**COMM 218Z: Interpersonal Communication**

**Linn-Benton Community College**

**Department of Communication**

**COMM 218Z Fall 2023**

September23rd - December 8th, 2023

Asynchronous

**Instructor:**

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Student Office Hours: Friday afternoons 3-5pm via ZOOM and by appointment

**Course Description:**

COMM 218Z increases the knowledge and use of competent communication skills to better understand oneself, others, and the role of communication in interpersonal relationships.

**State of Oregon’s Outcomes Statement**

1. Describe how culture, identity, perception, biases, and power influence the communication process.
2. Recognize and analyze interpersonal communication concepts (e.g., ethics, verbal and nonverbal communication, listening, emotions, and conflict).
3. Assess one’s own interpersonal skills to become more competent in a variety of relational contexts.
4. Apply foundational concepts and theories to interpersonal communication.

**LBCC Course Outcomes**

As a result of taking COMM 218Z, a student should be able to:

* Apply interpersonal communication research and theory
* Identify interpersonal communication’s key functional areas
* Analyze, select, and enact appropriate interpersonal communication behaviors based on interpretation of the context

**Required Text:** This textbook will be automatically available to you on Moodle through VitalSource. If you do not want an etextbook, you will need to “op-out” and purchase a hard copy. As a reminder, the textbook is mandatory for this course and there are assignments due the first week of class that require the textbook. Old editions of the textbook will not be accepted.

Adler, R., Rosenfeld, L.B., & Proctor II, R.F. (2021). *Interplay: The process of interpersonal communication (15th ed.)*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

**Additional Course Requirements:** In addition to the textbook, you will need access to the following on a regular basis:

* Moodle
* Linn-Benton Email account
* Reliable computer/laptop (completing assignments on your phone is NOT recommended)
* Reliable internet connection

**ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Point Total** | **Assignment** |
| 20 | Movie Analysis Topic Proposal |
| 100 | Movie Analysis Paper |
| 80 | Interpersonal Interview |
| 30 | Dear Abby Letters (2 @ 15 points) |
| 100 | Reading Reflections (10 @ 10 points) |
| 80 | Group Lecture Project |
| 20 | Peer Reflection – Group Lecture Project |
| 50 | Midterm Exam |
| 20 | Chapter Critic (2 @ 10 points) |
| 100 | Final Exam |
| **TOTAL= 600 points** | |

**Assignment Details:** This list provides an overview of assignments. Due dates and points may be adjusted if need be. More information for each assignment will be discussed throughout the term and be made available on Moodle.

* **“Reading” Reflections: (100 points)** Almost every week (there will be a few weeks we have other assignments in place of reflections) you will reflect on one of the topics discussed in the course. This could be on a topic from the textbook or a video we have watched. A good reflection should be roughly 300 words and include vocabulary from the text/video/Moodle discussions. These will be due at the end of the week. (Sundays, 11:59pm) (LO 3)
* **Movie Analysis Paper/Speech: (100 points)** You will review a relationship in a movie and write a paper analysis of this relationship and how it relates to class in addition to using outside resources. This paper will be 5-6 pages. (LO 2)
* **Dear Abby Letters: (30 points – 2 at 15 points each)** Dear Abby is an advice column style assignment designed to help you, help others using your interpersonal communication knowledge and skills.
* **Chapter Critic: (20 points – 2 at 10 points each)** After reading any 2 chapters of the textbook, please write a short (300-500 words) of what you think the authors should have included. What did you want to see more of in the chapter? Please do not repeat what you say in your discussion for the week, but this is meant to serve as a separate critique of the chapter. What would you include if they asked you to add an additional element to the textbook?
* **Group Lecture Project: (80 points)** This assignment you will work together to do a group lecture, your group will create a “class period” using concept(s) from the textbook. Your group project will include a presentation, an activity, and discussion questions.
* **Interpersonal Interview: (50 points)** Interpersonal Interview: **You will interview someone in your personal life, asking them questions based on interpersonal communication. You will reflect on the interview and use your textbook and one outside academic source.** Understanding and being reflexive of our interpersonal relationships and how this impacts our communication helps us to improve our communication. (3 pages) (LO 1& 3)
* **Midterm Exam: (50 points)** The final exam will be a cumulative exam that is open note and open book. The questions will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. (LO 1, 2 & 3)

* **Final Exam: (100 points)** The final exam will be a cumulative exam that is open note and open book. The questions will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. (LO 1, 2 & 3)

**Grading:**

Grades will be assigned based upon points earned in all assignments

If you wish to discuss your grade with me, I am more than happy to discuss via **office hours**.

**Extra Credit:**

You can receive extra credit a few different ways:

* 1. Attending a campus event (they have virtual events) and writing a reflection about it. (1 page reflection, 500 words, 10-point max)
  2. I will notify you of any other extra credit opportunities that may arise during the term. Likewise, if you have an idea that is related to interpersonal communication for extra credit, I am always open to hearing about it.

Completing extra credit does not automatically guarantee you the max points possible, a thoughtful, high-quality submission is expected.

**COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

**Email**: Please email me with any questions or concerns you may have. Please clearly note in the subject line “COMM 218” “218” something that signals to me that you are a student in the course. I receive a lot of emails every day and never want yours to be lost! During the week M-Thurs I will respond to emails as timely as I can (within a day or two). For weekends and holidays please allow a bit more time.

**Assignment Submissions:** All assignments must be submitted via Moodle. Email submissions will **not** be accepted.

**Late Work:** Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive an automatic zero. Please be diligent in keeping track of your assignment due dates. Of course, if there is an emergency, we can discuss extensions BEFORE the due dates or as soon as reasonably possible.

**Writing Guidelines:** While this is not a writing course, proofreading/editing for grammatical and spelling errors is imperative in effective communication. Excessive spelling or grammatical errors will result in point deductions on assignments. Any information from another source that is included in written papers should be appropriately cited using APA format. If you have any questions about how to do this properly, please see me. It is highly recommended to take WRI 121 before taking this course.

**Honor Code:** LBCC is dedicated to maintaining an optimal learning environment and insists upon academic honesty. To uphold the academic integrity of the institution, all members of the academic community, faculty, staff, and students alike, must assume responsibility for providing an educational environment of the highest standards characterized by a spirit of academic honesty. Accordingly, if you exchange information with another student during an exam, use unauthorized sources during an exam, or submit someone else’s work or ideas as your own in any of your assignments, you will receive an F for the exam/assignment and may be subject to further discipline.

**Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Policy:** LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

**Inclusive Pedagogy:** To provide an optimal learning environment for all students, creating a safe space is imperative. If your name or pronouns are not represented correctly on the course roster, please discuss this with me or send me an email so I can address you correctly. It is critically important we are open, and willing to hear messages that are different from our beliefs, we are here to understand and learn together, not create division. Being supportive of your peers as they share their thoughts and ideas is essential to success in this course. To best maintain these practices mutual respect for your peers, myself, and the learning environment is something I highly value.

**Student Office Hours:** This is **dedicated time for you** – outside of the classroom. If you have questions or need clarification about a course concept or want to hear feedback on the direction of your academic journey, you are welcomed and encouraged to visit me during this time and get help. Your success is a priority, and that is why student office hours exist. If my scheduled office hours do not work for you, please do not hesitate to ask if there is another time when I can meet with you.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Roadrunner Resource Center:** Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Roadrunner Resource Center for support (resources@linnbenton.edu , or visit [www.linnbenton.edu/RRC](http://www.linnbenton.edu/RRC) under Student Support for Current Students). This office can help students get connected to resources to help. Furthermore, please notify me if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable me to connect you to any resources I know may be available.

**Accommodations:** LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have accommodations in this class, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your approved accommodations through Accessibility Resources. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but are not yet registered with Accessibility Resource, please visit their website at [www.linnbenton.edu/accessibilityresources](https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/accessibility/index.php) for steps on how to apply for services. Online course accommodations may be different from those for face to face courses, so it is important that you make contact with Accessibility Resources as soon as possible.

**COMM 218Z Fall 2023 T*entative* Schedule**

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| **Week** | **Dates** | **Topic(s)** | **Reading/Assignments** | **Meeting Info** |
| 1 | Sept 25 | Introduction to Course | Review Syllabus, course expectations, and textbook requirements | Asynchronous |
| Sept 29 | ***Interpersonal Processes and Mediated Interpersonal Communication*** | Chapter 1 & 2 | Asynchronous |
| 2 | Oct 2 |  | Chapter 3 |  |
| Oct 6 | ***Culture and Interpersonal Communication*** | Chapter 1-3 overview/review | Asynchronous |
| 3 | Oct 9 | ***Interpersonal Communication and the Self, Perceiving Others*** | Chapter 4 & 5 (pg 141-end of chapter) | Asynchronous |
| Oct 13 | ***Analyzing and Adapting to a Diverse Audience*** | **Dear** **Abby 1 Due Oct. 15th 11:59 pm** | Asynchronous |
| 4 | Oct 16 | ***Language*** | Chapter 6 | Asynchronous |
| Oct 20 | **Language** |  | Asynchronous |
| 5 | Oct 23 | ***Nonverbal Communication***  ***Introduction Speeches*** | Chapter 7 | Asynchronous |
| Oct 27 |  | Chapter 7 | Asynchronous |
| 6 | Oct 30 | ***Listening: Receiving and Responding*** | Chapter 8 | Asynchronous |
| Nov 3 | ***Listening: Receiving and Responding*** | Chapter 8  **Group Project Due by Nov 5th 11:59 pm** | Asynchronous |
| 7 | Nov 6 | ***Emotions*** | Chapter 9 | Asynchronous |
| Nov 10 | ***Movie Review Speeches*** | Chapter 9 | Asynchronous |
| 8 | Nov 13 | ***Movie Review Speeches*** | Chapter 10 – | Asynchronous |
| Nov 17 | ***Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships*** | **Dear Abby 2 Due Sunday Nov 17th 11:59 pm** | Asynchronous |
| 9 | Nov 20 | ***Communication in Close Relationships: Friends, Family, and Romantic Partners*** | Chapter 11 | Asynchronous |
| Nov 24 | Holiday Break | **Interpersonal Interview and Movie Analysis Due by Nov. 19th –** *CAN BE TURNED IN ANYTIME DURING THE TERM* | Asynchronous |
| 10 | Nov 27 | ***Managing Conflict and Communication Climate*** | Chapter 12  Chapter 13 | Asynchronous |
| Dec 1 | Final Exam Prep | Review for Final | Asynchronous |
| 11 | Dec 3 | Final Due | Your final is **Due Sunday Dec. 3rd at 11:59pm. No late submission accepted** | Asynchronous |