Excluding materials for purchase, syllabus information may be subject to change. The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.

**Course and Instructor Information**

**Course Title:** Interpersonal Communication  
**Credits:** 3  
**Format:** Online  
**Prerequisites:** Comm 1000  
**Professor:** Amanda Denes, PhD  

**Email:** amanda.denes@uconn.edu  
**Office Hours/Availability:** Via email or by appointment

**Course Materials**

**Required course materials should be obtained before the first day of class.**

Texts are available through a local or online bookstore. The UConn Co-op carries many materials that can be shipped via its online Textbooks To Go service. For more information, see Textbooks and Materials on our Enrolled Students page.

**Required Materials:**


*Additional course readings and media are available within HuskyCT, through either an Internet link or Library Resources*

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to research and theories in the field of interpersonal communication. The goal of this course is to learn about the process of interpersonal communication and apply what you learn to your interpersonal relationships.

**Course Objectives**

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

1. Define interpersonal communication, identify the goals of this form of communication and the needs interpersonal communication helps individuals meet, and differentiate these concepts from other related terms.
2. Explain communication competence, identify areas in which competence is lacking, and practice skills to improve interpersonal communication.
3. Identify verbal and nonverbal channels of communication and their functions in interpersonal relationships.
4. Analyze the process of identity-formation and the influence of interpersonal communication on understandings of self.
5. Differentiate the stages of relationship development and evaluate the role of self-disclosure in developing interpersonal intimacy.
6. Describe the process of relational maintenance, including how to manage and engage in conflict, as well as issues related to closeness, affection, love, sex, power, and uncertainty.
7. Examine the process of relationship deterioration including the stages of disengagement, types of break-ups, and intrapsychic processes.
8. Discuss the major theories of interpersonal communication and apply these theories to real-life experiences.

Course Outline (and Calendar if Applicable)

Module 1: What is Interpersonal Communication?
Module 2: Review of Verbal and Nonverbal Communication
Module 3: The Self and Social Identity
Module 4: Attraction
Module 5: Uncertainty Reduction and Expectancy Violations
Module 6: Beginning Relationships
Module 7: Relationship Maintenance
Module 8: Love and Attachment
Module 9: Conflict and Relationship Transgressions
Module 10: Relationship Dissolution
Module 11: Course Wrap-Up

Course Requirements and Grading

Summary of Course Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Components</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graded Quizzes</td>
<td>5@20pts. each = 100pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>8@10pts. each = 80pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>5@10pts. each = 50pts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Graded quizzes** (GQs) will consist of multiple choice, true and false, and essay questions. Each quiz will be worth 20 points. Students are given 30 minutes to complete each quiz. The specified quizzes must be completed by the dates detailed in the course calendar on HuskyCT.

2. Students are expected to participate in **discussion boards**. Full credit (10 points) will be awarded to students who provide insightful, thought-provoking comments on the discussion board and respond to at least one other student’s post. Students who do not provide such comments will receive fewer points. Please note that Modules 3–10 all include a discussion component that needs to be completed by the time the module ends. Responses should be unique and original; put some thought in... not just replicating or agreeing with someone else

3. **Journal entries** are privately submitted and graded. Students are expected to submit journals, which should include 2–3 paragraphs of insightful comments regarding the journal topic. Each module will contain a journal option, and you must choose one option per week and submit that journal on the due date indicated in the course calendar. The specified journals must be completed by the dates detailed in the course calendar on HuskyCT. Grades for the journals will be posted on HuskyCT using grading rubrics. If students wish to receive additional comments or feedback on their journals, they should email the instructor.
Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due Dates and Late Policy

All course due dates are identified in the course calendar. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. **The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate manner.**

Late assignments will not be accepted. You must complete all assignments by the deadlines on the course calendar. In case of emergency, please email the instructor immediately.

Feedback and Grades

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within 5 days of the assignment due date. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to My Grades in HuskyCT.

If you would like to discuss a grade with me, submit your appeal via email. Please include the following in your email:

1. Offer a cogent and well-supported written argument. This means that you should support your claims from course materials and/or class lectures.
2. This written argument should be submitted via email. You must also set an appointment to have a phone conversation with me so that the process may be completed. No grade appeals will be completed via email; you must speak with me via telephone or Skype before the appeal is completed.

Student Responsibilities and Resources

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. Review these important standards, policies and resources, which include:

- The Student Code
  - Academic Integrity
  - Resources on Avoiding Cheating and Plagiarism
- Copyrighted Materials
- Netiquette and Communication
- Adding or Dropping a Course
- Academic Calendar
- Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships
- Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

**Students with Disabilities**

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.)

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from Blackboard’s website)

**Software Requirements and Technical Help**

The technical requirements for this course include:

- Word processing software
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Reliable internet access
- Pinterest account

Technical and Academic Help provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, HuskyCT. If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through HuskyTech. Students also have 24x7 Course Support including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

**Minimum Technical Skills**

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.
- Post a pin to a Pinterest board and comment on pins.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the Computer Technology Competencies page for more information.

**Evaluation of the Course**

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.