

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY
CST 204 (section 01) Interpersonal Communication
M W F 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. (3 credit hours)
Briggs 33
Course Syllabus
Term II 2004-2005

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Office Hours:
M W F 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.
M W F 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
***** or by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To develop personal theories, knowledge, skills, and understanding related to the field of interpersonal communication.
2. To be better prepared to develop and choose relevant communication skills that are appropriate to daily interpersonal experiences.

CLASSROOM APPROACH

This interpersonal communication course is unique, with its combined theoretical and applied approach. Not only are students able to learn the basic tenets of interpersonal communication, they can also explore the impact that interpersonal behaviors have on all areas of life: business, family, and school. The practical approach to this course makes it a versatile addition to many areas of study: marketing, education, management, psychology, as well as communication studies.

The classroom approach utilizes integrated lectures, classroom participation, exercises and written assignments to enhance internalization and transferability of interpersonal skills and concepts. This approach answers the needs of students who wish to develop larger and more flexible repertoires of interpersonal communications skills relevant to the management of their everyday-life situations.

TEXTBOOK

The textbook is The Interpersonal Communication Book (10th edition), by Joseph A. DeVito; (Boston, Massachusetts: Allyn and Bacon, 2004).

The textbook reading assignments should be complete by the date indicated on the class schedule. Exam questions will be based on both the reading assignments as well as classroom lecture material.

ATTENDANCE

Because it is felt that one can learn from interacting interpersonally with others and by participating in classroom exercises, **YOUR ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**

Any absences in excess of two (2) will be detrimental to your 10% participation and attendance grade through the reduction of five (-5) points for each absence. (Tardies will be considered partial absences.) There is **NO MAKE UP** for any missed assignments (journals, written assignments, or exams).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Detroit Mercy 2003-2005 Undergraduate Catalog states, “As members of the academic community in the pursuit of truth and with a special concern for values, students are expected to conform to a high standard of honesty and integrity in their academic work. The fundamental assumption under which the University operates is that work submitted by a student is a product of his/her own efforts.” (p. 285)

The attached sheet (“Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty”) defines plagiarism and addresses the consequences of academic dishonesty.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

The reading assignments should be completed by the date indicated. Examinations will be given covering both the textbook reading assignments and classroom lecture material.

COMMUNICATION JOURNAL

Two entries should be made in the journal each week: one which should address a classroom exercise/discussion and another describing and outside-of-class situation. The journal should reflect and understanding of interpersonal communication concepts and principles. Thus, the journal is to both describe and analyze interpersonal communication situations.

ANALYSIS PAPER

A written analysis assignment will be due later in the semester. This paper should include a thorough description of the interpersonal context. Personal applications and reflections may also be included in the paper. This written assignment should refer to interpersonal communication theories (by citing concepts and principles) from the DeVito textbook.

EXAMINATIONS

A midterm and a final examination will be given covering both the textbook and classroom lecture material. Exam questions will be objective in nature. Each exam will consist of 50 questions (30 multiple choice and 20 true or false). A review sheet will be provided prior to each examination.

EXTRA CREDIT

There will be an opportunity to earn five (+5) points extra credit by submitting the attached “extra credit” assignments sheet. Five songs should be included by identifying the title of the song, the artist(s), and the interpersonal theory/principle that each song illustrates. This will be the only opportunity for extra credit in this class.

GRADES

Each assignment will make up a percentage of your final grade. Attendance and participation will also be taken into consideration.

Communication Journal (30%) (turned in twice)	150 points
Midterm Examination (20%)	100 points
Analysis Paper (20%)	100 points
Final Examination (20%)	100 points
Attendance and Participation (10%)	50 points

TOTAL = 500 points

GRADING SCALE

473 – 500	A
448 – 472	A-
433 – 447	B+
418 – 432	B
398 – 417	B-
383 – 397	C+
368 – 382	C
348 – 367	C-
333 – 347	D+
298 – 332	D
0 – 297	F

TENATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE
Term II 2004 -2005

NOTE: This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Monday, January 10	Orientation to the Course
Wednesday, January 12	Universals of Interpersonal Communication Chapter 1
Friday, January 14	Universals of Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 1
Monday, January 17	NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday)
Wednesday, January 19	Culture in Interpersonal Communication Chapter 2
Friday, January 21	Culture in Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 2
Monday, January 24	The Self in Interpersonal Communication Chapter 3
Wednesday, January 26	The Self in Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 3
Friday, January 28	The Self in Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 3
Monday, January 31	Perception in Interpersonal Communication Chapter 4
Wednesday, February 2	Perception in Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 4
Friday, February 4	Perception in Interpersonal Communication (continued) Chapter 4
Monday, February 7	Listening in Interpersonal Communication Chapter 5
Wednesday, February 9	Universals of Verbal and Nonverbal Messages Chapter 6

Friday, February 11	Universals of Verbal and Nonverbal Messages (continued) Chapter 6
Monday, February 14	Verbal Messages Chapter 7
Wednesday, February 16	Verbal Messages (continued) Chapter 7 * Journal #1 due (10 entries)
Friday, February 18	Individual Conferences with Students (re:Written Assignment)
Monday, February 21	Review for Midterm Examination
Wednesday, February 23	* Midterm Examination (Chapters 1 – 7)
Friday, February 25	Nonverbal Messages Chapter 8
Monday, February 28	Nonverbal Messages (continued) Chapter 8
Wednesday, March 2	Nonverbal Messages (continued) Chapter 8
Friday, March 4	Nonverbal Messages (continued) Chapter 8
Monday, March 7	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
Wednesday, March 9	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
Friday, March 11	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
Monday, March 14	Messages and Conversation Chapter 9
Wednesday, March 16	Universals of Interpersonal Relationships Chapter 10
Friday, March 18	Interpersonal Relationships: Growth and Deterioration Chapter 11
Monday, March 21	Interpersonal Relationships: Growth and Deterioration (continued) Chapter 11

Wednesday, March 23	Interpersonal Relationships: Growth and Deterioration (continued) Chapter 11
Friday, March 25	NO CLASS (Easter Recess)
Monday, March 28	Interpersonal Relationships: Growth and Deterioration (continued) Chapter 11
Wednesday, March 30	Interpersonal Relationships: Friendship, Love, Family, Workplace Chapter 12
Friday, April 1	Interpersonal Relationships: Friendship, Love, etc. (continued) Chapter 12
Monday, April 4	Individual Conferences With Students (re: Written Assignments)
Wednesday, April 6	Interpersonal Relationships: Friendship, Love, etc. (continued) Chapter 12 * Journal #2 due (10 entries)
Friday, April 8	Interpersonal Relationships: Friendship, Love, etc. (continued) Chapter 12
Monday, April 11	Conflict in Interpersonal Relationships Chapter 13
Wednesday, April 13	Conflict in Interpersonal Relationships (continued) Chapter 13 * Analysis Paper due
Friday, April 15	NO CLASS (ILA Conference)
Monday, April 18	Power in Interpersonal Relationships Chapter 14
Wednesday, April 20	“Group” Exercise Course Debriefing and Evaluation
Friday, April 22	Review for Final Examination
Monday, April 25 – Saturday, April 30	* Final Examinations Week (Chapters 8 – 14)