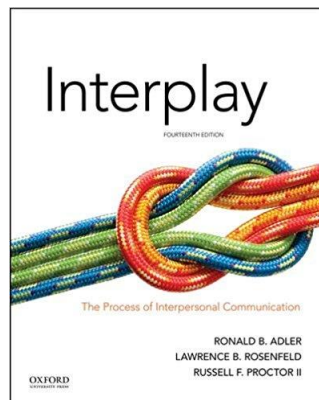


Reedley College
Interpersonal Communication
Dr. Linda Carvalho Cooley
Relationship Research Paper Assignment

As a signature assignment students will submit a research paper applying some concept of interpersonal communication to a relationship in their life. The paper will be due to Canvas on the date assigned (see calendar and/or Canvas). Browse through the assigned textbook to look at all of the concepts. Students will also be assigned a group movie project and can use the same concept for both assignments. In the same way students will apply a concept to the "movie of their life." A minimum of 4 references are needed. References include books, journal articles, magazines, etc. - students must make sure to only use credible academic sources. The textbook MUST serve as one of required references!

During the course of the semester, the course content will discuss various relationships and relational interpersonal concepts. Any of these topics can be selected as the topic for the paper as long as the concept can relate to a current relationship in the students life. The primary purpose of the paper is to provide students with an opportunity to examine in detail some aspect of interpersonal communication and how it affects one of their real-life relationships. This paper will allow students the opportunity to explore an area they find interesting.

Upon selecting a topic, students will research the topic in the literature (academic and popular). Students MUST use the textbook as one reference.



Areas to think about:

What is it you want to know? Why do you want to know it? What answers are provided in the literature? Can you use your research to solve a problem you have or enhance a current relationship? What are the major issues of this topic? How is it related to interpersonal communication? What has been verified from experiments? What does the literature tell you about your topic? You may choose to use your paper as a way to explore solutions to a current relationship problem you are having, or you may want to use it to demonstrate why a current relationship you have is so successful.

Requirements

All papers must follow the APA writing style. Your paper must be carefully referenced with in-text citations and be accompanied by a reference page. A template will be provided in Canvas and on the class webpage. The use of the template is highly encouraged. Papers must be double-spaced and typed on standard sized paper.

All papers will have a title page and a reference page and four full pages of content. You must define the concept you are using, define the relationship, then address an area of the relationship as it pertains to the concept, finally address what options you may have and what you have learned.

The assignment also includes the physical submission of an outline and a rough draft. Those dates will be announced in class. The submission of the outline and rough draft will be reflected in the overall grade. In other words students who do not submit the outline/rough draft on dates assigned will lose points on the overall assignment.

See Canvas and speechideas.net for the template, the template will have more directions regarding this assignment.

How I will evaluate your papers:

1. The concept, how well does the student synthesize the researched material into a coherent report of what is known about this topic/concept.

2. The relationship how well does the student demonstrate the importance of the relationship?

3. The concept happening in the chosen relationship - how well does the student synthesize what they have learned about the concept at a practical level and their ability to apply the concept to the relationship? Give examples of when the concept occurs in the relationship; refer to the research as to how things should or could be handled differently or why the concept works well in the relationship. In addition how well does the student reflect on their ability to modify their behavior or perception of this concept with in their relationship?

4. Format: how well did the student adhere to the format?
 - Cover page
 - Introduction (attention getter, thesis, preview and relation to the class)
 - Level headings for concept, relationship, and interaction
 - Conclusion (recap, and attention getter)
 - References (four solid sources in APA format)
 - Are there in-text citations?
 - Is there an outline, and rough draft attached?
 - Was the paper the proper length?
 - Format APA, in text citations, margins at 1 inch (no more, no less), font at 12 pt not larger, and paper in double spaced format.
 - Outline, Rough Draft submitted prior to the final due date on a date assigned by the instructor.
 - Grammar and spelling at college level