COM 021: Interpersonal Communication

Term: 2020 Winter Session Instructor: Staff Language of Instruction: English Classroom: TBA Office Hours: TBA
Class Sessions Per Week: 5 Total Weeks: 3 Total Class Sessions: 15 Class Session Length (minutes): 240 Credit Hours: 4

Course Description:

Human-beings are social animals. Thus, interpersonal communication is important and inevitable. This course will introduce students the basic theories and practical methods of interpersonal communication. Topics includes self, perception, emotions, verbal and nonverbal communication, listening, conflict and relationships with romantic partners and family members. The class enables students to explore the complexities of interpersonal communication and to enhance their skills in interpersonal communication.

Course Materials:

Optional Textbook

1. ***Reflect & Relate: An Introduction to Interpersonal Communication,*** Fourth Edition, by Steven McCornack (Author) , 2015
2. ***Interpersonal Communication: Putting Theory into Practice,*** 1st Edition, by Denise Solomon (Author), Jennifer Theiss (Author), 2013

Course Format and Requirements:

Attendance:

Attendance is MANDATORY!!! Due to the fact that this is a public speaking course students are required to attend ALL sessions. The only excused absences will be for illness documented by a doctor's note. If you know ahead of time that you will be absent, kindly e-mail the instructor immediately. Unexcused absences will result in an automatic drop in grade. With each unexcused absence your final letter grade will be dropped ½ a grade – NO EXCEPTIONS (e.g.: A to A-).

Grading Scale:

A+: 98%-100%
A: 93%-97%
A-: 90%-92%
B+: 88%-89%
B: 83%-87%
B-: 80%-82%
C+: 78%-79%
C: 73%-77%
C-: 70%-72%
D+: 68%-69%
D: 63%-67%
D-: 60%-62%
F: Below 60%

Course Assignments:

Presentations

Students are required to give 2 individual presentations and 1 group presentation. The individual presentation shall be about 3-4 minutes in length and the group presentation shall consist of 2-3 group members with each student presenting for 3-4 minutes. All presentations will be assessed by: 1. Selecting an appropriate topic; 2. Audience analysis and adaptation; 3. preparing an outline when required; 4. Providing appropriate transitions and summaries; 5. Developing effective intros and conclusions; 6. Using an appropriate organizational pattern; 7. Using supporting material and research properly and effectively; 8. Using visual aids effectively; 9. Displaying appropriate verbal and nonverbal behaviors when presenting the material.

Papers

There will be three paper assignments, including one activity reports based on learned chapters and two literature review on topics about interpersonal communication. The papers together will count for 30% of your grade for the course. Each paper will count equally to 10%. Topics will be made available two weeks before papers are due. All papers must be double spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1" margins all around.

Midterm Exam

An in-class, close-book and non-cumulative midterm exam will be given through this course. The midterm exams will be based on the knowledge covered in class. No excuse will be accepted if students do not have legitimate excuses for absence. Physician Statement is required for missing the exam due.

Final Exam

The final will be close-book, consisting of multiple choice, fill in the blank, true/false, short-answer and essay questions, covering material from the entire term, including in-class discussion content. Note that the final will not be taken during the normal class times. Exact time and location for final will be announced later.

Course Assessment:

Presentations	15%
Paper 1	10%
Paper 2	10%
Paper 3	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	30%
Total	**100%**

Course Schedule:

Week	**Topics**	**Activities**
1.	Go through syllabus	

	Course overview Introducing Interpersonal Communication Considering Self Perception Experiencing and Expressing Emotions	Group Activities Activity Report Individual presentation
2.	Understanding Culture Communicating Verbally Communicating Nonverbally Listening Actively	Group Activities Literature Review Individual presentation Midterm
3.	Managing Conflict and Power Relationships with Romantic Partners Relationship with Family Members Course summary	Group Activities Literature Review Group Presentation Final Exam

Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Shanghai Normal University's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.