Course Description: A course designed to enable students to analyze and practice person-to-person communicating with focus on the development, maintenance, and termination of relationships. Oral presentations and listening skills are emphasized and developed.

Text

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to do the following.

1. Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication competence and behavior.
2. Discuss communication factors that affect relationship development and maintenance.
3. Assess and evaluate personal oral communication skills.
4. Demonstrate cognitive understanding of interpersonal communication using appropriate terminology.
5. Critically analyze nonverbal communication.
6. Verbally express research findings of concepts related to interpersonal communication.

Course Goals/Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will know how to:

1. differentiate interpersonal communication from other forms of human communication and understand the factors affecting daily verbal and nonverbal communication.
2. evaluate the role of communication in the initiation, maintenance and termination of all human relationships.
3. recognize the elements of communication that effect interpersonal interaction (perception, language, listening, nonverbal communication, conflict and self-concept) including relevant issues and concepts related to gender differences.
4. evaluate the role of an individual's personality and self-concept in shaping and defining interpersonal relationships.
5. realize the effect of climate and context on interpersonal interactions and relationships.
6. appreciate the power of verbal and nonverbal communication in human interactions.
7. develop an appreciation for the value of the interpersonal communication process as it affects relationships.
8. realize the effect of self-awareness (thoughts and feelings) in interpersonal communication transactions.
9. demonstrate understanding and projection of personality through verbal and nonverbal communication.
10. verbally communicate at an appropriate level of oral communication competence in the classroom.

The level of accomplishment of these outcomes will be assessed through written and oral examinations including term tests, reaction papers, oral presentations, midterm and final examinations.
Student Contributions

ATTENDANCE IN THIS COURSE IS VITAL AND MANDATORY. Speech courses tend to promote student interaction, provoke discussion, and incorporate experiential learning. Not only is your involvement and participation in the class important, but also much of the test information will be provided in a lecture/discussion format.

CLASS PARTICIPATION. Since this is a speech communication course, it is important that you attempt to contribute your ideas, thoughts and feeling regarding the concepts discussed in class. You are encouraged to voice opinions, respond to questions, and offer comments regarding course content and related topics discussed in class in an appropriate and tactful manner. Common courtesy and attentive listening skills are expected of all students.

TESTS Exams will be in different formats, and will include material from lecture, text, class discussions, and handouts.

REACTION PAPERS. Periodically you will be assigned a written paper dealing with a concept discussed in class. The paper should be word-processed and in good form and double-spaced. Excessive grammatical and typographical errors will be noted and will effect evaluation.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS. Students will present oral presentations. Attendance on all oral presentation days is mandatory. Distracting or poor listening behaviors during another student’s presentation may result in a reduction in your presentation grade.

Class Policies

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, plagiarism (written or oral) and facilitating academic dishonesty. Disciplinary options include, but are not limited to, suspension and dismissal. (See the Midland College Student Handbook for a complete explanation of college policy).

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR. Appropriate classroom behavior including, respect for others opinions, courteous listening, and considerate use of language is expected of all students. Never enter the classroom while another student is delivering an oral presentation. Inappropriate behavior can result in your removal from the course. See the attached document, Appropriate College Classroom Behavior, to gain insight into the instructor’s expectations.

ORAL COMMUNICATION CENTER. (140 AFA) All Speech students have access to the OCC facilities, which will be explained and detailed in class. Recording of the final oral presentation will take place in the OCC. Check posted times for availability of the OCC.

Evaluation of Students:

Department guidelines for grading standards:

An "A" student attends regularly, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work at the time assigned, grades average "A," participates frequently and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "B" student attends consistently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work at the time assigned, grades average "B," participates frequently and appropriately in class discussion, and projects
a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "C" student attends frequently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work, grades average "C," participates occasionally and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "D" student attends infrequently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work, grades average "D," participates infrequently and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

An “F” student does not complete all assignments, participates infrequently and inappropriately in class discussion, projects a negative attitude toward subject matter and fellow students, and misses more than six class sessions.

Instructor Information

Name: 
Office phone: 
Office hours: 
Office location: 
E-mail address: 
Division Secretary: Lula Lee, Division 141B, Allison Fine Arts Building
Office phone: 685-4624
Note: Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.