reflection"	<i>Group Presentations</i> Journal #2
4	Jan. 30	Berko: Chapters 5 & 6 Turkle: "Family"	<i>Group Presentations</i> Journal #3
5	Feb. 6	Berko: Chapters 7 & 8 Turkle: "Friendship"	<i>Group Presentations</i> Journal #4
6	Feb. 13	Midterm Exam	
7	Feb. 20	Berko: Chapters 11 & 12 Turkle: "Romance"	Group Deliverable #3 Journal #5
8	Feb. 27	Berko: Chapters 13 & 14 Turkle: "Education"	Group Deliverable #4 Journal #6
9	Mar. 5	Spring Break (No Class)	
10	Mar. 12	Berko: Chapters 15 & 16 Turkle: "Work"	Group Deliverable #5 Journal #7
11	Mar. 19	Review Berko: Chapters 11-16 Turkle: "The Public Square" & "The Nick of Time"	Informative Speech Outline Online Recording/Discussion (classmate responses due 3/24) Journal #8
12	Mar. 26	<i>Informative Speeches</i>	
13	Apr. 2	<i>Informative Speeches</i>	
14	Apr. 9	Review Berko: Chapters 11-16 Turkle: "The End of Forgetting"	Persuasive Speech Outline Online Recording/Discussion (classmate responses due 4/14) Journal #9
15	Apr. 16	<i>Persuasive Speeches</i>	
16	Apr. 23	<i>Persuasive Speeches</i>	
17	Apr. 30	Final Exam	