

COMM 1500: Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
(16764): TR: 8:00-9:15; Bldg.: Gilbert Hall (0640), Rm. 118

Instructor: Jessica Fabbricatore

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Office: 513 Caldwell (Graduate Student Office)

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. Please make an appointment.

**Allow a 24-hour window for a response to your email (not including weekend).*

**Always use your official UGA email account when corresponding with me—do not use ELC.*

A. Course Title: COMM 1500: Introduction to Interpersonal Communication

B. Course Description

Communication as it occurs in two-person and small group settings. Primary concern is given to understanding how an individual can use verbal and nonverbal communication to improve relationships and derive maximum social rewards.

C. Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and Cross-listings for the course: None.

D. Required Materials

- McCornack, S. & Morrison, K. (2019). *Reflect and relate: An introduction to interpersonal communication* (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's.
- **COMM 1500, Introduction to Interpersonal Communication Student Workbook.**
 - *Can only be found at the UGA bookstore- not online!*

E. Course Objectives

This course provides a broad overview to the study of interpersonal communication from an academic and theory-rich perspective.

1. Students will examine the fundamental elements in the communication process.
2. Students will learn about the role of culture in communication.
3. Students will examine the dimensions of verbal and nonverbal communication.
4. Students will examine the role of perception and emotion in the communication process.
5. Students will learn about the dimensions of close relationships and how communication is defined in close relationships and how communicators develop, maintain, and terminate close relationships.
6. Students will complete research assignments, which will involve computer-based research and paper preparation.
7. Students will examine the moral and ethical implications of a variety of communication situations.
8. Students will examine research predictions and data derived from research studies to generate and assess conclusions about the predictors of, and influences on, a variety of communication processes.
9. Students will apply core concepts in written work and in exams that contribute to the course grade.

F. Topical Outline

The topical outline gives you a broad sense of what topics are covered in this class. These topics will likely not be covered in the same order in different semesters.

1. Introducing Interpersonal Communication
2. Considering Self: Self-Concept
3. Intercultural Communication
4. Perceiving Others
5. Emotion: Experiencing and Expressing Emotions
6. Listening & Communication
7. Verbal Communication
8. Nonverbal Communication
9. Interpersonal Conflict Communication & Power
10. Romantic Relationship Communication
11. Family Communication
12. Communication in Friendships
13. Communication in the Workplace

G. University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy.

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: www.uga.edu/honesty. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>

H. Syllabus Statement

The course syllabus is a *general plan* for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. Any deviations or changes from the syllabus is at the discretion of the instructor and will be announced to the class.

I. Principal Course Assignments

This schedule is approximate and may change at the discretion of the instructor. Changes may either be announced in lecture or posted on ELC; thus, I strongly advise regular class attendance and daily check-ins on ELC to ensure you do not miss any announcements. Exam dates will not change. Topics considered on any given day may change if we fall behind or are ahead of schedule. **Readings should be completed prior to class on the date for which the reading is listed.**

	Date	Topic	Readings Due Dates
Week 1 , Thursday	8/15	Course Introduction Intro to IPC	
Week 2 , Tuesday	8/20	Intro to IPC	Ch. 1
Thursday	8/22	Self-Concept	Ch. 2
Week 3 , Tuesday	8/27	Self-Concept	
Thursday	8/29	Perceiving Others	Ch. 3
Week 4 , Tuesday	9/3	Perceiving Others	
Thursday	9/5	Emotion & Comm.	Ch. 4
Week 5 , Tuesday	9/10	Emotion & Comm.	
Thursday	9/12	Emotion & Comm. Conflict & Comm.	Ch. 10 Conflict Paper Assigned
Week 6 , Tuesday	9/17	Conflict & Comm.	
Thursday	9/19	EXAM 1	
Week 7 , Tuesday	9/24	APA Workshop <i>APA Style</i>	
Thursday	9/26	Verbal Comm.	Ch. 8
Week 8 , Tuesday	10/1	Verbal Comm.	
Thursday	10/3	Nonverbal Comm.	Ch. 9
Week 9 , Tuesday	10/8	Nonverbal Comm.	Conflict Paper DUE
Thursday	10/10	Culture & Comm.	Ch. 5
Week 10 , Tuesday	10/15	Culture & Comm. Gender & Comm.	Ch. 6
Thursday <i>(Withdraw deadline 10/21)</i>	10/17	Gender & Comm. Listening & Comm.	Ch. 7
Week 11 , Tuesday	10/22	EXAM 2	
Thursday	10/24	Family Comm.	Ch. 12
Week 12 , Tuesday	10/29	Family Comm.	
Thursday	10/31	Family Comm.	
Week 13 , Tuesday	11/5	Romantic Comm.	Ch. 11
Thursday	11/7	Romantic Comm.	
Week 14 , Tuesday	11/12	Romantic Comm.	
Thursday	11/14	Group Work	Grp. Projects Due
Week 15 , Tuesday	11/19	Presentations	
Thursday	11/21	Presentations	
Week 16 , Tuesday	11/26	Friendship Comm.	Ch. 13
Thursday	11/28	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	
Week 17 , Tuesday	12/3	Review	Res. Req. Due (12/4)
FINAL for TR 8:00	Thurs., 12/12, 8:00-11:00 am	EXAM 3	

****Final Grades entered by Monday, 12/16 at 12 pm.**

J. Research Participation

The Communication Studies Department requires all students taking COMM1500 and COMM1110 to satisfy a 2 credit departmental research requirement. Students must earn 2 credits for each Communication Studies class that requires or offers research participation (e.g., students cannot use one research opportunity to apply to two classes). ***The Research Requirement must be completed on or before the last day of class (i.e., the day before Reading Day).*** Failure to fulfill the research requirement will result in a grade of Incomplete (I). In order to remove the Incomplete (I), you must complete the research requirement in a future semester.

Six research options are offered to fulfill this requirement with varying credit allotment:

- Option 1: Participation in a lab-based research study = 2 credits
- Option 2: Participation in an online study = 1 credit
- Option 3: Attendance and reflection of a live debate = 1 credit
- Option 4: Attendance and reflection of the Public Speaking Contest = 1 credit
- Option 5: Attendance and reflection of a Communication Studies presentation = 1 credit
- Option 6: Written analysis of a Communication research article = 2 credits

For information about the options, see the pages 7-13 of the workbook. For updates on opportunities follow this link: <http://spcmweb.franklin.uga.edu/research>. Failure to fulfill the research requirement will result in a grade of Incomplete (I) for this class.

Research Participation is due before the last day of class: Wednesday, December 4th.

Note: You will need to complete a separate research project or paper for each Communication Studies class that requires or offers research participation.

K. Specific Course Requirements for Grading Purposes

Activities	60
Participation	40
Exams (2 x 100; 1 x 75)	275
Paper	100
Group Presentation	125
TOTAL POINTS	600

Your course will be based on a 550-point scale and will be determined combining scores from the following:

- ***Activities (60 points):*** In this course students are expected to completed in-class activities or homework assignments. These activities may involve individual or group assignments, may occur in or outside of class, and will vary in total point value. **I will not accept late work, and you may not, under any circumstances, turn in missed activities.** All activities and/or papers that exceed more than one page in length must be stapled together before being submitted.

- **Participation (40 points):**

Criteria for Class Participation:

- Class preparedness—on time, assignments and presentations prepared and complete.
- Contributions to class discussion and exercises that indicate that assignments have been read.
- Involvement in in-class discussion groups/activities and always on task.
- Promotion of a congenial and supportive classroom environment.

Quantity is considered, but quantity does not equal quality. To receive full credit for participation, you must actively participate in class discussion in a way that is relevant to the content.

(Note: PARTICIPATION IS SEPARATE FROM ATTENDANCE. Just because you attend class does not mean you are participating.)

- **Exams: (275 points):** This course has three exams. The first two exams are worth 125 points and the third is worth 100. They might contain multiple-choice, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. Make-up exams are scheduled only in cases of unavoidable conflicts or extreme emergencies. **No make-up exams will be given for personal reasons** (e.g., work, family events, airline ticket reservations, vacation plans, court appearances, etc.). You must notify me at least one week prior to the scheduled exam and provide documentation if you hope to reschedule an exam.
- **Paper (100 points):** One 5-6 page (double-spaced) paper will be required for the course. Details on the nature of the paper will be provided in class and then posted on ELC. The format must comply with the guidelines posted in the workbook. The paper is due at the beginning of the class period. **You must submit a copy of your paper to eLC– I do not accept papers via e-mail. Late work will result in point deductions per day (including weekends). The essay will result in 10% deduction per day if late.** Your paper is considered late if you are not in class on time on the due date. *I will not accept the paper after five days past the due date.*
- **Group Presentation— Close Relationships (125 points):** Students will be formed into groups of 4-5 individuals to present their explanation and analysis of concepts tied to friendships, family, or romantic relationships. Presentations will be between 10-12 minutes in length. **Grades will be awarded as a group, not individually, BUT based on the individual group evaluations, grades may be adjusted up or down.** The outline must comply with the guidelines posted in the workbook. The workbook also has a sample outline for you to illustrate how to format your outline.
****Further details about the assignment will be discussed in class and posted on eLC.**

L. Grading Policy

There are a total of 600 points in this class. I will do my best to keep grades up to date. HOWEVER, please keep a record of your grades including tests and papers as well as attendance. Use the formula below to assess your work and grade. Please keep all graded papers until after you have received your final grade for the semester.

Formula: Your grade % = (all the points you have earned) / (maximum points possible)

	B+ = 88-89%	C+ = 78-79%	D+ = 68-69%
A = 93-100%	B = 83-87%	C = 73-77%	D = 60-68%
A- = 90-92%	B- = 80-82%	C- = 70-72%	F = 0-59%

The Undergraduate Course Director’s Policy is there is **NO EXTRA CREDIT** for COMM 1500. Please do not ask.

M. Attendance Policy

You are allowed **three (3) absences** in this class without penalty and where no excuse is required.

There will be a 6-point reduction in your final grade for every absence after three (3). If you are more than 10 minutes late for class, you will be counted absent for that day and it will count against one of your three allowed absences.

***The only exceptions that will be made are for absences that are University sanctioned or approved absences (e.g. absences resulting from participation at some University sanctioned event as an official representative of the University of Georgia), or for classes missed in observance of a religious holiday. If you will miss class to observe a religious holiday or for a University sanctioned event, you should notify your instructor during the first week of the semester. You should use your allotted absences wisely.*

N. Make-up Policy

1. If you are late to an exam/quiz, you will not have extra time to finish the exam beyond the regularly scheduled period (class period for test, 10 minutes for quiz).
2. After the first person to finish the exam/quiz has left, I will not accept any latecomers to exam/quiz.
3. Make up exams/quizzes/class activities are rarely given and never for personal reasons (e.g., work, family events, airline ticket reservations, vacation plans, court appearances, etc.). Make up exams are allowed for full credit for excused absences with proper documentation for the following reasons:
 - a. Absence due to a university sanctioned activity as an official representative of the University of Georgia where prior notice has been provided to the instructor.
 - b. Absence due to an emergency which has been documented through their advisor or Student Affairs or an illness which has been verified in writing from your private physician. The note does not have to indicate the specifics of your illness, but that the physician or clinician does not think you are well enough to attend class. The instructor determines if the circumstances are extenuating in accordance with college and university policies.

- c. Absence due to observance of a religious holiday where prior notice has been given to the instructor.

O. Grade Appeals Process

1. If a student believes he or she received a grade other than that received, the student must first attempt to resolve the grade dispute with the instructor.
2. If the student is dissatisfied with a **paper grade** (or other assignment, project, etc.) and cannot reach an agreement with the instructor, the student will be directed to the teaching supervisor (Dr. Analisa Arroyo, arroyo@uga.edu). The student is then required to submit to the teaching supervisor a typed grade appeal.
3. If the student is dissatisfied with the **course grade**, at the end of the semester the student may choose to appeal to the Communication Studies Department Head (Dr. Edward Panetta, epanetta@uga.edu). The appeal should also be typed and include the following elements:
 - a. Student's name and mailing address,
 - b. The class name, term class was completed, instructor's name
 - c. Grade received
 - d. The appeal should make an argument, based on one or more of the issues presented in the Basis for Appeals indicating why the grade received should be changed.
 - e. The appeal should request a specific remedy, i.e. indicate the grade the student believes to be appropriate.
4. If the grade dispute is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, he or she may appeal the grade to the Academic Standards Committee of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. Instruct the student to contact the Franklin College for specific instructions on how to do so or to refer them to this link:
http://www.franklin.uga.edu/students/student_appeal_guidelines.php

P. 24-hour Rule

We require that you **wait at minimum 24 hours** after receiving your assignment grade before addressing your concern either in person or via email. Your instructors will not be responding to those inquiries until 24 hours have passed. You have the right to inquire about a grade, as careful consideration of one's graded work facilitates useful and meaningful discussions about assignments. You are encouraged to take action if you believe an assignment was graded inaccurately. Students should submit **a typed argument/essay within two weeks** after the assignment is returned in class. Essays should cite class material to convincingly argue for why the assignment should be re-evaluated. Be advised that a grade appeal could result in a lower or higher assignment grade. A grade appeal may have one of three outcomes: (1) grade is upheld (remains the same); (2) grade is lowered; or (3) grade is raised. **Absolutely no grade appeals will be considered after the two-week deadline.** *It is the student's responsibility to submit the necessary appeal documentation if their argument is to be considered.*

Q. Etiquette

Email etiquette is essential when you are initiating or responding to communication with instructors for this course; thus, I advise that you treat all of your emails as the professional communication that they are. You must begin your email with “Ms. Fabbricatore...,” have a dedicated body, and your signature at the end. Also, note that all emails are saved; therefore, if you send an email to a professor starting off with “yo” or “heey!”, then this leaves an unfavorable impression that will be remembered at times of recommendation letter writing. Also, if you ask a question which is answered in the syllabus, you will not receive a response.

In class: This class covers topics such as inequality, culture, risk, sexuality, loss, etc. Comments that are disrespectful and/or hateful will not be tolerated. Students are entitled to discuss and inquire about their peers’ ideas and arguments, but are NEVER permitted to attack someone’s character and values. Any student who does not abide by this will be asked to leave, resulting in a loss of that day’s points.

R. Copyright

All materials from this course including the syllabus, course notes, quizzes, activities, paper assignments, exams, etc., are copyrighted as intellectual property (unless otherwise noted and credited) and are not to be duplicated, reproduced or posted to any website (e.g., Koofers) etc. without express authorization.

S. Technology Policy & Distractions

The use of social media is disruptive to class. If you engage in such use, expect to be “called out” in class and asked to leave class for the day. You will be marked absent for the day. If a student is being extremely disruptive, I will ask for s/he to leave the class. If this happens, the student will forfeit all points for that class (i.e. pop quiz, attendance, participation).

T. Reasonable Accommodation Policy

Students with learning disabilities who may require accommodations should contact The Disability Resource Center (<http://drc.uga.edu/students/register-for-services>).

Accommodations will be determined on a case-by-case basis according to each student’s individual needs and documentation. Please come speak with me the first week of class if you have any accommodations that you require so we can work out a plan for the semester.

U. Emergency Preparedness

In case of emergency, call 911 immediately. If the fire alarm sounds, we will exit the building and reassemble in front of the main entrance of the UGA Main Library so I can make sure everyone has exited the building. Do not use the elevators and notify others as you leave. If there is a tornado warning, we will move to the shelter location at the first floor of this building and, again, I will need to account for everyone. If you have special circumstances that I need to know about in case of an emergency, please speak to me during the first week of class. If you have concerns about other emergencies, please speak to me and also check the website of Office of Emergency Preparedness at <http://www.prepare.uga.edu>.

V. HB 280 – Conceal & Carry on Campus

Students are obligated to know the state laws that apply to them while on campus. For more information on HB 280 in particular, as per the University System of Georgia, please visit <http://www.usg.edu/hb280>.

W. In Regard to Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a faculty member. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on UGA's campus with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the UGA Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) at (706)542-2273. You may also find more information on reporting sexual assault by following this link (which sometimes does not work with Google Chrome): <https://safeandsecure.uga.edu/sexual-assault/>