

M1D0: Student Introductions

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COM115: Interpersonal Communication

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Abstract

Overview

Welcome to COM 125—Interpersonal Communication!

The first Module 1 Discussion is titled, “Student Icebreaker (Introductions)”. Getting to know your classmates early on contributes to building a sense of community in our class.

Read and comply with instructions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 appearing below.

M1D0: Student Introductions**Initial Post****Instructions**

1. Introduce yourself by name and location. Then, state your major, home college, career goals following graduation, why you enrolled in our online class (in addition to it being required), your experience with online classes, hobbies, favorite travel destination, favorite quote, how you intend to make time for completing and submitting classwork in accordance with due dates appearing in the Course Schedule, and anything else to help us get to know you better.
2. Describe a time you communicated something via social media, text, or email that was completely misunderstood by the recipient.
3. Reply to the following questions:
 - Where did the problem lie, with your communication or with their interpretation?
 - How did the nature of the communication (electronic versus face-to-face) impact understanding?
 - What could you have done differently that would have changed the outcome of the communication?
 - How have you applied what you learned from that experience to your communication?
4. Include a minimum of 100 words in your Introduction. Add a word count to the end of your Introduction.
5. Finally, read the Introduction submitted by at least two classmates. Submit a welcome message in a reply to the Introduction submitted by two classmates. Remember to read and comply with the Class Netiquette Instructions message posted in this Discussion. You can do this!

Ashton Scott Hellwig's Personal Introduction

Hello, everyone! My name is Ashton Scott Hellwig, but closer friends refer to me using my initials: Ash. I live in Lafayette, Colorado and my major is declared as "Associate of Science: Mathematics for Transfer". My Home College is Front Range Community College, mainly in the online medium for the last two years with only one in-person class I took in 2018. I prefer enrolling in online classes because it allows me more freedom to continue working my normal full-time hours and get school work complete without having to be physically present in a classroom. Because of my experience working in IT remotely before switching to the industry I am in currently, online class was not too large an adjustment for me. One of my favorite hobbies is where I am currently working with various protection dog training schools as an protection dog training apprentice and agitator.



I plan on making time to complete this class whenever I can fit it in, which is pretty easy for me to do throughout the day as well as after work. I recently purchased a laptop for this specific purpose, so I am able to complete tasks throughout my work day. I am an inventory manager at a marijuana dispensary in Denver, and even though the cannabis retail industry is even more hectic during the essential-business designation than ever before I will still have significant time available to complete assignments as I have consistent schedule where I am out of work by 6:00PM every day. I don't really travel so much with the exception of to Atlanta and Los Angeles. I was born in Kansas, then lived in St. Louis for 2 years, then in Birmingham for 3 years, and finally spent most of my childhood until my sophomore year of High School in Atlanta. I moved to Colorado in 2013 and when the rest of my family left for Los Angeles in 2016 I decided to stay here. With my degree, I want to go into veterinary bioinformatics research but my ultimate goal is to own my own licensed MIP here in Colorado focusing on the solventless extraction of rare cannabinoids. Progress is being made on this day-by-day!

One time I can remember where an email was misunderstood by the recipient was towards the beginning of the pandemic entering our daily lives at the previous dispensary I worked as compliance assurance officer. I had sent an email to the head of our legal department and the general manager for the store I was located at detailing my reasons for not wanting to bring customers back inside and to continue the curbside pickup process as long as possible citing concerns from many employees which fell on deaf ears and they believed I was not “towing the line” as I should have been and that my tone was too aggressive. This led them to say “Either get behind our decisions, good or bad, or it is a very good time to collect unemployment right now”. I believe the miscommunication lied within the fact that without being able to effectively deliver tone through email, along with using “urgent”. sounding speech, this could have come off as rude or aggressive to them. I avoid this nowadays by utilizing telephone or face-to-face to discuss important matters rather than attempting an urgent sounding email.

Response Posts

Response 1

Hello everyone, my name is Sabrina, I live in Denver Co. My major is Early Childhood Education, I am currently attending Community College of Aurora, my career goal is to finish my major and hopefully get a good job in my field. The reason that I enrolled in an online class because it is required for my major, also it seems like an interesting subject to learn about. My hobbies are cooking, photography, and knitting, my favorite travel destination is Italy and California Beaches, my favorite quote has to be by Alan Watts “This is the real secret of life — to be completely engaged with what you are doing in the here and now. And instead of calling it work, realize it is play.”. My goal to complete and submit classwork in accordance with due dates would be to plan ahead of time and look at the syllables to check and see what is due and what I am supposed to work on.

There was a time where my friend was texting me constantly and I could only give them a short reply because I was very busy and couldn't really focus on what was going on and what they were saying in the text message which made my friend upset and thought that I don't want to talk to them, and they thought that I am mad at them, although they did ask me if I was okay and asked if I am mad at them which was really upsetting because it wasn't my intention to get my friend sad and think that I am mad them for no reason, however, I did let them know that I was busy and the reason that I did not pay much attention was that I was busy and finishing up my homework.

The problem lied with their understanding and interpretation of the message because we were texting and I couldn't really show that much expression it made my friend upset. It is quite hard to express your emotions and sometimes people would have a completely different understanding of your message and that's mainly because a lot of times we are texting and we don't really show emotion and can't really do so when we are texting so that could be a cause in my opinion. I guess I could have tried to pay more attention to their messages but sometimes

when you are very busy it would be hard to focus on everything at the same time.

This is a response to Sabrina Barzinjy with Post ID 43158270. Hello, Sabrina! It is great to see more people in Early Childhood Education, many of my friends are in that field. I wonder, how do you adjust how you converse with others based on their age? I imagine how you would speak with your peers here in class versus friends outside of school is completely different than how you would speak with one of your student's teachers or with the student him, her, or however they may identify. Is it difficult to have so many different expectations from those you would be speaking with everyday and maintaining the correct mode-of-speech for each individual conversation?

Response Posts

Response 2

My name is Kristyna Sekera, and I am from Denver, Colorado. I am currently attending Red Rocks Community College. I am completing my general courses right, as I do not have a set major. After graduation, I hope to be able to travel and see the world. I enrolled in interpersonal communication because it seemed the most interesting to me, as well as being heavily applicable to my daily life. This is my second year taking online classes, so I am pretty comfortable with them. My hobbies include traveling, drawing, and snowboarding. My favorite travel destinations are the Czech Republic and Croatia. I am a little biased towards Czech, since my family is from there, but it is, without a doubt, one of my favorite places to visit. I don't really have a favorite quote, but I like the quotes that outline living your life to the fullest extent. I keep a notebook that has the assignments and due dates listed, and I find that helps me in submitting my work on time.

A time I can think of when one of my texts was completely misconstrued by the recipient, was when my dad's former girlfriend asked my sister and me to pick up some food for dinner. She asked me if we could pick it up, if she ordered it. I am not entirely sure what I replied, but it was along the lines of an "okay". She then got upset, thinking that we did not want to go pick up the food and have dinner. The problem lied with her interpretation of the message, but the fact that it was via text also had an impact on the understanding. The fact that you cannot pick up on people's body language and visual cues, over the phone, leads to a lot of misinterpretation. I could have added an exclamation point, or used a different phrase, that would have indicated that I did not mind going to get the food. I have learned from that experience, when communicating over the phone, I find it really important to use punctuation marks, as they can give the other person a clue on how to interpret your message.

This is a response to Kristyna Sekera with Post ID 43156527. Hello, Kristyna! I notice you mentioned drawing as one of your hobbies, if not too much to ask I would *love* to see some of your artwork! I have always wanted to visited the Czech Republic, but never met anyone from there! I took a few Czech classes in Atlanta before I moved to Colorado and have yet to get the chance to make the trip.

That situation of the misunderstanding over text message sounds horrible! I did not see anything wrong with your reply of “okay” for something like a task given to you. Usually, “okay” is a word which has intonations of agreement rather than the opposite!