

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES 135: Interpersonal Communication**  
**Miramar College, Fall 2025**  
**Syllabus**

Professor: Paul "Pablo" Martin, M.A.

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**Student Support Hours (aka Visiting or Office Hours):**

- Monday through Thursdays from 9:00-9:30
- Monday through Thursdays from 1:30-2:00
- By appointment (in person, H-110L or via Zoom, <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93742123704>)

**This course is hosted on [Canvas](https://sdccd.instructure.com/) (<https://sdccd.instructure.com/>).** There you can find the course grading policies, assignments, schedules, and other information.

[MySDCCD](#) (this is where you can access everything else related to your student account at Miramar and SDCCD)

Other Important Contacts: School of Liberal Arts Administrative Assistant, [Jeanette Moore](#) – 619-388-7873

*Note: if I need to make any changes to this syllabus, I will notify you both during class and via Canvas.*

**Required Text:**

[\*Interpersonal Communication: Context and Connection\*](#) (OERI, 2022)

This is an OER (Open Educational Resource). All assigned readings are available via linked assignments within Canvas (our course LMS) and Perusall (a third-party app). It is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-Share Alike 4.0 International License](#).

**Other required materials:**

1. Have a working SDCCD email account (feel free to forward this to any email account that you check regularly). A student email webpage has also been setup to help with Microsoft accounts, login instructions, and how to contact email support. <https://sdccd.edu/student-email>
2. A way to access [Canvas](#), our course management system (any private or public computer with an Internet connection will suffice).
3. Access to the course syllabus and course schedule on [Canvas](#).

## **A Description of the Course**

This course is a study of effective interpersonal skill development and practice in oral and written communication. Emphasis is placed on the personal, situational, and cultural influences of interaction. Topics include human perception, interpersonal dynamics, listening, conflict management, and verbal and nonverbal symbol systems. The course is intended for students who communicate in one-on-one situations, including communication, fashion, allied health, public service, and business majors as well as those interested in further development of effective interpersonal skills in work, volunteer, and personal environments. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC; C-ID COMM 110. This course is equivalent to 3 hours lecture (3 units).

## **Assessing Student Performance (i.e. Grades):**

Students' final grade in this course will be based on their performance in two areas, Skill-Based Outcomes and Work-Based Outcomes.

Skill-Based Outcomes: The State of California approves official course outlines for every course taught within its higher education system. At the local level, colleges create their own Student Learning Outcomes to reflect these outlines. In this course, these are called Skill-Based Outcomes.

SLO1A. Analyzes and adapts communication strategies based on audience.

SLO1B. Analyzes and adapts communication strategies based on cultural background.

SLO1C. Analyzes and adapts communication strategies based on situational factor.

SLO2A. Evaluates the influence of perception on interpersonal interactions and relationships.

SLO2B. Evaluates the influence of identity on interpersonal interactions and relationships.

SLO2C. Evaluates the influence of self-concept on interpersonal interactions and relationships.

SLO2D. Evaluates the influence of culture on interpersonal interactions and relationships.

SLO2E. Evaluates the influence of emotions on interpersonal interactions and relationships.

SLO3A. Applies empathy (as a conflict management strategy) to ethically resolve interpersonal disputes.

SLO3B. Applies assertiveness (as a conflict management strategy) to ethically resolve interpersonal disputes.

SLO3C. Applies negotiation (as a conflict management—g strategy) to ethically resolve interpersonal disputes.

SLO4A. Critically assesses personal communication skills through self-reflection to continuously improve relational interactions.

SLO4B. Critically assesses personal communication skills through peer feedback to continuously improve relational interactions.

Work-Based Outcomes Overview: In addition to course learning objectives specified in each course's official outline, there are often unwritten expectations of what students will do in a class. These include showing up and actively engaging in each classes and completing assignments to help them develop the skills outlined, usually by a deadline. In my course, these are called Work-Based Outcomes.

1. Meeting Major Due Dates: This major assignment was submitted on time.
2. Meeting Minor Due Dates: This minor assignment was submitted on time.
3. Attendance: Comes to class regularly, is on time, and stays the entire class.
4. Participation: Clearly engaged (in some way) with the material during class and/or online.
5. Completion: Completes each aspect of the assignment.

### **Important Dates for the Fall Semester**

Classes begin (16 weeks): August 25

Last day to add or drop classes without a "W": September 5

Labor Day Holiday: September 1

SDCCD Graduation Deadlines ([check the graduation deadlines page](#))

Withdrawal deadline – no drops are accepted after this date: October 31

Veterans Day: November 11

Thanksgiving Break: classes not in session November 24 – 29

End of Fall Semester: December 20

For other helpful information, visit: <https://www.sdccd.edu/students/index.aspx#guide>

*(Spring Semester begins February 2, 2026)*

All assignment descriptions, course resources, including the class policies that we will create together, are available via our [Canvas](#) Shell. If you have any difficulty finding any of these materials, please email me or post your question in the "Have a Question? Ask it here!" discussion forum on [Canvas](#).