

# Interpersonal Communication Assignment

## Written Assignments

The purpose of this activity is to provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of interpersonal communication concepts by assessing real world examples.

All written assignments should follow this format, unless otherwise noted.

- All sources must be cited, and citations should be in either APA or MLA format.
- Margins should all be set at one inch.
- Double space.
- The font size should be set at 10-12 points. (Adjusting the font size from this range looks like you are either trying to squish more on to a page or fluff up a short essay. Neither leaves a good impression.)
- The font itself can be either Times New Roman or Courier New. (Most instructors prefer Times New Roman, and you can fit more text onto a page. In the field of communication studies, APA guidelines accept Courier New. This font is relatively easy to read and will take up slightly more space on a page. I will accept either one.)
- Always print in draft. I can read it just fine and it saves you ink.
- Save a tree. Folders, binders, and cover pages are not needed. They cost you money and they add more for me to lug around. Just put your vital information on the upper left corner of the paper (Your name, the course name and number, my name, and the date).
- Print the assignment on one side only. You may recycle paper and print on the back of other documents if you want, just be sure the proper text is facing up.

### Final Written Assignment

For your final written assignment, you should choose one interpersonal communication concept covered in the class that interests you and explore it. Your research must include a total of at least 5 sources, with no more than 3 sources from the internet. At the very least, this essay should

inform the reader about the “who, what, when, why, and how” of the concept. In other words, who has written about it, what did they write, when did they write it, why is it important, and how is it important to you in your life or to society in general. Be sure to include other information such as associated research, other researchers who proposed or wrote about the subject, competing viewpoints, and any other pertinent information.

To communicate effectively, you should be able to focus your thoughts and ideas efficiently.

Therefore, the piece should be written in the standard essay format and be no longer than 4 pages (about 1,000 to 1,200 words). Your paper should be easy to read, free of errors, and follow standard rules of grammar. Scoring will be based on the following criteria:

- **Writing mechanics.** Is the use of language appropriate for the level of the course? Do you accurately and effectively communicate your points? Would your writing be acceptable in the academic or business world? Note: I reserve the right to fail any student whose work does not meet the expectations of collegiate level writing.
- **Organization and professionalism.** Is the paper in proper essay form? Does the paper start with an introductory paragraph that explains the paper’s purpose and outlines its contents? Have you used section headings to focus the reader’s attention? Does the paper have a polished, professional appearance that makes it appropriate for a college course?
- **Content.** Have you clearly and completely responded to all assignment questions? Does your paper show evidence of original thinking, rather than simple repetitions of ideas in the text?

If you have any questions about the subject of your paper, the scoring method, or anything else, please contact me ASAP. I will be happy to take a look at rough drafts of your paper and give you feedback if you get your paper to me at least 48 hours before the due date.