

**Angelina College**  
**School of Arts and Education – Dept. of Language Arts and Education**  
**SPCH 1318 – Interpersonal Communication**  
**Instructional Syllabus**

**I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION:**

- A. Course Description:** SPCH 1318 – Interpersonal Communication. This course deals with the application of communication theory to interpersonal relationship development, maintenance, and termination in relationship contexts including friendships, romantic partners, families, and relationships with co-workers and supervisors. Three lecture hours each week.
- B. Intended Audience:** The intended audience of this course is any college student wishing to improve his/her communication skills in one-on-one and small group settings.
- C. Instructor:**  
 Name: Mrs. Sabrina Collins  
 Office Location & Hours: ACA 100F; M-R 1:30pm – 3:00pm, Friday 9:00am-12:00pm or by appointment  
 Phone: Office - 936-633-5235 OR text using Remind (see section V.A.)  
 E-mail Address: scollins@angelina.edu

**II. INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

**A. Core Objectives Required for this Course**

1. **Critical Thinking:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. **Communication:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
3. **Teamwork:** to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

**B. Course Learning Outcomes for all Sections - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:**

1. Exhibit understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.
3. Identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, and applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender and age influences on human communication.
6. Demonstrate ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups.
7. Identify types of and barriers to effective listening.

**III. ASSESSMENT MEASURES**

**A. Assessments for the Core Objectives:**

1. **Critical Thinking:** Students will be assessed through questions embedded in exams. The questions will be created with the elements on the standardized AC rubric for Critical Thinking as a reference.
2. **Communication:** Students will be instructed to create a collage/crest/model related to the self-concept and present a speech over it. They will be evaluated on their ability to accurately organize their material according to the instructions, provide quality sources with accurate citations, and accurately convey the information in written, visual and oral format. Students will be assessed by means of the standardized AC rubric for Communication.
3. **Teamwork:** Students will work on a designated team project. They will be evaluated based on their contribution to the group assignment according to how well they communicate with other team members, foster a constructive team climate, contribute to and support team activities, and respond to conflicts that may arise in the process. Students will be assessed by means of the standardized AC rubric for Teamwork.

**B. Assessments for Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Students' understanding of interpersonal theories and principles will be assessed through embedded test questions.
2. Students' ability to analyze the effectiveness of verbal and non-verbal interactions between communicators will be assessed through embedded test questions.
3. Students' ability to identify perceptual processes will be assessed through embedded test questions.
4. Students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking ability through embedded test questions.
5. Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender and age influences on human communication through embedded test questions.
6. Students will demonstrate their ability to identify conflict styles and apply conflict management techniques through embedded test questions.
7. Students' ability to identify types of and barriers to effective listening will be assessed through embedded test questions.

**IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:**

- A. Methodologies common to all sections – Instruction will include lectures, group activities, oral presentations and discussions by students, and digital/visual examples and illustrations of concepts.
- B. Methodologies determined by the instructor – Outdoor activities (AC Ropes Course) & service projects.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:****A. Required Textbooks and Recommended Readings, Materials and Equipment**

Text – *Interplay* (14th ed.) by Ronald Adler, Lawrence B. Rosenfeld, and Russell F. Proctor II. To purchase your book through the online bookstore visit this link: <https://bookstore.angelina.cc.tx.us/>

Resources – I will use Blackboard throughout the semester to post instructions, chapter outlines, and other materials used in class. Blackboard can be accessed through AC's website ([www.angelina.edu](http://www.angelina.edu)) or by following this link: <http://www.angelina.edu/blackboard-login-quick-reference-guide/>.

Join *Remind* to receive class alerts & to connect through a protected texting system. Find your class and code below, and send it as a text to 81010:

MW Section:	Code:	TR Section:	Code:
1318.001.....	@001red	1318.004.....	@004yellow
1318.002.....	@002orange	1318.005.....	@005green
		1318.006.....	@006blue

You may also connect by downloading the Remind app on your smartphone and/or by visiting the Remind website at [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com), but it is not required.

STAC Tutoring Center – We have a tutoring center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Library that will offer tutoring for most classes. For more information, follow this link: <http://www.angelina.edu/stac/>

Materials & Equipment – A fill-in-the-blank version of my lecture notes is required and made available through Blackboard. A folder to keep your papers in is recommended. Bring a pen or pencil for note taking, activities and tests.

**B. Course Policies – This course conforms to the policies of Angelina College as stated in the Angelina College Handbook.**

**1. Educational Accommodations** – If you have a disability (as cited in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) that may affect your participation in this class, you may fill out the Educational Accommodations application within your AC Portal, under the “Student Services” tab. A Student Success team member will contact you once the application is received. At a post-secondary institution, you must self-identify as a person with a disability in order to receive services; for questions regarding the application process you can visit the Office of Student Success and Inclusion in the Student Center (205A); text 936.463.8078; or email [access@angelina.edu](mailto:access@angelina.edu). To report any complaints of discrimination related to a disability, you should contact Mr. Steve Hudman, Dean of Student Affairs, in Room 101 of the Student Center. You may also contact Dean Hudman by calling (936) 633-5292 or by emailing [shudman@angelina.edu](mailto:shudman@angelina.edu).

**2. Attendance** – It is the responsibility of the student to attend all classes, and a record of attendance will be kept for all classes by the instructor. The instructor may drop the student for excessive, unexcused absences, but it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw officially in the admissions and registrar's office from a class the student no longer desires to attend. Excessive absences are defined as three or more consecutive absences or four or more cumulative absences from regularly scheduled class periods. *Students will not be dropped and will be allowed to make up work for absences because of (1) College District (including early college high school) authorized and sponsored activities, and (2) religious holy days. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for make-up work with the instructor and to complete it within a reasonable time.* In accordance with the Texas Education Code, each student is allowed to be absent from a class for the observance of a religious holy day. A “religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code. The student must notify the instructor of each class of the anticipated absence not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester. A student who is excused under this section must complete all assignments or missed examinations at the direction of the instructor.

You will earn 3 points towards your participation grade for each regular class you attend and 5 points towards your participation grade for each Ropes Course date you attend. Tardies and early departures will result in a 1-point deduction for each infraction.

**3. Class Cancellations** – Notification of class closures due to inclement weather will be sent to KTRE Channel 9 television and to the local radio stations by 6:00am on the day in question or by 3:00pm for evening classes. You will be expected to attend if classes have not been cancelled, or you will be counted as absent. **You can also sign up to receive emergency alert notices on your phone by going to [getrave.com](http://getrave.com).** Your student e-mail is automatically signed up for these alerts. To sign up for RAVE or to obtain more information about this emergency alert system, visit this link: <https://www.getrave.com/login/angelina>

**4. Plagiarism** – Cheating or plagiarism in any degree will not be tolerated by the college and will result in no less than a zero on the assignment in question or expulsion from my class.

**5. Respectful behavior** is expected in this class! Cell phones and other electronic devices should not be used or in sight during class time unless I approve. Usage of your phone or the presence of earbuds in class may result in being counted “absent” since you are not fully *with* us in class. General respect of others is expected. This includes listening courteously and attentively to others when they are talking.

**6. Learner Surveys** will be available through Campus Connect 23 days prior to the last final exam date. You are encouraged to complete these surveys honestly since your comments and ratings remain anonymous.

## VI. COURSE OUTLINE: Description of the Course Activities including due dates, schedules, and deadlines.

*See proposed Class Schedule provided. Please note that dates may change for various reasons, but you will be notified in class and through Remind alerts. A copy of the Class Schedule will also be available on Blackboard.*

The college's academic calendar: <http://www.angelina.edu/generalbulletin/academic-calendar/>

The final exam schedule: <http://www.angelina.edu/final-exam-schedule/>

## VII. EVALUATION AND GRADING:

### A. Grading Criteria

Assignments will be evaluated according to the following scale:

**A=90-100** – Work that obviously exhibits the highest degree of excellence and overall mastery of concepts

**B=80-89** – Work that is above average in presentation and indication of understanding but which lacks somewhat in attaining the highest degree of excellence

**C=70-79** – Work that is average in presentation and indication of understanding

**D=60-69** – Work that is below average in presentation and indication of mastery but which indicates enough understanding to be considered acceptable

**F=59 and below** – Work that does not meet acceptable standards due to either incompleteness or failure to properly address the specific criteria for the assignment

### B. Determination of Grade

30%	Written Assignments (Ropes Summaries and Outlines)
5%	Unique Me (oral presentation)
15%	Cultures Around Me (group project and oral presentation)
15%	AC SPEAKS Community Project
10%	Ropes Course (attendance, participation, and Ropes Summaries)
15%	“Celebrations of Knowledge” (a.k.a. exams; three at 5% each)
10%	Participation (mainly attendance)

### C. Assignments

**1. Written Assignments** – The bulk of your grade comes from completing chapter outlines and application summaries as described in your instructions. All assignments are due as noted in the class schedule.

**2. Oral Presentations** – Two speeches are required for this class. Since this course is not designed as a public speaking class, these presentations will be evaluated based on your preparation, organization of material, and understanding of concepts. Because of the nature of the class, oral presentations cannot generally be completed on a later date than when scheduled.

**3. AC SPEAKS Community Project** – You will be required to volunteer for a non-profit organization in your community. Your grade will be controlled by your own efforts, but you are encouraged to work with a team. See your instructions for more details and scoring criteria.

**4. Ropes Course:** The Ropes Course is a mandatory part of my class. This is an outdoor activity that takes place on the AC Ropes Course located on campus (see map provided in class). We will meet on the course 5 times during the semester (see *Class Schedule*). You are not required to complete the elements or challenges on the course since we follow a “challenge by choice” approach, but you *are* required to attend. Your grade will be based on the following criteria:

a. **Attendance.** Each Ropes Course day you miss will be 10 points deducted from your Ropes Course grade, plus an additional 5-point deduction on your participation grade.

b. **Participation.** If you are not actively participating on an element due to health reasons, personal choice, etc., you are still expected to participate by encouraging your classmates, helping solve problems, helping with equipment, keeping records, spotting, etc. These tasks will be explained each time we're on the course. You are expected to be observant and volunteer with the aforementioned tasks.

c. **Attitude.** Having a positive, encouraging and safe attitude on the course is essential to the success of you and your peers. As your health allows, a willingness to try is important.

d. **Written work.** You will be required to email three summaries about your Ropes Course experience after certain days on the course. Details for completing these summaries are found in your instructions. You receive points for both your Written Assignment grade AND your Ropes Course grade for these summaries.

**5. “Celebrations of Knowledge”** – Don't get too excited; these are tests. ☺ There will be two exams during the semester in addition to the final as noted on the proposed *Class Schedule*. The tests will cover material and terminology from the text as well as concepts discussed in class. **If you have an “A” average going into the final exam, you will be exempt from taking the final.**

**6. Overall Participation** – This grade is mainly determined by attendance & tardiness, but respectfulness, attitude, class disruptions, teamwork skills, and participation in class discussions are also considered.

**7. Extra credit** – Extra credit can be earned in several ways...

a. Attend student-focused events such as: **1.** AC SPEAKS sponsored events, **2.** Fine Arts division performances (plays/concerts/art receptions), **3.** Student Affairs sponsored events, **4.** Athletic events (other than the sport you may play for AC). After attending the event, submit a written summary expressing your overall personal opinion of the event. Describe the atmosphere, the performance, and/or just a summary of your overall experience. Each event is worth 5 points added to your Written Assignment grade, but no more than 15 points – or 3 events – may be claimed.

b. Put in extra volunteer hours on community project events. Each hour over the allowed 5 maximum hours for your project is worth 5 points added to your Written Assignment grade. No more than 15 points – or 3 hours – may be claimed.

*NOTE: You may not claim more than 15 points total on your Written Assignment grade from a combination of a. and b. options.*

*The instructor may modify the provisions of the syllabus to meet individual class needs by informing the class in advance as to the changes being made.*