

Spring 2021

COM 310-102: Interpersonal Communication

Miosotis Hernandez

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NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
COM 310 - INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION
Instructor: Miosotis Hernandez - miosotis.hernandez@njit.edu
Spring 2021 Monday 6:00 pm – 8:50 pm
Converged Learning - Cullimore Hall Lecture Room 2

Course Description

This course surveys theory and research related to interpersonal communication. The course focuses on effectively managing personal and professional relationships. The course's format consists of lectures, group discussions, experiential activities, and written assignments that require your active involvement.

Required Text

McCornack, S. (2019). *Reflect & Relate: An Introduction to Interpersonal Communication* (5th ed.), New York: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Think critically about the communicative process and an array of interpersonal experiences; and
2. Manage yourself and your communication with competence within personal and professional interpersonal relationships.

Attendance

Attendance is extremely important. Class attendance, participation in discussions, forming relationships with other students, and getting acquainted with your instructors are all positively associated with the successful completion of college courses. See the [NJIT attendance policy](#) for complete information.

Academic Integrity

Students taking this class are bound by the [NJIT Honor Code](#).

Course Format and Objectives

Exams – (200 points): There will be two exams over the course of the semester. Exams will consist primarily of multiple-choice, true/false, and short answers.

Discussion Board Forums (100 points): Each Discussion topic will have a course-related content question/statement. The student must create a 100–150 word thread addressing a specific topic/question posted on the Discussion Board Forum. The student must also respond to the threads of at least two classmates with 100-150 word replies. Threads and replies must demonstrate course-related knowledge, be supported by the course readings and lectures. Discussion Board Forums grading will be as follows: 1st post = 10 points, 2nd post = 5 points, and 3rd post = 5 points, for a total of 20 points per Discussion Board topic.

Interpersonal Theory Project (100 points): As a team of 3-4 people, you will lead a class discussion on concepts from the course's textbook.

The Dyad Project (100 points): The objective of this project is to promote and analyze interpersonal communication within the course.

Requirements for the Dyad and Team Project will be provided to you in a separate handout.

Grading and Grading Profile

A = 90-100	B+ = 87-89	B = 80-86	C+ = 77-79	C = 70-76	D = 60-69	F = 0 – 59
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Graded Course Component/Category	Weight
Discussion Board Forums	40%
Team Project	15%
Dyad Encounter	15%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Total	100%

Course Outline

Lessons/Assignments/Examinations	
	Reading
Week 1 - January 25 – <i>Introducing Interpersonal Communication</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course introduction • Getting acquainted 	
Week 2 - February 1 – <i>Introducing Interpersonal Communication</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining communication • Defining interpersonal communication 	Chapter 1
Week 3 - February 8 – <i>Considering Self</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on self-awareness and self-concept • Sources of self • Displaying the self to others • <i>Discussion Board Forum</i> 	Chapter 2
Week 4 - February 15 – <i>Perceiving Others</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of forming perception • Impact of biases and errors on our impressions of others • Steps to improving perception • <i>Discussion Board Forum</i> 	Chapter 3
Week 5 - February 22 <i>Experiencing and Expressing Emotions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of emotional awakening • Emotional intelligence • Effectively managing emotions • <i>Discussion Board Forum</i> 	Chapter 4
Week 6 - March 1 – <i>Exam 1</i>	

<p>Week 7 - March 8 – <i>Listening Actively</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining the listening process, listening styles, and listening purposes • Ways of improving listening • <i>Discussion Board Forum</i> 	Chapter 5
Week 8 - March 15 – <i>Spring Break</i>	
<p>Week – 9 March 22 - <i>Communicating Verbally</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of verbal communication • Ineffective use of language • Steps to verbal communicative competence • Cooperative verbal communication 	Chapter 6
<p>Week 10 - March 29 – <i>Communicating Nonverbally</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differences between nonverbal and verbal communication • Using nonverbal codes to improve communication with others • <i>Dyad Project Due</i> 	Chapter 7
<p>Week 11 - April 5 – <i>Managing Conflict and Power</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the nature of conflict and the role power plays in conflict • Approaches for handling interpersonal conflict • Challenges to resolving conflict • <i>Discussion Board Forum</i> 	Chapter 8
<p>Week 12 - April 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Team Project</i> 	
<p>Week 13 - April 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpersonal Communication and Culture 	
<p>Week 14 - April 26 - <i>Relationships in the Workplace</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding how workplace relationships compare with other types of interpersonal relationships • Tactics for healthy workplace relationships • Strategies for competent workplace communication 	Chapter 12
<p>Week 15 - May 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Exam 2</i> 	

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the course policies, assignments, and/or schedule as needed.