

Columbia College
Fundamentals of Effective Interpersonal Communication (COMM115)

Lecture 1

Course Outline

Semester Dates: November 16, 2015 – December 19, 2015

Please note that when a holiday falls during the week, your class will be rescheduled for the Friday of that week. Students are required to make arrangements to be present at the rescheduled class.

Facilitator: Gill Vincent, B.Ed., RCMP (ret.)

Email: vincentg@columbia.ab.ca

Class Time: 5:30pm to 9:30pm (Mon/Wed)

Room: 805-119

Credit: 3

Prerequisite: None

Note: It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator.

Course Description:

Successful, healthy, and productive Interpersonal relationships form the foundation of human services work. This course focuses on building self-awareness, the communication process, and the development of professional communication skills.

Learning Outcomes:

As a result of active participation in these sessions, a student can expect to:

- Explore and evaluate the role of effective communication in establishing and maintaining effective interpersonal relationships.
- Explain how the self develops and apply this information to how you would work with others and how the behaviour of others is influenced by the development of the self.
- Demonstrate how to assist oneself and others to improve self-concept.
- Identify personal communication style and develop an awareness of the importance of value clarification in communication.
- Demonstrate the application of the principles of verbal and non-verbal communication to real-life situations and case studies.
- Employ the three-part process of perception to the making of meaning and its application to communication behaviour.
- Synthesize the information on how the communication of emotion directly and indirectly impacts the ability to foster individual growth and the quality of relationships and apply its principles to communication effectiveness.
- Explore how the verbal dimension of communication reflects cultural values and perspectives and impacts on communication with Canadian society.

Course Format:

This course uses a variety of teaching/learning methods including discussion, personal reflection, experiential exercises, student presentations, role-plays, group activities and especially case studies. Our faculty aims to create a learning environment where the learner is actively engaged in inquiry, critical thinking and problem solving. The classroom provides you with a place where you can learn with and from others in a cooperative and collaborative manner.

You are expected to take a very active part in class discussions and take responsibility for your own learning. Be a positive and co-operative team member. Columbia College uses a facilitation model of instruction where the facilitator's role is to facilitate your learning. The expectation is that you will come to class prepared with pre-class homework completed. Your facilitator will engage you in activities that are based on your completed homework and readings. Your enthusiastic and positive approach in the classroom will create an atmosphere that will help every student develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are needed for success.

How you conduct yourself in our classes will, to a large extent, mirror your conduct in society and your future work site. For example, if you have a tendency to ask questions, challenge the ideas of others in a respectful manner, draw out the best from your colleagues, and encourage both group development and task accomplishment in this class, it is likely you will do the same at work. A high level of student involvement and developing professionalism is expected in the classroom as you work towards your goal.

Required Textbooks and Equipment:

Wood, J. & Schweitzer, A. (2010). *Everyday encounters: An introduction to interpersonal Communication*, (4th ed.). Toronto, ON: Nelson Thomson Learning.

Pocket Criminal Code; 2015 (2014). Carswell, a Division of Thomson Reuters Canada Ltd; Toronto CA

Haig, J., MacMillan, V., & Raikes, G. (2014). *Cites & Sources; APA document guide* (4th ed.). Toronto, ON: Nelson Education Ltd.

Instructor hand-outs.

Recommended Readings and Resources:

Students may access these sources from the College and from home.

ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health, Canadian Business and Current Affairs, and Canadian Newsstand

- <http://proquest.umi.com/login>

Username: cc-library

Password: welcome

GALE InfoTrac Custom Journals

- <http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/calg145?db=SP00>

Password: cclibrary09

Further Recommended Readings and Resources:

N/A

Homework Assignment Due for the First Class:

- Read Chapters 1 and 2 in the text, *Everyday encounters: An introduction to interpersonal communications*.
- Write down at least three (3) questions from the assigned readings that you would find beneficial to discuss in class.
- Read this course syllabus and prepare to discuss in class.
- Prepare to write a quiz on the assigned reading.

Evaluation - Assessment of Student Performance:

The final grade in the course will be based on the following elements. Wherever possible facilitators will use rubrics to assess your performance and offer feedback.

Title of Assignment/Examination	Due Date	Weight
Daily quizzes; at the start of each class	Classes 1 through 8	20%
Daily summary; at the end of each class	Classes 1 through 8	10%
A Personal Response Introspective Paper	Class 7	20%
Group Communication Presentation	Class 8 - 9	20%
Final Exam	Class 10	30%

Please note that all homework and assignments are due at the beginning of each class.

Grading:

Grades for each component will be added together at the end of the semester. The final total will be translated to the Columbia College's 4.0 grading scale as follows:

Marking and Grading Conversion:

Description	Letter Grade	Grade Points	Percentage Scale	
Excellent	A+	4.0	100	95
	A	4.0	94	90
	A-	3.7	89	85
Good	B+	3.3	84	80
	B	3.0	79	75
	B-	2.7	74	70
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	69	65
	C	2.0	64	60
	C-	1.7	59	55
Poor	D	1.0	54	50
Failure	F	0.0	49	0

Please note that to pass this course you must earn at least a "D" (a minimal pass).

Submission and Completion of Assignments:

You are expected to submit assignments by the due date. Any late assignments may be assessed a marking penalty of 5%. If you are unable to submit an assignment on the due date, you must request an extension **before** the due date by filling out an *Application for Assignment Extension form (SSPP-F012)* that is to be submitted to the Department Chair for approval. This form is available on Columbia's website, Bldg. 802 – Main Office and from Department Chairs.

Requesting an Examination Deferral:

If you are requesting an exam to be deferred, you must submit an Application for *Deferred Examinations form (SSPP-F012)* to the Department Chair **within 48 hours of the missed examination date and time**. Applications for deferred examinations will only be considered due to medical or personal emergency. A medical certificate or other appropriate documentation may be required. This form is available on Columbia's website, Bldg. 802-Main Office and from Department Chairs.

Attendance Requirements:

Columbia College believes that students are committed to their program and learning experiences. However, it is understood that there are times when students may be absent. Any absences can be viewed as a potentially serious disruption of the learning process and necessary achievement of the learning objectives. Being late is also considered unacceptable as it interferes with the learning opportunities of others. Unavoidable absences or lateness must be reported to the course facilitator in advance. Please refer to Columbia College's *Attendance Policy and Regulations (ADM-P151)* for detailed information on Attendance Requirements.

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from Columbia College.

There is no tolerance for academic dishonesty and any student caught plagiarizing is subject to serious sanctions as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)*. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this policy and avoid any behavior that could possibly be seen as cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting, or putting into question the integrity of one's academic work.

Student Conduct:

It is the responsibility of each student to uphold the expectations and responsibilities outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)* and any additional requirements established by your program.

Generally, each student will:

- be respectful and courteous toward others;
- demonstrate appropriate and supportive communication skills, and coach, assist, advise and otherwise support other students in their studies;
- manage any personal stress and conflict in a positive and resourceful manner, and assist others to do the same;
- be dressed in a manner appropriate for their workplace or learning environment, as established by the program;
- conduct themselves in a professional manner with regard to their communication with others and their behavior in class;
- conduct themselves with academic integrity in all of their learning activities, tests, exams, and assignments
- keep up with day-to-day classroom and course expectations.

Important Dates:

Description	Date
Last to add/drop courses	5 school operating days from the start of the semester OR before the third scheduled class, whichever is greater
Last day to withdraw without academic penalty	50% or less of the semester has been completed
Final Examination	A final exam may take many formats. If a final exam is scheduled, it will be taken in an assigned room under the supervision of a Test Proctor. <u>Students must be on time as they will not be permitted to enter once the exam has started.</u> Exam dates, times, and location are posted by the main office Bldg. 802 and by the library in Bldg. 4. <u>It is the student's responsibility to check this exam posting.</u>

Appeals:

Please refer to the *Student Appeal Policy (ADM-P177)*.

Students with Temporary or Permanent Disabilities:

Students with temporary or permanent disabilities may apply for accommodations. To be considered for an accommodation, a student must register with Columbia College's Disability Services by making an appointment with a Disability Services Advisor – Main Office – Bldg. 802 or emailing disabilityservices@columbia.ab.ca. The Department Chair or facilitator is not able to provide you with any accommodations without you taking this step. Please refer to Columbia College's website to review *the Accommodation Policy and Handbook (ADM-P188)*.

Student Support:

Students should be aware that Life Coaching, Career and Disability Services, and Student Support Services (i.e. tutoring, academic strategists, etc.) are provided by Columbia College. Inquire how to request these services at the Main Office in building 802. It is the student's responsibility to discuss their specific learning needs with the appropriate service provider.

Class Schedule/Overview:

Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Any changes or cancellations will be emailed to you. It is your responsibility to check the email address you have given to the school on a daily basis for any messages from the Department Chair/designate, facilitator or College Administration. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator.

Class Session	Topics	Pre-Class Readings
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring Interpersonal Communication• Communication and the Creation of Self	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 1 (pages 2-37)• Chapter 2 (pages 38-69)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptions and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 3 (pages 70-99)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emotions and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 4 (pages 100-128)
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The World of Words	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 5 (pages 129-158)
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nonverbal Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 6 (pages 159-191)
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural Diversity and Communication• Mindful Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 7 (pages 192-216)• Chapter 8 (pages 218-249)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication Climate• Managing Conflict in Relationships• Personal Response Introspective Paper Due	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 9 (pages 250-275)• Chapter 10 (pages 276-307)
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friendships and Romantic Relationships• Relationships at Work• Presentations Due	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 11 (pages 308-352)• Chapter 12 (pages 353-384)
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Class• Presentations Continued• <i>Review of Personal Response Introspective Papers with Students</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Class
10	<i>Final Exam – 3 hrs.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TBA

Appendix 1 Assignment Outlines

Quizzes

Due Date: Each class from classes 1 through 8.

Weight: 20%

Students will be expected to read the assigned chapters in the text and other assigned readings including APA formatting, and be prepared to write a graded quiz based on these reading assignments.

Class Summary Test

Due Date: Daily (at the conclusion of the class; 1 through 8)

Weight: 10%

Students will conclude each of the classes with a summary of the day's topic that answers the following: "What did I learn? What do I need to know more about? What steps do I need to do to be successful in light of what I learned today?" Be sure to specifically refer to what was discussed during the class. Write in a reflective journaling style and turn your answers into the facilitator for grading. The paper will have a minimum length of 250 words and contain insight into each of these three questions.

Answers are to be written in the last 30 minutes of the class. No answers will be accepted that were prepared prior. If you are absent from the Summary Test, you will receive a "zero".

Group Communication Presentation

Due Date: Classes 8 and 9

Length: 15 – 20 minutes

Weight: 20%

In groups, participants will work together to develop, plan and deliver a 15 – 20 minute presentation based on one chapter from the course textbook. The maximum number of group members is 5.

Using an excellent variety of presentation methods, participants will highlight key features and insights from their chosen chapter and relate them to practical application, personal stories and information from course material and texts.

The group will identify the chapter they will work on and provide an outline of the presentation one week prior to delivery. A limited amount of time will be provided to work on the presentation, but outside class meetings will be needed. You will be evaluated on your individual presentation using the *Oral Presentation Rubric* provided in this course outline.

Your presentation must include the following:

1. Present an outline of the key points of the chapter and explain how these key concepts apply to your chosen program. The outline should be posted at the front of the room during your presentation.
2. Bring in case examples from own experiences and explain/demonstrate how you would use the communication techniques learned in this course in each experience.

Term Paper; Personal Reflection**Due Date: Class 7****Length: 1500 words****Weight: 20%**

Each student will write a personal response introspective paper that investigates and identifies the essential ingredients in communicating successfully as a professional. Introspective means self-awareness and self-examination, being aware of your own perceptions, thoughts and feelings. This is a personal paper that requires self-reflection. The assignment will be marked using the *General Essay Rubric* contained in this course outline. The reflection and analysis must be supported by references from your course work and text references. You may write this paper in the first person.

Your introspective paper must address the following areas:

1. What different forms of communication occur in your role as a professional? How do you build trust?
2. What communication skills are needed to develop a professional relationship between clients, families and colleagues?
3. What are the communication hurdles? How would you address them (i.e., personal stories and research)?
4. What insights do you now have in regards to your own communication style and the style of others?
5. What insights do you now have in regards to how your perceptions, fears and judgment influence how you communicate?

This assignment requires:

- A title page
- APA format expectations
- Introduction, Body, Summary and/or Conclusions
- Reference page as per the APA handout

Final Exam**Due Date: Class 10****Weight: 30%**

Students will be required to write a final exam on covering the content of classroom learning and assigned text readings. The exam will contain 125 multiple-choice questions and will be worth 30% of the student's final grade.

Appendix 2
Assignment Rubrics

Columbia College
Term Paper Rubric
Last Revised: January 2012

Student's Name		Course Code		Date		Facilitator/Evaluator's Name	
	A	B	C	D	F	Score	
Writing Focus	5	4	3	2.5	2.4-0		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presents a precise well developed thesis, reflecting insightful, original perspective.• Demonstrates direction in the development of the paper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presents a clear, carefully constructed thesis, reflecting original perspective.• Demonstrates direction in the development of the paper most of the time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presents a simplistic and/or unclear thesis.• Demonstrates some direction in the development of the paper, but often the paper is hard to follow.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presents a partly developed thesis.• Demonstrates little direction in the development of the paper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No thesis presented.• Development of the paper is unclear.		
	10-9	8-7	6	5	4-0		
Content, Ideas & Analysis							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays extensive in-depth knowledge of the topic. Comprehends deeper meaning and relevance of topic.• Conveys insightful, original points of view.• Critically synthesizes and evaluates information.• Clearly supports all statements with examples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays good knowledge of the topic.• Conveys some original points of view. Comprehends meaning and relevance of topic.• Demonstrates careful analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information.• Clearly supports most statements with examples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays adequate knowledge of the topic. Requires further exploration.• Demonstrates some analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information. Supports some statements with examples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays limited basic knowledge of the topic.• Explores topic inadequately, leaving areas unexplored. Displays limited analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of information.• Most statements are unsupported with examples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unable to display relevant understanding of the topic.• Critical thinking not evident.• Statements are unsupported with examples.		

	10-9	8-7	6	5	4-0	
Style Expression of Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses highly effective, clearly focused, varied sentences. • Conveys all ideas with originality and clarity. • Uses rich, accurate and effective word choice. • Uses relevant, timely and varied sources to support ideas. • Shows smooth integration of quoted material into sentences and overall paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly uses effective, well structured, focused, varied sentences. Conveys most ideas with originality and clarity. • Uses accurate and effective word choice. • Uses relevant, timely and varied sources to support ideas most of the time. • Quotes and evidence integrated well into sentences and overall paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses some variety in sentence structure. Conveys some ideas clearly. • Uses some effective word choice. • Uses some varied sources to support ideas. • Quotes and evidence at times integrated into sentences and overall paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates limited variety of sentences. Many sentences are awkward. • Conveys few ideas clearly. • Uses vague, ineffective word choice. • Uses limited resources that are not well selected to support ideas. • Quotes and evidence poorly integrated into sentences and overall paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses simplistic sentence structures that are awkward. • Most ideas are not conveyed clearly. • Inadequate, simplistic word choice. • Lacks the use of support for ideas. • Quotes and evidence not integrated properly. 	
Organization and Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents information in a consistently logical structure. • Shows sophisticated development of paragraph and sentence structure, with effective transitions. • Introduction and conclusion is very well developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents information in a logical structure. • Shows well developed paragraph and sentence structure with effective transitions. • Introduction and conclusion mostly shows good development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents some of the information in a logical structure. • Shows some paragraph development and at times, awkward sentence structure. • Introduction and conclusion shows little development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents information in a random manner, lacking in logical structure. • Paragraph and sentence structure is often faulty. • Introduction and conclusion not well developed or missing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents poor overall organization, lacking logical structure. • Paragraphs lack focus and appropriate structure; sentence structures are simplistic, lacking development and transition. • Lacks introduction and conclusion. 	

Mechanics, Grammar, Professional Format	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly error free. • Uses APA citation correctly. • Meets and exceeds all requirements for an excellent academic response. • Meets and exceeds all requirements of the assignment. 	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few minor errors in usage, grammar, or mechanics. • Generally uses APA citation correctly. • Meets requirements for a well written academic response. • Meets requirements of the assignment. 	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics, beginning to interfere with the readability and meaning of the paper. • Uses APA citation inconsistently and with some errors. • Meets some requirements for an academic response. • Meets some of the requirements of the assignment. 	<p style="text-align: center;">2.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics, interfering with the readability and meaning of the paper. • Use of APA citation contains many errors. Meets a few requirements for an academic response. • Meets few requirements of the assignment. 	<p style="text-align: center;">2.4-0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerous errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics, affecting the readability and meaning of the paper. • Many errors in APA citation, demonstrating lack of citation knowledge. • <input type="checkbox"/> Does not meet enough requirements for an academic response. • Does not meet any requirements of the assignment. 	
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Plagiarism: A “0” grade will be given to a paper where significant sections of the paper were copied from other, unattributed sources.

Total out of 40:

Comments:

Columbia College
Oral Presentation Rubric
 Last Revised: January 23, 2014

Student's Name		Course Code	Date	Facilitator/Evaluator's Name	
Area	A (85% - 100%) 10.0 – 7.0	B - C- (55% - 84%) 6.9 – 5.5	D (50% - 54%) 5.4 - 5.0	F (0 - 49%) 4.9 - 0	Score
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates introduction that is unique, clearly focused and engages the audience. Organizes content logically, making entire presentation easy to follow. Builds main points through carefully selected and original examples/ references. Has effective transition between sections. Summarizes all key points and stimulates thought at the end. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates introduction that is original, clearly focused and gets the attention of the audience. Organizes content logically, making most of the presentation easy to follow. Builds main points through carefully selected examples/ references. Has a transition between most sections. Summarizes most key points and stimulates some thought at the end. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates an introduction that tends to be unfocused. Doesn't engage the audience's interest. Content appears disorganized, without logic and consistency. Builds a few main points with details, but most ideas are unsupported. Few to no transitions are evident. Little to no summarizing evident. Ending does not stimulate much thought. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation shows little to no logical organization. Content is difficult to follow. Not a thoughtful presentation. 	
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides evidence of supporting research to back all main points. Gives a complete explanation of all key points. Uses relevant examples/ references. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides evidence of supporting research. To back most points. Gives an explanation of most key points. Uses some relevant examples/ references. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides evidence that not enough research has been done to support the content. Gives an incomplete explanation of key points. Uses a few relevant examples/ references. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicates little to no research. Gives a limited explanation of a few points. Uses little to no examples/ references. 	

Area	A (85% - 100%) 10.0 – 7.0	B - C- (55% - 84%) 6.9 – 5.5	D (50% - 54%) 5.4 - 5.0	F (0 - 49%) 4.9 - 0	Score
Delivery Style: Nonverbal Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates ease and confidence through carefully maintained posture, poise, and facial expression. • Uses continual eye contact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates confidence through most of the presentation with careful posture, poise, and facial expression. • Uses fairly consistent eye contact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At times demonstrates developing confidence in presenting content. At times uses posture, poise, and facial expression to support presentation. • Uses eye contact inconsistently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows lack of ease in presenting through poor posture, lack of poise, and lack of facial expression. • Uses poor to no eye contact. 	
Delivery Style: Verbal Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conveys passionate interest for the topic. • Speaks naturally at a moderate rate with correct pronunciation, enunciation and volume. • Uses few unnecessary pauses “ums”. • Makes no obvious grammatical errors. • Uses cue cards or other supports effectively and does not read the presentation. • Uses rich, precise, and varied vocabulary. • Well-rehearsed and prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conveys enthusiasm for the topic. • Most of the time speaks clearly at a moderate rate with correct pronunciation, enunciation and volume. • Uses few unnecessary pauses “ums”. • Makes few grammatical errors. • Most of the time uses cue cards or other supports appropriately, without reading the presentation. • Uses well-chosen and varied vocabulary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates minimal enthusiasm for the topic. • Speaks with some lack of clarity in pronunciation and enunciation with varying volume and rate of speech. • Uses too many unnecessary pauses (“ums”), distracting from the presentation. • Makes some grammatical errors. • Tends to not use cue cards effectively and mostly relies on reading the presentation. • Uses ineffective vocabulary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No enthusiasm is conveyed for the topic. Speech is unclear with poor enunciation and incorrect pronunciation. • Volume and rate of speech are often inappropriate, making comprehension difficult. • Uses too many unnecessary pauses “ums”, making comprehension difficult. • Makes frequent grammatical errors. • Reads presentation. • Uses inappropriate or simplistic vocabulary. 	

Total Score out of 40:

Facilitator/Evaluator's Comments: