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CMST& 210 – Interpersonal Communication

(A - - - 5 Credits)

Fall 2024 – T,Th 11:00 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.

Instructor: Tony Will, Ph.D. Office Hours: M,W 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Office: Cascade 155 E-Mail: awill@whatcom.edu

Phone: 360-383-3567 Location: Cascade 161

Textbook

We will use an Open Educational Resource (OER) book this quarter. It is FREE, and is embedded within our Canvas modules.

Core Learning Abilities

WCC's core learning abilities (CLAs) – Quantitative Reasoning, Information Literacy, Communication, Thinking, and Social Justice – are skills taught and reinforced throughout our curriculum. These skills are integral to students' professional and personal lives. This course will give you the opportunity to practice and develop Communication.

Course Format

This course meets in-person. However, Canvas will be used as a regular resource throughout the quarter. Outside of office hours, the best way to reach me is via email or Canvas message. You can expect a timely response, usually within 24 hours.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide you with an understanding of basic interpersonal communication theory. Emphasis is on acquisition and application of information. You will learn the functions and roles of communication as it affects your own self-concept and your relationships with others, and develop the skills necessary to become a more effective communicator.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:



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Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify characteristics of competent communication in interpersonal interactions.
2. Select interpersonal communication strategies based on factors such as contexts, goals, and participants.
3. Identify the impact of culture on communication.
4. Assess communication strategies used in various interpersonal situations.
5. Apply foundational concepts and theories to interpersonal communication.

Course Policies/Requirements

Attendance

In order to achieve the above-mentioned course outcomes, regular attendance is essential. You may miss two (2) classes (except for exam days) for any reason without a loss of points. For each additional absence, three (3) points will be deducted from the *participation* portion of your grade. For each free absence not used, three (3) points will be added to the *participation* portion of your grade.

Exams

Three (3) exams will be given during the quarter that will cover material presented in the lectures, activities, and discussions. Exams must be submitted by the specified due dates. Late submission (without prior approval) will be subject to a minimum 10 percent penalty.

Participation

Regularly, you will be asked to take part in short activities and discussions. These activities and discussions are designed to help you apply course concepts, principles, and theories. You will be expected to participate actively at all times. Failure to do so will affect the *participation* portion of your grade.

Writing Assignment

You will complete a self-analysis writing assignment. It will be written in the form of a personals ad, in which you provide an honest snapshot of yourself (based on your self-analysis) to a targeted individual of your choice (roommate, travel companion, date, etc.) The assignment must be submitted by the specified due date. Late submission (without prior approval) will be subject to a minimum 10 percent penalty.



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honest snapshot of yourself (based on your self-analysis) to a targeted individual of your choice (roommate, travel companion, date, etc.) The assignment must be submitted by the specified due date. Late submission (without prior approval) will be subject to a minimum 10 percent penalty.

Disabilities

Any student with a disability requiring auxiliary aids, services, or reasonable accommodations should contact the Access & Disability Services (ADS) office by emailing ADS@whatcom.edu or calling (360) 383-3139.

Faith/Conscience Accommodations

Any student who cannot participate in particular course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not affected. Such requests must be made to me within the first two weeks of the quarter.

S/U Grading/Incompletes

A student may request satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grading for letter grade courses. See the online quarterly registration calendar for the specific deadline to request such grading. An Incomplete ("I") is rare, and will be considered only when a student has been unable to complete the required coursework due to a verifiable emergency or some other circumstance beyond his or her control.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is expected at all times in accordance with the *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Any violation will result in a zero for the assignment and possible further disciplinary action.

Class Environment/Decorum

I strive to create a comfortable and friendly, yet productive, class environment. To that end, I will take the time to learn your names, get to know you, and do everything I can to make this course an enjoyable and valuable experience. At the same time, I expect you to show respect for your classmates and me.

Grading

(180 Points Possible)

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
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Exams (3 @ 40 pts.)	120 Points
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Grading

(180 Points Possible)

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
Exams (3 @ 40 pts.)	120 Points
Writing Assignment	30 Points
Participation	30 Points

Course grades will be assigned based on the following percentage scale:

A = 93% - 100% B- = 80% - 82%
D+ = 67% - 69%

A- = 90% - 92% C+ = 77% -
79% D = 60% - 66%

B+ = 87% - 89% C = 73% -
76% F = 59% and below

B = 83% - 86% C- = 70% - 72%

Note: All scores can be accessed on the Canvas page for this course.

Course Schedule

(Subject to Revision)

Week 1 (September 24, 26)

Course Overview

Week 2 (October 1, 3)

What is Interpersonal Communication? (1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

Week 3 (October 8, 10)

Self-Awareness (2.3)

Discuss Writing Assignment

Week 4 (October 15, 17)

Perception (2.1, 2.2, 2.4)

Week 5 (October 22, 24)

Exam # 1

Emotion (6.3)



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Self-Awareness (2.3)

Discuss Writing Assignment

Week 4 (October 15, 17)

Perception (2.1, 2.2, 2.4)

Week 5 (October 22, 24)

Exam # 1

Emotion (6.3)

Week 6 (October 29, 31)

Verbal Communication (3.1, 3.2)

Week 7 (November 5, 7)

Nonverbal Communication (4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4)

Week 8 (November 12, 14)

Exam # 2

Listening (5.1, 5.2, 5.3)

Week 9 (November 19, 21)

Self-Disclosure, Relational Development, and Climate (6.4, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6)

Week 10 (November 26)

Playing By Heart

Week 11 (December 3, 5)

Conflict (6.2)

Week 12 (December 10, 12)

Exam # 3

Course Wrap Up

Student Support Services

The Learning Center, Writing Center, and Math Center, located in the Learning Commons, connect you to an academic community and offer free tutoring and writing support.



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Course Wrap Up

Student Support Services

The Learning Center, Writing Center, and Math Center, located in the Learning Commons, connect you to an academic community and offer free tutoring and writing support.

The Student Helpdesk, located in the Learning Commons, is available for technical assistance with Canvas, student network accounts, ctcLink activation, password reset, use of online resources, student email, and common software used by students.

The staff is also available for group workshops or individual assistance with Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and can help answer printing, scanning, or other computer questions. Laptop computer checkout is available on a first come, first serve basis.

Academic Advising and Career Services, located in Orca Central in the Heiner Center, can help you select and register for classes, review degree requirements, finalize math and English placements, connect you with resources and strategize for your success, learn about transferring to a university, explore different careers and degrees, and create a degree plan.

The Campus Store, located in the Syre Student Center, offers textbooks and other class materials; office, school, and art supplies; Orca gear, gifts, and other WCC keepsakes.

The Intercultural Center, located in the Syre Student Center, welcomes all students looking for community, connections, and engagement.

The Veteran Services Office, located in Laidlaw Center, offers support to veterans, service members, and eligible dependents to help them accomplish their educational goals.

Affirmation of Inclusion

WCC is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the College community feels welcome to participate in the life of the College, free from harassment and discrimination. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, national origins, religions, ages, genders, sexual orientations, marital status, veteran status, abilities, and disabilities. Toward that end, faculty, students, and staff will treat one another with respect and dignity; promote a learning and working community that ensures social justice, understanding, civility, and non-violence in a safe and supportive climate; and influence curriculum, teaching strategies, student services, and personnel practices that facilitate sensitivity and openness to diverse ideas, peoples, and cultures in a creative, safe, and collegial environment.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

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