

Syllabus for
COM 444—Advanced Interpersonal Communication
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2002

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of conflict reduction, listening, nonverbal communication, proxemics, self-disclosure, self-esteem and other facets of interpersonal communication from a theoretical approach.

Prerequisites: COM 101 and 203, or consent of instructor.

Advanced Interpersonal Communication is to extend the study started in Interpersonal Communication. It will include focus on specific theories and theorists that concern themselves with particular areas of interpersonal studies. The class will examine the beginnings of interpersonal communication in social psychology and follow through to current research. A deeper understanding of interpersonal communication will enhance relationships with God and man and make each student more able to communicate in today's world.

II. COURSE GOALS

After attaining an understanding of particular theories in Interpersonal Communication, the students will be encouraged to apply them to everyday living and current situations. Through examples and exercises done in class, each student will learn to communicate more effectively. Students will have a well-rounded view of interpersonal communication that answers not only the

“who” but the “why” of the theories offered. Areas to be covered include the following:

listening,
conflict management, self-disclosure, nonverbal communication, axioms of communication,
and
proxemics. Students will study the following theorists and philosophers: Erich Fromm, Martin Buber, Leo Buscaglia, Carl Rogers, Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, Steven Duck, and various other authors as time allows.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the successful conclusion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. expound on the theories of the authors listed above and apply them to enable them to communicate effectively in every man's world.
- B. identify theories by authors.
- C. identify theories offered to explain behavior patterns in people.
- D. define the terms listed in the goals of the course with better understanding.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

A. Required Textbooks

Fromm, E. (1956). The art of loving. New York: Harper & Row.
Buscaglia, L. (1986). Bus 9 to paradise. New York: Fawcett.

Stewart, J. (2002). Bridges not walls. St. Louis: McGraw Hill.

B. Selected readings to be found in Reserve Room of ORU Library.

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University.
2. Double cuts will be assessed for absences immediately preceding or following holidays.
3. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
4. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.
5. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software.
6. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

B. Department Policies and Procedures

1. **Attendance**—At Oral Roberts University, students are expected to attend all classes. Understanding that there are sometimes unavoidable circumstances that prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is for illness, personal business, and personal emergency. Students may consider this personal days or sick leave. If a student has absences in excess of this number, the earned grade for the course will be reduced one letter grade for each hour's absence above those allowed. A student missing class due to illness must take an unexcused absence. Extended illnesses are handled on an individual basis and require a doctor's excuse.
2. **Administratively Excused Absences**—Students who must miss class for University sponsored activities must follow these procedures:
 - a. inform the professor before the event.
 - b. arrange to complete missed work within one week.
 - c. not commit to class performances (oral reports, speeches, television tapings, group presentations, etc.) on a date the student will be gone. Makeup work is not permitted if the student voluntarily commits to a performance on the date of an administratively excused absence.
 - d. present an excuse, signed by the Dean of Arts and Sciences, the day the student returns.
3. **Tardies**—Tardies are an inconvenience to the other class members and the professor, and they prevent the late student from obtaining maximum value from the class. Therefore, tardies are calculated in the attendance provision for this course. Three tardies equal one absence and are included in the absences when determining the course grade. It is to the student's advantage to make sure that the professor is informed immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to convey that information following that class. Students should not expect to be credible the following class session concerning a late arrival on a previous day.
4. **Late Work**—The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments for the class following the absence. If late work is accepted, a substantial penalty will be assessed.

5. **Literacy**—The Communication Arts Department does not accept for credit any written assignment that contains more than an average of three grammatical and/or typographical errors per page.

C. Course Policies and Procedures
Evaluation Procedures

Students will be graded on

- | | | |
|--|-----|-----------|
| 1. Midterm | 20% | |
| 2. Research paper on area of communication | 20% | 20% |
| 3. Final exam | 20% | |
| 4. Research paper on author | 20% | |
| 5. Presentations to class | 15% | |
| 6. Classroom participation and papers
and other assignments | | <u>5%</u> |

100%

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1	Introduction
Week 2	<u>Art of Loving</u> - Fromm
Week 3	Part 1 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 4	Part 2 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 5	Part 3 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 6	Papers on Theorists
Week 7	Presentations
Week 8	Midterm
Week 9	<u>Bus 9 to Paradise</u>
	FALL BREAK
Week 10	Part 4 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 11	Part 5 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 12	Part 6 of <u>Bridges Not Walls</u>
Week 13	Papers on Communication Problems
Week 14 -15	Presentations

VII. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Agena Farmer

COM 444

Advanced/Interpersonal
Communication

Communication Arts

Name of Instructor	Course No.	Title of Course	Name of Department
The Lifestyle at ORU is rooted in the word "Wholeness." ORU seeks to educate the whole person, with balanced emphasis placed on the development of the mind, spirit, and body.	Expand the depth of their understanding about the different facets of interpersonal communication. Hone citizenship skills by interacting in small groups & learning a more global perspective.	Recognize current research by authors. Demonstrate research skills in papers written. Demonstrate effective methods of responding to others by means of listening and feedback.	<u>Stimuli:</u> Papers Journal entries Presentations Midterm Final
<u>GENERAL OUTCOMES</u>			<u>Criteria:</u> Group presentations
1. Spiritual Development	Improve presentation skills enabling students to persuade others by careful analysis.	Demonstrate understanding of the role ethics play in interpersonal communication.	
2. Physical Development	Learn new facets of problem solving by understanding a greater depth of communication diversity.	Explain and personally demonstrate the importance of the role of self and self-disclosure in the communication process.	
3. Communication		Create effective verbal and nonverbal messages in relationships with family, friends, and small groups.	
4. Analysis		Develop successful approaches to coping with conflict.	
5. Problem Solving			
6. Valuing in Decision-making			
7. Social Interaction			
8. Global Perspectives			
9. Effective Citizenship			
10. Aesthetic Responsiveness			