



COMS 130 – Interpersonal (5768)
Room – MUS 209
Instructor: Larry Leach
Office Phone: (310) 660-3593 x3716
Website – www.professorleach.com
E-mail: info@professorleach.com

Meeting times: M-W 1:00p – 2:25p

Required Text: Interplay: The Process of Interpersonal Communication
Adler, Rosenfeld, Proctor, 14th Ed

Materials: Note Book & 3 Scantrons

Table with 2 columns: Office Hours & Location: MUS 132E (M/W: 2:45p – 3:45p, T/Th: 9:00a – 9:30a, T/Th: 2:00p – 3:00p) and STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO): (Upon completion of course, students will be able to: 1. Identify and differentiate interpersonal communication concepts... 2. Create a well-organized outline... 3. Identify and differentiate theories of interpersonal communication...)

Classroom Rules/Conduct:

- Please turn off/silence all phones prior to the start of the class & keep stored during the class meeting
-Be respectful of your fellow students and instructor during class discussions
-Students are expected to adhere to the El Camino College Student Code of Conduct
-Please do not bring plated food items into the classroom

Attendance & Participation: Attendance is taken each class meeting.

- Please fill in front empty seats during class meetings; it will be required on student presentation days
- Attendance is expected in this class.
- Students who exceed 10% of the scheduled class meetings MAY be dropped with a "W"
- Six (6) absences prior to the drop date May 15 will result in a drop from the course.

Arriving late & Leaving Early also applies to absence count. If you wish to drop it's YOUR responsibility to make sure you have been dropped by the deadline.

Perfect Attendance (no absences of any kind or late arrivals = 25 bonus pts)

Students should complete assigned readings in order to examine ideas, concepts, theories and participate in class discussion.

Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work by representing the work of another as one's own without the necessary and appropriate acknowledgment. If you plagiarize, you are cheating yourself and if you are caught cheating or using others work without crediting them, you will face a minimum penalty of a failing grade on the assignment.

Outside work MUST be typed

If you don't have access to a computer or printer outside of school, you will need to use the computer lab or make arrangements in order to complete the assignments on time. I WILL NOT PRINT OUT ASSIGNMENTS FOR YOU

Make Up Work:

Make up will only be allowed if arrangements are made **PRIOR** to a missed assignment or exam & may be subject to a late penalty. **The in class writing & activity points cannot be made up if missed.**

Important dates:

- March 1 Last day to drop without a "W"
- May 15 Last day to drop with a "W"

<u>Graded Assignments</u>		Grade Scale
Introduction	20 ____	
Unit Reflection Journal (25pt x 3)	75 ____	627 – 700 = A
Cultural Plunge	50 ____	
In Class Writings (5pt x12)	60 ____	557 – 626 = B
Non-Verbal Environment	30 ____	487 – 556 = C
Who Am I / Culture Bag	50 ____	
In Class Activities (10pt x 12)	120 ____	417 – 486 = D
Exam 1	60 ____	Under 416 = F
Exam 2	60 ____	
Exam 3	75 ____	
Interpersonal Group Project	100 ____	
Total Possible	700 ____	

***Note – See Details On Required Outside Speech Observation**

Course Objectives:

1. Identify human needs that are met by communication.
2. Define the key elements of self-concept.
3. Explain the perception process as it pertains to interpersonal communication.
4. Evaluate the physical and nonphysical benefits of expressing emotions.
5. Compare and contrast methods of anger management.
6. Identify problem areas of language usage including equivocation, emotive words, euphemisms, and abstract language.
7. Identify differences in speech associated with gender.
8. Differentiate between verbal and nonverbal communication.
9. Analyze cultural differences in nonverbal communication.
10. Compare kinesics, proxemics, and paralanguage.
11. Demonstrate paraphrasing and active listening skills.
12. Analyze the impact of self-disclosure on relationships.
13. Explain the role of communication in the development of attraction and intimacy.
14. Define communication climates.
15. Analyze types of defensive communication.
16. Analyze various conflict resolution styles.



The instructor will follow and adhere to the syllabus unless some unforeseen circumstance arises and reserves the right to adjust/change the syllabus should it be warranted and will notify the class promptly.

Info/concepts/Key Terms from the text & class may be reviewed at the start of class

Week 1 – Feb 17 – 19

Feb. 17 – Washington Holiday (Campus closed)

Overview of Class/Introductions

Week 2 – Feb 24 – 26

In Class Writing - Chap 1: Interpersonal Process

Interpersonal Process – Activity

Week 3 – March 2 – 4 – (Introduce Cultural Plunge Assignment)

In Class Writing - Chap 2: Culture and Communication

Culture and Communication – Activity

Week 4 – March 9 – 11 – Introduce Who Am I / Culture Bag

In Class Writing - Chap 3: Communication and the Self

Communication and the Self – Activity

Week 5 – March 16 – 18

In Class Writing - Chap 4: Perceiving Others

Who Am I / Culture Bag Group 1

Perceiving Others – Activity

Week 6 – March 23 – 25

Exam 1 - Chap 1-4 (Unit 1 Reflection Journal due)

Who Am I / Culture Bag Group 2

Week 7 – March 30 – April 1 – (Cultural Plunge Assignment Due - Wed)

In Class Writing - Chap 5: Language

Who Am I / Culture Bag Group 3

Language – Activity

Week 8 – April 6 – 8 – (Introduce Environment Activity)

In Class Writing - Chap 6: Nonverbal Communication

Who Am I / Culture Bag Group 4

Nonverbal Communication – Activity

SPRING BREAK – April 13 – 15

Week 9 – April 20 – 22 – (Introduce Interpersonal Team Project)

In Class Writing - Chap 7: Listening

Listening – Activity

Week 10 – April 27 – 29

In Class Writing - Chap 8: Emotions

Emotions – Activity

Week 11 – May 4 – 6 (Team Project Topics Due)

Exam 2 Chap 5-8 - (Unit 2 Reflection Journal due)

Present Environment Activity

Week 12 – May 11 – 13

In Class Writing - Chap 9: Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships
Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships – Activity

Week 13 – May 18 – 20

In Class Writing - Chap 10: Communication in Close Relationships
Communication in Close Relationships + Activity

In Class Writing - Chap 11: Managing Conflict
Chap 11: Managing Conflict + Activity

Week 14 – May 25 – 27

May 25 – Memorial Day Campus Closed

In Class Writing
Chap 12: Communication Climate

Week 15 – May 27 – 29

Communication Climate Activity – Team Project Review
Team Project Presentations – Day 1 - (Unit 3 Reflection Journal due - Wed)

Week 16 – June 3 – 5


Team Project Presentations – Day 2
Final Exam Chap 9-12

****ATTENTION****

All COMS 130 Students are **REQUIRED** to attend one (1) outside of class speech activities as a part of the oral communication course curriculum.

The dept. presents two events during the term to satisfy this requirement by attending & submitting the yellow attendance verification form

	<p style="text-align: center;">Speakers Forum – Date – TBD @ 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>The National Champion Forensics Team demonstrates individual competitive speaking</p> <p>Tickets available at the Marsee Auditorium or Online at the Center for the Arts website In Advance \$15 (\$12 in person w/ASB sticker) Additional \$5 day of Event</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Jeremy Hunter – Date – April 1st @ 7:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How Not to Lose Your Mind: Managing Yourself Through Crazy Times</p> <p>Tickets available at the Marsee Auditorium or Online at the Center for the Arts website \$10 Student Price w/ID (<i>in advance</i>) - \$15 Day of or w/Student ID & ASB Sticker</p>
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– Missing outside of class speech observation = 5% grade deduction from final grade

OUTSIDE SPEAKING EVENT OBSERVATION ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS REQUIREMENT:

- A written critique following provided criteria will be required**
- An office visit for details – this will ONLY be discussed during scheduled office hours**
- Proposal at least one (1) week prior to speaking event (email w/link to event description for review)**
- Must be completed w/typed evaluation submitted by May 7th (office hours/faculty mailbox) for credit**

****Avoid procrastinating or disregarding this requirement to prevent a grade reduction**

****Students with missing assignments or event will not be eligible for any Extra Credit that is offered during the semester****

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

<p>IN CLASS WRITING</p> <p>The first 10 minutes or so of each lecture class will be dedicated to responding to short prompts that are designed to get you thinking about the class lecture/discussion. Students will be asked to share periodically and the responses will be collected prior to moving into the discussion/lecture for the day.</p>	<p>IN CLASS ACTIVITIES</p> <p>There will be in class activities throughout the semester that will provide a better understanding of and help reinforce the concepts and principles of interpersonal communication that are covered in class.</p> <p>Points for these activities are awarded to those who are present and participate in the variety of activities. <i>The in class activity points cannot be made up as they are not designed for individual work</i></p>
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UNIT REFLECTION JOURNALS – **MUST BE TYPED

During each 4 chapter unit there will be 1-2 prompts provided related to the concepts covered. The responses to the journals prompts should incorporate experiences/examples from your own life that you can use to illustrate how the interpersonal communication concepts covered occur or exist in your life. Be thoughtful and thorough in your response to the prompt to earn full credit.

Note*- Unit reflection journals will only be shown during class. If you miss it, it is your responsibility to get it from a classmate before the due date.

CULTURAL PLUNGE

Plan an experience of immersing yourself in another culture for a few hours at least. ***This is not a drive through the neighborhood or “pop in for a minute” activity.*** This activity is designed to give you a chance to experience the interpersonal environments of a different culture and reflect on your experience while considering how others may be more similar to or different than us than we realize.

NON-VERBAL ENVIRONMENT

In small groups, you will be tasked with exploring a variety of environments in order to identify interpersonal communication concepts or principles that exists in the given location. Upon completion, the group will share their experience with a brief presentation during one of the class meetings.

More details/guidelines will be provided in class.

WHO AM I / CULTURE I BAG

You will share a collection of objects / artifacts (***NOT just images***) and items that describe you. The “bag” or carrier can also be an expression of you and your interests. You may include items that exemplify meaningful events or experiences for you, items that represent your growth & development as a communicator, important events in your life, hobbies, and interests, etc. Collect items from your home, your car, etc. Try to include about 6-8 items with the bag that will help others learn more about who you are.

A demonstration will be done when this assignment is introduced

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION TEAM PROJECT

As a team of 3-4 people you will try to solve an interpersonal communication problem such as loneliness, bad dates, employee morale, destructive relationships, Facebook fights, cyber bullying, conflict, etc. Your team will choose a frustrating interpersonal issue then explore how big the issue is, why it happens and what can be done to solve this problem!

This project will be made up of several steps that will be completed both individually and as a team. The project will consist of academic research, written reports, & a final group presentation that engages the class in multiple ways (visual, tactile, audio, etc).

More details/guidelines will be provided in class.

EXAMS

There will be three exams during the semester. Each exam covers the last four chapters that have been reviewed. Review the make up policy above regarding missed exams or work.

COMS 130 – Interpersonal Communication

Presenting Yourself – Culture Bag

You will sign up for one of the presentation days to share a collection of artifacts and items that describe you. The “bag” or carrier can also be an expression of you and your interests. You may include items that have influenced who you are and how you communicate.

Look for items that represent your interpersonal skills and exemplify events for you and your family, important events in your life, hobbies, and interests, etc. Collect items from your home, your car, etc. Try to include about 5-7 items with the bag. This activity allows for creativity in your thinking and presenting of who you are. Be thoughtful in your choices and be creative as long as your content is appropriate and adheres to the goal of representing you.

As you develop your bag some things to consider when choosing things to share are:

What experiences have shaped my interpersonal communication skills?

What things about me affect others perceptions about me?

What are some things that represent my real self and my presenting self

What are some hobbies that I enjoy?

What cultural traditions or artifacts represent you & your culture?

What has shaped the way you communicate with family members?

What are things who have made me who I am today?

What is something about you that affects people perception of you?

The purpose of this assignment is to share things that represent you as a person, have had an influence on your interpersonal communication skills and development and ultimately make you who YOU are.

****Note****

For this assignment it is expected that you will be thoughtful and considerate of the items shared for your cultural bag. Displaying items such as your phone, keys, school textbooks and other very non-personal items that don't provide a reasonable reflection of yourself on an interpersonal level will result in receiving only half credit for the assignment.

You will also be observing the artifacts / objects of your peers and taking notes. Rushing though this and/or copying the information from someone else will also result in a reduced score on this assignment.

ADA Compliance

Accommodations: It is the policy of the El Camino Community College District to encourage full inclusion of people with disabilities in all programs and services (BP1600 and BP4055). Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class should contact the ECC Special Resource Center (SRC) at (310) 660-3295 as soon as possible to ensure that they are able to fully participate

*The instructor for the course does not determine/identify accommodations, but will fulfill any accommodations that have been identified and/or approved through the SRC or student services division.

Students who contact the instructor regarding accommodations will be referred to the special resources center or the dean of student services for assistance.

Title IX Employee Reporting Obligations

You should know that if you reveal gender-based or sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking or intimate partner violence to any instructor, we are required by law to report the problem to the Office of Staff and Student Diversity. However, psychologists are not required to report to the Office of Staff and Student Diversity. You can call the Student Health Center at 310.660.3643 or visit their website: <http://www.elcamino.edu/student-services/health>.

Student Resources and Student Success Act

Student Resources: Your success is the number one priority at El Camino College. College resources to help you succeed include computer labs, tutoring centers, health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. For a comprehensive list of Academic Resources and Support Programs, visit:

http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/vpas/aims/aims_docs/ARSP.pdf

Student Success Act: New state regulations may affect your eligibility for financial aid, your registration priority, and your ability to repeat classes. For more information, visit: http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/vpas/aims/aims_docs/S3PF15.pdf. After completing 15 units or prior to the end of the third semester, all students must declare a major and complete a comprehensive educational plan. Schedule an appointment to see a counselor for an up-to-date educational plan by visiting:

<https://www.elcamino.edu/student-services/co/appointments.asp>.

Standards of Student Conduct

Administrative Procedure 5500: Student conduct at El Camino College must conform to federal and state laws and District policies and procedures. Standards will apply to all students on District owned facilities or controlled property or at District-sponsored or supervised functions or electronic media. Violation of such laws, policies, and procedures or behavior adversely affecting suitability as a student, will lead to student disciplinary action. Student disciplinary actions as noted in Board Policy 5500, Administrative Procedure 5500, and Administrative Procedure 5520 may be taken against any person who engages in behavior defined as misconduct.