

CS202

NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION

MID-TERM TAKE HOME EXAM

In concise double-spaced essays of 3-4 pages each, answer the following questions. Exam is due before 6 p.m., Mon., October 24th. Bring it to my office or drop it off in the assignment box next to the general office. Penalties will be assessed for lateness.

Create and assess imaginative scenarios for the following:

1.) You are a NVC researcher (Perhaps even trained by Paul Ekman!) assigned to analyze a taped TV talk or reality show debate involving 3-4 individuals. What is the debate about and who are the participants? Assess the forms of auditory and facial NVC that are in evidence. In what ways does it serve to enhance the credibility of some individuals and not others by creating impressions that your NVC skills tell you might be misleading? How can you tell which elements of NVC are genuinely spontaneous and which ones seem “managed?” (10 points)

2.) When we are *engaged in conversation* NVC usually supports what we want to say. Sometimes however, it fails to do so or suggests a different meaning to the message. Put yourself in the position of advisor to individuals who are about to embark on either a first date with someone they have never met (but both parties have seen each other before so it is not exactly a blind date), *or*, a job interview. What encoding and decoding skills would you emphasize and why, especially insofar as it might help them avoid sending the wrong nonverbal messages or misinterpreting those of the date or interviewer?

Note: Back up your analyses with references from the text—a simple citation, e.g., K & H say.....(p.10), is all you need, not a full bibliographic listing. When referencing the documentary, (Face Video) will suffice. When using material taken from the lectures, no citation is necessary—what is said in class is now yours.