

Com 3700: Interpersonal II

Spring 2004

Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.

Brown Hall 2040 Brown Hall

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2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Pre-requisites: Completion of Com 1700 and Com 2000 with a grade of C or higher at Western Michigan University, or an approved course transferred from another college of university.

About the course: Com 3700 is designed to build on the course material in Com 1700. This course will:

- Help students develop a theoretical, analytical and critical mind set related to the phenomenon of communication
- Study selected theory and research related to communication
- Help students become more aware of communication patterns and behaviors in their everyday lives and interpersonal relationships through reading, class discussion, case studies, self-assessment and application of course materials.
- Improve writing, in accordance with the university's policy on baccalaureate writing courses.

Required text (s):

Griffin, Em, *A First Look at Communication Theory*, 5th edition, 2003, New York, NY: McGraw-Hiller Higher Education

Braithwaite, Dawn O and Julie T. Wood, *Case Studies in Interpersonal Communication: Process and Problems*, 2000, Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning

Attendance: You are expected to attend each class. Because this is a course in communication, your attendance and participation is important. I will not have a formal attendance policy; the choice to attend is yours. However because of the nature of the course content and the class exercises, you will not do well if you do not attend each class. I will, however, take attendance from periodically. The spot checking of attendance will be factored into the class participation portion of your grade. You will not be allowed to make up class activities, in class assignments or quizzes; our schedule will not permit it.

Contacting me prior to an absence does not constitute an excused absence. I consider this contact a courtesy only.

Prepared by: Marilyn S. Kritzman, Faculty Specialist
School of Communication
Western Michigan University

Class will begin on time, so plan accordingly. If you are late, **never** enter the room during a presentation by a class mate.

Academic Integrity: You are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the policies and procedures in the Undergraduate Catalog (p 268-269) that pertain to academic integrity. These policies include cheating, fabrication, falsification and forgery, multiple submission, plagiarism, complicity and computer misuse. If there is reason to believe you have been involved in academic dishonesty, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. You will be given the opportunity to review the charge(s). If you believe you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. You should consult with me if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test. (Western Michigan University Faculty Senate, December 4, 2002).

It is an act of **plagiarism** to copy or paraphrase someone else's words or ideas and treat them as your own. Taking a sentence and changing a few words is still plagiarism if you do not give proper credit to the originator(s) of the idea. All reference to work of others should be properly cited in your papers. Exceptions are granted only when the ideas are regarded as "common knowledge".

It is an act of **fabrication** to present and false or "made-up" information. You should not falsify research in a written report or an oral presentation or, any other information provided to an instructor (e.g. excuse for missing an exam or submitting a paper late).

It is an act of **multiple submissions** to present the same paper or presentation or substantial portions of papers or projects for credit in two courses without the faculty members' consent.

It is an act of **complicity** to attempt to help another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. Examples include knowingly allowing someone to copy your answers on an exam or completing portions of other students' work for them to submit as their own.

Student dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

- using someone else's work as your own
- removing an exam from the classroom
- looking at another student's work during testing
- unauthorized communication with another student during or about a test

******Any violation of academic dishonesty will not only result in a grade of zero for the assignment, but and failing grade for the course******

Reading Assignments: Read assignments, take note on the chapters in the text and be prepared to discuss the material in class.

Exams: Failure to be present for a scheduled exam without pre-arrangement will result in a failing grade for the exam. Students must be present during the final exam period.

Assignments: Handwritten assignments will receive a grade of zero (0).

All written assignments are due at the beginning of class or immediately after a presentation.

The maximum for any late assignment is 50% of the original points.

Do Not Rely on Spell Check to Proofread Your Work! I will deduct points for spelling and/or grammar errors I detect.

Only typewritten assignments will be accepted.

Staple papers and submit all work for a presentation/paper in a packet. Always save your work on a disk. While I hope never to lose a student's assignment, you should make and retain a copy of all work you submit.

Schedule and Test Cancellation:

If I cannot make it to class, either someone will substitute for me, or someone will arrive near the beginning of class to inform you of my absence. Allow fifteen (15) minutes for me to arrive before you leave the classroom.

If class is canceled on the day of an exam, presume the exam will be given during the next class meeting. If class is canceled during the session prior to an exam, presume the exam will be given at its scheduled time.

If class is canceled on the day of an assigned presentation, presume we will continue with the presentations assigned for the class session we resume, **NOT** those presentations that were scheduled for the missed class session.

Presentations: It is important that you attend class the days you and/or your group are scheduled to present.

No presentation will be made up unless there are extenuating circumstances and there will be an automatic 20 point penalty for the student(s) who create a need for rescheduling.

Specific topics, presentations, exam dates and assignments are included in this syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class, in advance. You are responsible for knowing these changes as well as any other content presented during the session if you are absent.

Technology: If you need audio visual equipment for an in-class presentation, you are required to reserve it at the Com CRC, and informing me via email by Friday noon prior to class of the reservation. This notification allows me to confirm the reservation.

If you plan to use my laptop, I require the same notification. You need to let me know if you need the CD or disk drive. My computer has Windows XP, so materials you plan to use must be compatible with Windows XP. If your materials are not compatible with Windows XP, plan to provide your own lap top. Please scan your materials for viruses before bringing it to class to use on my lap top.

If, on the day of the presentation, your prepared material is not compatible with the equipment, you will decide if you proceed or request to reschedule and receive the penalty for rescheduling.

This is especially important if you are using Power Point for a presentation.

T.R.I.P.* Notebook: T.R.I.P stands for “theory and research into practice” which is one of the goals of this course. You will select 4 theories over the course of the semester to understand at a deeper and more practical level. For each of these theories you will find one recent, research article to which you will:

- Summarize the article and results
- Explain the theory briefly and how it leads to the study
- Explain several practical implications and uses for the findings of the study (answer the “so what” question)
- Find a real-life example (in the broadcast or print media, your personal, classroom or work life etc) that you will shed insight into by applying the study’s findings
- Submit a copy of the research article with your materials

Specific details on how to complete the TRIP papers will be discussed within the next two class sessions, however all must be completed and submitted by April 6, but I strongly encourage you to turn at least one entry in early so that you can receive feedback and make adjustments for the remainder of the papers. Each of the articles is worth 100 points for a total of 300 points. **YOU WILL BE ALLOWED TO DROP THE LOWEST SCORE.** You may only turn in one TRIP per week.

*T.R.I.P. material compliments of Dr. Kathy Propp

Extra credit: Extra credit will not be given to an individual in order to raise a grade. If bonus options are offered, it will be to the entire class.

Cell Phones and Pagers: Please turn them off during class.

Learning disabilities/special needs: If you have a documented learning disability that requires special accommodations during exams, assignments or class, please let me know as soon as possible. If you believe you have a learning disability and it has not been registered with the university, please contact the Office of Disabled Student and Resource Services, located in St. Aiden’s chapel near the Sindecuse Health Center.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

Class Participation	10 %	100 points
Student Presentation #1	12%	100 points
Midterm	15%	100 points
Student Presentation # 2	15%	100 points
Trip # 1	11%	100 points
Trip # 2	11%	100 points
Trip # 3	11%	100 points
Final Exam	15%	100 points

Grading Scale (%)

A	100-94
BA	93-87
B	86-83
CB	82-77
C	76-70
DC	69-65
D	64-60
E	Less than 60

Final grades and majors and minors: Students must earn a grade of “C” or better for the course to count toward a major or minor in Communication.

In order to protect a student’s privacy, no grades will be given out over the phone or via email for this class.

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Student Presentations:

- Students will work in teams of 2-3 to create and present 1) a case study from the Braithwaite text and 2) one topic from a prepared list of topics from class (i.e. Dyadic communication, concepts of self, symbolic interaction, systems theory to name a few). The topics will be selected from the course content, and will be presented as follow up from material covered in class and the text (s). Sessions will last about 15 minutes.
- Each team will prepare an outline, which will be submitted at the beginning of their session.
- Each team must decide among themselves how to best cover the material.
- The material must be nearly equally divided between members.
- Ten per cent (15%) of the final grade will be based on the individual performance in the presentations.
- Evaluation will be based on how the team members approach and present the material and delivery

Tentative Schedule of Classes and Important Dates

Date	Topic
January 7	Course Overview Introductions
January 14	Course Overview TRIP Information Chapter 1, Griffin Speaker, Carolyn Hornev and Rachel Damm W.M.U. Career Services
January 21	Chapter 2, Griffin Guest Speaker, Mr. Gary Benedix National Sales Manager Syscon International Dyads and dyadic communication Developmental Theory
January 28	Chapter 3 Griffin The concept of self
February 4	Chapter 4, Griffin Chapter 25, Griffin Presentation
February 11	Chapter 5, 6 Griffin
February 18	Griffin 7 Presentations

February 25	Midterm # 1 Presentations
March 3	Spring Break
March 10	Conflict Chapter 9 & 10, Griffin
March 17	Nonverbal Chapter 11 & 12, Griffin
March 24	Interpersonal Power Chapter 12 & 14, Griffin
March 31	Male/Female Chapter 15, Griffin
April 7	Out of Class Assignment/Attend Com Day Last Day for TRIPS to be submitted. These may be dropped to my office 322 Sprau or the Com Department office by 5 p.m. today.
April 14	Review for Final
April 21	Final Exam

