### RELC 211: INTERPERSONAL (RELATIONAL) COMMUNICATION

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to the factors that shape communication between two people. Topics include self-concept formation, perception, message formation, verbal and nonverbal communication, active listening, and defensiveness.

**WHAT THE COURSE IS ALL ABOUT**

To answer that question, we should start with what communication is. Simply put, communication is the process by which an idea is moved from one brain to another brain (or set of brains) using a system of symbols. Interpersonal communication, then, is the process of transferring an idea between two or a few brains. But interpersonal communication is more than mere information transfer. As Baxter (2015) says, it is the way “humans create and negotiate meanings, identity, and relationships through social interaction – how we constitute selves and relationships” (p 5). Therefore, in this class we will focus on the core components of the communication process as they relate to the effective management of identity and relationships in personal and professional life.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

I have several goals for you during the course; by quarter’s end, I anticipate that you will:

1. Gain knowledge of major interpersonal communication concepts and terminology
2. Learn fundamental principles and theories of interpersonal communication
3. Apply your knowledge of interpersonal communication to analyze interpersonal communication events and engage in problem-solving
4. Acquire familiarity with the process of interpersonal communication research

You class attendance, diligent work, and careful reading of the textbook help you to attain these learning outcomes.

**TEXTS & MATERIALS:**


Access to APA 6th edition style guidelines (www.apastyle.org is a good web source, as is https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/).

Access to Desire to Learn (D2L) and your depaul.edu email

**GRADED COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation (best 8 of 10 attempts)</td>
<td>40 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Article Synthesis Papers @ 60 points each</td>
<td>120 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Exams @ 80 points each</td>
<td>240 pts.</td>
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<td>Total Points Possible</td>
<td>400 pts.</td>
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