

Syllabus and Outline
COMMUNICATION 445
Relational Communication--Theory and Practical Applications
Fall 2011

Instructor: Peter Andersen
Office: Communication 220
Office Hours: Wednesday 3:00-4:00; Thursday 2:00-4:00 or by email.
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Textbook: Guerrero, L. K., Andersen, P. A. Afifi, W. A. (2011). Close Encounters: Communication in Relationships (3rd edition). Los Angeles, CA: Sage

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Date</u>
Midterm Exam	150	October 19, 8-9 pm
Final Exam	150	December 14, 8-9 pm
Self Analysis Paper	200	November 18

Grades: All grades will be assigned according to the following formula

465-500 = A	365-384 = C
450-464 = A-	350-364 = C-
435-449 = B+	335-349 = D+
415-434 = B	315-334 = D
400-414 = B-	300-314 = D-
385-399 = C+	299 and below = F

Attendance: Attendance is strongly recommended. Any material or announcements presented in the class while absent is your responsibility to obtain from other students. Since 50-70% of the tests' content is lecture material, it is imperative to attend class regularly.

Cheating: Cheating on an exam or plagiarizing a paper (i.e. copying any portion of another scholar's or student's work and submitting it as your own) will result in an **automatic F in the course**. Also see dishonesty section at the end of the syllabus.

Papers: Papers must be:

- a) typed and double spaced.
- a) have a standard title page.
- b) Be the original work of the student.
- c) In APA style (HINT: This syllabus' and the textbook's references are typed in APA style.)

SELF-ANALYSIS PAPER

The purpose of this paper is to critically examine your own relational communication behavior using 2 to 3 concepts discussed in the course. Examples of concepts include, but are not limited to: self disclosure, immediacy, needs expectations, attributions, relational stages, uncertainty reduction, apprehension, attraction, stage-fright, deception, jealousy, etc. The focus must be on **communication** in close relationships.

The paper should be organized into four separate segments.

In part one of the paper, you should briefly review, define, and describe the concepts you are going to discuss. Appropriate references should be included in this section

In part two, review the literature on the concepts contained in your paper. This section should contain 10 sources at least 5 of which should be scholarly journal articles.

In part three, you should critically analyze your own attitudes, thoughts, and behaviors related to these concepts.

In part four, you should analyze your weakest points related to these concepts and suggest some strategies for improving your interpersonal competence in the future.

The paper is due Friday Nov. 18-In my mailbox in the Communication office (this will free you up for other activities during Thanksgiving break). For each class day your paper is late one full letter grade will be deducted.

Hints:

1. Follow my outline explicitly. The paper should contain four separate sections. Use a heading to separate each section.
2. Clear your topic with me before proceeding. Your topic must deal with relational communication.
3. Don't plagiarize! See syllabus for warning.
4. See the above for paper guidelines. Follow them carefully.
5. Start today.

SCHEDULE FOR RELATIONAL COMMUNICATION

Aug. 31	Introduction to the course: The field of Personal Relationships, Principles of Interpersonal Relationships,	Chapter 1
Sept. 7	Identity, Attraction and Liking: The social self: Drawing people together	Chapter 2 & 3
Sept. 14	Sensemaking in Early Relationships Uncertainty, Expectancy, and Social Penetration	Chapter 4
Sept. 21	Developing Closeness: Stages of Initiation and Intensification	Chapter 5
Sept. 28	Intimate Interaction: The Communication of Affection, Warmth, and Closeness	Chapter 6
Oct. 5	The Closest Connection: Love in close relationships	Chapter 7
Oct. 12	Close Physical Connections: Sex in close relationships	Chapter 8
Oct. 19	7:00-7:30 Review Session 8:00 Midterm Exam	
Oct. 26	Connections and Boundaries: Maintenance and Privacy in Relationships	Chapters 9, 12
Oct. 30	Fairness and Exchange, Equity, and Commitment: Ties than bind	Chapters 10
Nov. 2	Power: The politics of Close Relationships	Chapter 11
Nov. 9	The Dark Side: Relational Transgressions (Paper is due) Yes class meets tonight.	Chapter 13
Nov. 16	No Class-National Communication Association Convention: New Orleans, LA (paper due on Friday, Nov. 18 th in my mailbox).	
Nov. 23	No Class – Twas the night before Thanksgiving	
Nov. 30	Conflict: Dealing with Disagreement	Chapter 14
Dec. 7	Coming Apart: Relation Disengagement	Chapter 15
Dec. 14	Review session 7-7:40 pm , Final exam 8-9 pm	

Dishonesty:

The faculty takes issues of academic misconduct very seriously and will pursue severe penalties against those guilty of such acts. If you are not sure what the University and School of Comm consider to be academic misconduct, please ask so you don't find out

the hard way.

All sources (including internet sources) used in the preparation of any written work for this course must be fully cited; otherwise, it is considered plagiarism. This is true whether direct passages are used or if you are just paraphrasing. Claiming credit for words or thoughts that are not your own is one type of academic misconduct. This includes having any name appear on a team project/paper when that individual did not fully participate in completion of the project/paper.

Plagiarism is a very serious offense and will minimally result in zero points on any assignment where plagiarism has taken place. All suspicions of plagiarism will be turned over to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. The University General Catalog policy states:

Plagiarism is formal work publicly misrepresented as original; it is any activity wherein one person knowingly, directly, and for lucre, status, recognition, or any public gain resorts to the published or unpublished work of another in order to represent it as one's own. Work shall be deemed plagiarism: (1) when prior work of another has been demonstrated as the accessible source; (2) when substantial or material parts of the source have been literally or evasively appropriated (substance denoting quantity; matter denoting qualitative format or style); and (3) when the work lacks sufficient or unequivocal citation so as to indicate or imply that the work was neither a copy nor an imitation. This definition comprises oral, written, and crafted pieces. In short, if one purports to present an original piece but copies ideas word for word or by paraphrase, those ideas should be duly noted. (Lindey, Alexander. Plagiarism and Originality, 1952).

San Diego State University is a publicly assisted institution legislatively empowered to certify competence and accomplishment in general and discrete categories of knowledge. The President and faculty of this University are therefore obligated not only to society at large but to the citizenry of the State of California to guarantee honest and substantive knowledge in those to whom they assign grades and whom they recommend for degrees. Wittingly or willfully to ignore or to allow students' ascription of others' work to themselves is to condone dishonesty, to deny the purpose of formal education, and to fail the public trust. Likewise, one must be liable to an appropriate penalty, even severance from the University and in some cases revocation of an advanced degree, should the demonstrated plagiarism clearly call into question one's general competence or accomplishments.