

COMM 2110: INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (CM)

Salt Lake Community College

Instructor:

email:

Office:

Office Hours:

Course Description

This course focuses on the theory and the practice of human communication with an emphasis on the process and functions of communication, relationship development, communication strategies, interpersonal language skills, listening and response skills and conflict management.

You will learn about communication models and theories that will enable you to better communicate interpersonally in professional, family, friendship, romantic, and virtual relationships. Each of you will play an active role in the development and success of this course. The teaching methods in this class require you to (1) reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of your interpersonal communication habits and practices, (2) identify areas of improvement for your own communicative behavior, (3) design plans for improvement, and (4) practice your strategies by actively engaging in communication scenarios.

Required Textbook

Beebe, S. A., Beebe, S. J., & Redmond, M. V. (2020). *Interpersonal Communication: Relating to Others*. (9th ed.) Boston: Pearson Education. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-489036-4

The textbook is being provided digitally to students through Canvas and paid for as a lower-cost course fee. You will not need to purchase or order the book because it has been preloaded into the Canvas course. To get the ebook, click on the “Follett Discover” tab in the left-hand menu. (Pop-up blockers will need to be removed to allow new tabs to open.) When your list of courses and titles pull up, click on the title of the book to open the ebook on the site BRYTEWAVE.REDSHELF.COM.

You can also access the textbook directly at <https://brytwave.redshelf.com/Links to an external site>. Log in with your Bruinmail address and bypassing the Canvas link.

If you prefer a hard copy textbook, you can opt-out of using the ebook through Follett Discover. Hard copies are available for purchase or rent in the SLCC bookstore (SMC and Redwood).

Course Learning Outcomes

Through lecture, discussion, skill development exercises, and assessments students will achieve the following course objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the process of interpersonal communication.
2. Successfully identify your own perceptions and actions that affect the quality of your interpersonal communication.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of and empathy for those you interact with, including those of diverse backgrounds.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills that will allow you to assess your own communication practices.
5. Demonstrate competency in listening, observational skills, and problem-solving capabilities.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of various theories and approaches to interpersonal relationships.
7. Successfully apply pragmatic strategies for generating and maintaining healthy, functional relationships and for terminating non-functional relationships.
8. Successfully apply constructive approaches to your own interpersonal interactions and relationships.

Interpersonal Communication as General Education

“General Education provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines, and forms the basis for developing important intellectual, civic and practical capacities” (American Association of Colleges and Universities).

This interpersonal communication course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world.

Interpersonal Communication as a Communication (CM) requirement

Communication (CM) courses focus on the study and application of principles and skills in verbal, nonverbal, written, visual and/or multi-modal forms of communication, focusing on the construction of shared meaning. CM courses combine the study of communication theory and/or disciplinary epistemologies with hands-on practice. These courses engage students in the production of critical thinking and analysis, argumentation, and other communicative acts that enrich human relationships, and that ground the epistemologies within our professions, disciplines and/or the public sphere. While all General Education courses have communicative and reasoning elements, CM courses center specifically on the systematic study and production of communication and reasoning as generalizable human activities or within epistemologies specific to a discipline.

ePortfolios and General Education at SLCC

Your General Education ePortfolio tells your SLCC learning story. Your ePortfolio enables you to introduce yourself to your professors and classmates, showcase your learning, and reflect on how your courses connect to each other, your life, goals, and community. The ePortfolio is intended to help you connect with other students and communicate with professors about how you learn, what you are taking away from your experience, and what supported your learning in their class. Professors can use your ePortfolio to get to know you before class and use your reflections and signature assignments to continuously improve their teaching.

Your General Education ePortfolio will also help you weave together the concepts you learn across all general education courses. To do this, each general education course you take at the college will ask you to demonstrate your engagement with the general education learning outcomes by designing a course-specific ePortfolio page that includes a Signature Assignment and reflection. When you finish your time at SLCC, your ePortfolio should provide a multi-media showcase of your educational experience and tell the story of your learning growth while at SLCC. You can learn more by visiting the [ePortfolio help site](#)[Links to an external site.](#).

In order for us to learn from your ePortfolio and provide effective support, we must be able to access your ePortfolio.

To ensure access to your ePortfolio, please link your ePortfolio URL to your MySLCC account by following these directions:

- a. Copy the URL in the web address bar for your Welcome page (e.g. "slcc.digication.com/john-smiths-eportfolio")
- b. Log into [my.slcc.edu](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
- c. Locate the ePortfolio card and click "Submit ePortfolio"
- d. Click Submit on the left side of the page under General Education ePortfolio,
- e. Paste the URL for your ePortfolio's Welcome page into the blank box underneath Enter ePortfolio URL.
- f. Click Save.
- g. Finally, confirm that everything worked by clicking on the link and making sure it goes to your Gen Ed ePortfolio Welcome page.

If you would like virtual or in-person help with your ePortfolio please sign up for an ePortfolio appointment [here](#)[Links to an external site.](#).

Salt Lake Community College Learning Outcomes

SLCC is committed to fostering and assessing the following student learning outcomes in its programs and courses: acquire substantive knowledge, communicate effectively, develop quantitative literacies, think critically, express creatively, knowledge and skills to be civically engaged, work with others in a professional and constructive manner,

develop information literacy, and develop computer literacy. This class will help you achieve all of these outcomes except quantitative literacy.

CLASS POLICIES

Etiquette

Because the topic of this class is interpersonal relationships, discussion forum entries may include personal stories. If you hear a student illustrate a concept with sensitive examples of personal relational experiences, respect that person's trust and privacy. Please refrain from repeating classmates' personal examples outside of this class.

Withdrawal from class

Any student who fails to withdraw but does not attend class and/or submit assignments will receive an "E" grade for the course. The instructor will not award "I" grades to non-participating students. Withdrawing from the course and other matters of registration for and/or dropping the class is the student's responsibility.

Grades

Grades are based on achievement, not effort. For each assignment, you will receive a description, a set of grading criteria, and student example. You can earn the grade you want by achieving the published requirements. Timeliness and mechanics (punctuation, grammar, and spelling) are taken into account and are rewarded with points.

Your professor does not GIVE you grades in this class. You EARN your grades.

Late Assignments

Quizzes will not be accepted late. The proposal, journal, conflict project and final report will be accepted up to 1 week late, with a 10% late penalty. For more information, check the submission page for each assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS

Chapter Quiz

For each chapter you will complete a test. Many of the questions will require you to analyze communication scenarios and suggest the most appropriate response. Some questions will check your knowledge of vocabulary and basic concepts. These tests are designed to be a learning experience. If you aren't satisfied with your first score, you may retake the test. Allow study time between attempts.

Semester Projects

You will complete the following additional projects. Detailed instructions are posted on your Canvas class site.

- **Conflict Management Project:** This will be a group project and will include a group presentation and a written analysis of an interpersonal conflict conversation, using the collaborative problem-solving approach.
- **Personal Change Project:** you choose an ineffective communication habit and work throughout the semester to improve it. This project involves three segments:
 - **Proposal** in which you choose an ineffective communication habit you have and apply communication strategies throughout the semester to help you improve that habit.
 - **Journal** in which you record your progress twice a week.
 - **Report** on the outcome of your personal change project.
- **ePortfolio Assignment:** You will be required to upload three items to your SLCC ePortfolio:

(1) the Personal Change Project proposal that you wrote at the beginning of the semester,

(2) your Personal Change Final Report, and

(3) a reflection about your experience creating these assignments and completing this course.

For your reflection, you will respond to the following questions:

Looking at the Personal Change Project:

- Looking back at this semester-long project, write about your experiences as you took each step. For example, what difficulties did you encounter, or what “aha” moments occurred?
- In what ways have the skills you applied to complete this assignment helped you become a more effective communicator? Point to specific experiences you’ve had during your project.

Looking at the course:

- Write about the principles, concepts, and skills you’ve learned throughout the course. How will you use what you’ve learned in your everyday life? What connections have you observed between what you’ve learned in this class with other General Education Courses?

Assignments and Evaluations

Attendance & Participation	070 pts.
Systems Theory Assignment	020 pts.

Chapter quizzes (12 @ 20 points each)	240 pts.
*Personal Change Proposal	050 pts.
Personal Change Journal	050 pts.
*Personal Change Final Report	100 pts.
Conflict Management Project	050 pts.
ePortfolio	020 pts.
Total Points	600 pts.

*ePortfolio assignments

Grading Scheme

558-600 = A	438-461 = C
540-557 = A-	420-437 = C-
522-539 = B+	402-419 = D
498-521 = B	378-401 = D
480-497 = B-	360-377 = D-
462-479 = C+	359 and below = E

Please see the [Institutional Syllabus](#) for information on school policies and student support resources, including Title IX and ADA accommodations.

Notice: for students interesting in transferring as a Communication major at 4-year college or university within the state of Utah, go to our [SLCC Communication website \(Links to an external site.\)](#)Links to an external site. for more information.

