

Interpersonal Communications Syllabus and Course Expectations

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Room S2 2020-2021

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Course Description:

Interpersonal Communications is a course where students will explore how to engage with themselves and others in a God-honoring and genuine way. Our focus will be on types of communication and engagement in the 21st Century. Areas of focus will include what is interpersonal communication, intrapersonal communication, and emotional intelligence, leadership, how we present ourselves to others in person and through devices.

Goals and Objectives: A student who completes this course will...

- Recognize his/her identity in Christ, as a believer and new creation
- Examine how personal identity formation impacts behavior and relationships
- Determine various components to small group and community formation and
- identify positive and negative interactions within communities
- Compose a group culture that works to validate the individual
- Identify various levels of communication formality and apply proper tones in varied situations
- Examine and create personal parameters and habits when engaging in social media
- Present information in a variety of modes (individual presentation, partner speaking, debate, and group presentation)
- Practice communication in a variety of situations and settings (one-to-one, small group, public speaking, etc.)

Student Expectations:

1. Work hard
2. Be Kind

Required Materials:

- Single Subject Notebook that can be left in classroom at times
- Electronic Device (charged)
- Writing Utensil
- Folder/Binder - a place to store handouts and papers

Unit 1: What is Interpersonal Communication - An introduction to the course.

Essential Questions:

- What is Interpersonal Communications class?
- What are the expectations and purpose of this course?
- Introductory speech - Soundtrack of My Life

Unit 2: Intrapersonal Communication & Emotional Intelligence

- Looking at how understanding self influences how we interact with others.
- Group presentation about culture and community

Unit 3: Digital Communications and Debate - An open forum for community building and revealing of self

Essential Questions:

- What does it mean to do the right thing online?
- How do I present myself to the world online and offline?
- How can websites foster community online? What benefits and risks do online communities contain?
- How can I engage in a community and conversation online that is instructive to both parties?
- How can I disagree with someone and still listen and converse to understand? - Debate

Resources: LL approved electronic device, Internet access, excerpts, and assignments on Canvas.

Unit 4: Recognizing & Practicing Good Communication Skills within Relationships

- Film analysis of relationship and communication skills
- Pecha Kucha presentation about how communication skills contributed or detracted from the relationship

Classroom Policies:

Students are expected to arrive on time, prepared for class, or receive a tardy. "Prepared for class" means with all needed supplies. It will be made clear each class period what is needed to participate in the next class period. If students are ever confused or unsure, they should email a fellow classmate and/or myself. Students should understand the electronic use and digital device policy as described in the student handbook. As this class deals with personal communication, how a student conducts him/herself is integral to the learning environment.

Classroom Procedures – Electronic Devices

- All electronic devices should be closed and placed under the student's desk or placed in a spot

in the classroom designated by the classroom teacher. Electronic devices are not to be opened or used until the classroom teacher directs students to do so.

- While in use the electronic device should be placed in a visible area on the student's desk.

Electronic device screens should be visible to the teacher at all times.

- The following activities are not allowed during the school day. For more specific information see the Acceptable Use Policy in the Parent-Student Handbook:

o Streaming music or video o Watching commercial movies or videos o Attempting to bypass school network security or filters o Accessing any materials that are contrary to the Christian nature of Lincoln Lutheran Middle/High School

- The following activities are not allowed during the school day (8:00 am - 3:15 pm, except lunch periods) unless the classroom teacher gives permission to do so and it is used for an educational purpose. For more specific information see the Acceptable Use Policy in the Parent-Student Handbook:

- Use of email
- Instant messaging/Chat rooms
- Taking pictures
- Recording audio or video
- Listening to music (exception: Study Halls)
- Watching online videos, such as YouTube videos
- Playing games Note: if an electronic device seems to be at the root of or involved in another Student Handbook violation, then the device will be confiscated.

Grading as per the Lincoln Lutheran Student Handbook:

- 80% will consist of Summative Grades: Projects at the end of the unit, including speeches, presentations, tests, written work, group projects.
- 20% will consist of Formative Grades: quizzes during the unit, journaling, reading, homework assignments and participation in class (As this is a communication course, if the student does not participate in class, he/she is neglecting to communicate, and his/her grade will reflect this omission. Each unit will have a more detailed definition and example of what this participatory communication is expected to look like.)

When submitting work online, it is important to note the time stamp as well as the date. Certain things will need to be turned in the night before class the next day. If a student doesn't turn an assignment in at the proper time, in the proper place, he/she will not receive credit for this assignment.

If a student is concerned about a grade, he/she is expected to communicate with me. Since grades are confidential, I will require a face-to-face conversation about the grade in question.

If a student is struggling in class, it is expected that he/she set up a time to meet to receive help.

If a summative assignment and its due date are causing the struggle, please communicate with me prior to the due date to make arrangements or receive help.

For more information regarding class policies, please review the Parent-Student Handbook.