Synopsis

This study will examine the relationship between an immediate communicator style use of various communication technologies, and relational outcomes. Satisfaction and commitment are two of the most frequently studied relational outcomes when studying romantic relationships and they will be included in this study. Adaptations of the investment model (Rusbult, 1998) survey will be used for the measurement of both satisfaction and commitment. Subjects will also estimate their frequency of use for five types of communication technology: Face-to-face, phone, e-mail, personal electronic communication and public electronic communication Instead of using socio-communicative styles or Norton (1983) communicator styles, the study will use 7-items of perception of immediacy adapted from the Relational Communication Scale (Burgoon & Hale). This more general assessment of communication behaviors will allow for a more standardized measurement across various technologies that hinder some or many communication cues. The relationships between style and relational outcomes will be examined over the 5 types of technology of Barron (2008). One MANOVA will be run to examine the relationship of style and relational outcomes for each type of technology.