

Communication Theory Application Logs

For each theory we cover), you will write 1-2 paragraphs making a specific application of the theory to your own life. Assume for this assignment that the theory has practical value. What insight does it provide to help you understand the previous communication behavior? What prediction does it make or advice does it offer you for the future? How does it help you better understand what happened – what went right or wrong?

These entries should be kept on 4x6 note cards. Write no more than 1 card (you can use the front and back) per entry. Entries should demonstrate that you grasp each theory's practical implications and that you can apply them in specific situations. To help, you do not have to write an entry until *after* the theory has been reviewed, discussed, and explained in class.

All entries must be original. Direct or indirect use of examples from the text, websites, or other sources is plagiarism and can result in an immediate failure of the course. Plagiarism occurs when you use another person's work and pass it off as your own or simply fail to give the creator credit; this includes direct copying, copying with minor changes, using the same structure/organization, using the same ideas (even in your own words) – without providing credit to the source. --If you think you might be so heavily influenced by reading examples of others' Application Log entries that you would be tempted or likely to replicate them, do not seek out such examples. If I suspect that any form of plagiarism has occurred, you will be asked to explain or verify your work.

Approximately 5 Logs will be randomly collected each Thursday. Make sure to always have your log with you each week in case yours is selected. (You will receive one pass to use in case of emergency.) This assignment takes the place of a term paper; treat it appropriately. Each log will be collected and assessed 5 times during the semester (you will earn up to 5 points each time, based on completion, clarity, and accuracy). Instructor feedback & suggestions will be inserted on colored pages for your easy reference.

Communication Journals

The main written work in this class will take the form of a journal. Each week, you will write one entry in your journal, so that by the end of the semester, you will have a journal with 15 total entries. Each entry will be based on one chapter of the book (so your first journal entry will relate to chapter one; your second journal entry will relate to chapter 2, your tenth journal entry will relate to chapter 10, etc.) This journal will be submitted every 5 weeks and each submission should include all entries to date. Each submission is worth 10% of your grade, with each new entry being 2%.

The purpose of the journal is to apply communication concepts and theories to your own experiences, in order to help you understand course material, see how the study of communication advances social knowledge, and to make use of content via your lived experiences. It encourages awareness, reflection, and insight into your (and others') communication interactions. Additionally, it is an opportunity for the instructor to get to know you better and to gauge your understanding of course content, and help where needed, at regular intervals during the semester.

Your task for each entry is as follows:

- Once each week/once per chapter, describe in some detail a communication interaction you were directly involved in, that you witnessed, or that you can recall. This can be real or mediated (like in a show or a movie).
 - In this description include things like the physical and psychological context, nonverbal communication, verbal communication, your own thoughts or feelings, etc. You do not need to reveal names or sensitive information.
 - Be aware, that your instructor is legally bound to report any incidences of sexual assault you share.
- After you have described the communication interaction, analyze and critique the experience using particular concepts and/or issues covered by the chapter and/or related class discussions. In other words, apply some concept, idea, or theory presented in the text/class to your own life. Apply the appropriate terminology.
 - Find something of practical value to you in each chapter. Consider:
 - What insight does it provide to help you understand the interaction?
 - What advice does it offer for future interactions?
- Entries should demonstrate that you understand, or are trying to understand, the concepts and their relevance.
- You can type your entries or handwrite and scan them (typing is probably easier). Keep them all in a single document that you add to throughout the semester.
- Each entry should be 1-2 pages (if typed, in standard font size, double-spaced)