



MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas Tech University System

Course Syllabus: Human Experiences

Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education

COUN 2143-102

Fall 2026 – August 24 – December 10, 2026

Contact Information

<u>Instructor:</u> Mrs. Angie Bullard <u>Office:</u> Bridwell 210 <u>Office Phone:</u> 940-397-4136 <u>E-mail:</u> angela.bullard@msutexas.edu	<u>Office hours:</u> Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 am Wednesday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Thursday 10:00 – 11:00 am *Other times available by request
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Instructor Response Policy

The most reliable way to reach me is via email. I make every effort to respond within 24 hours. At most, you can expect a reply within 48 hours (or two business days). Messages sent over the weekend will be answered on the following Monday.

Course Description

A study of perspectives shaped by individual, family, and community experiences, incorporating inquiry and research to deepen understanding.

Course Content and Skills

1. Analyze research on how individual, family, and community experiences shape perspectives and influence human interactions.
2. Evaluate research of varying viewpoints by applying course concepts to real-world media, narratives, and case studies.
3. Develop critical thinking and inquiry skills to interpret the motivations, values, and societal influences behind varying perspectives.
4. Reflect on and interpret research to gain insights into human interaction and relationships.
5. Synthesize insights gained from perspective analysis to deepen awareness of the complexities of human experiences and interactions

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Textbook – None

Materials – Online resources, readings, supplementary reading material. Numerous links will be provided within the course.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

The TASP offers a schedule of selected subjects tutoring assistance. Please contact the TASP, (940)397-4684, or visit the ASC homepage for more information. [Tutoring & Academics Supports Program](#)

Student Handbook

Refer to the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) to access the [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

AI / Chat GPT

Artificial intelligence (AI) can be a valuable tool in academic writing, offering support with brainstorming, organization, and clarity; however, it must be used ethically, accurately, and responsibly. In a collegiate environment, all students are expected to demonstrate academic integrity and develop their own voice in writing. Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are central to the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments must be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in these areas will prepare students for success in a competitive workplace.

While AI tools serve as helpful resources to guide learning and improve communication, they should never replace a student's own original work. Copying and pasting directly from AI tools or submitting AI-generated content as your own constitutes plagiarism and will not be tolerated.

In summary, students may type a question into ChatGPT, but they may not exactly copy and paste its response, and turn it in as your own. If ChatGPT or any other AI is used, it must be disclosed somewhere in the assignment. If students use ChatGPT or any AI, please use it in ways that are ethical, accurate, and useful. Ultimately, academic work should reflect your own thinking and writing.

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Assignments

The Perspective Analysis Portfolio is the major assignment (key assessment) for this class. The purpose of the portfolio is to help students develop a deeper understanding of how individual, family, and community experiences shape individual perspectives. Through critical analysis of real-world media, narratives, or case studies, students will reflect on differing perspectives and apply course concepts to evaluate the factors influencing these perspectives

Quizzes

A quiz on the syllabus will be included in the first week of the semester.

Mid-Term Exam

There is no Mid-Term exam. Your final major assignment will count as your Final Exam and will be submitted to TK20 as a key assessment.

Final Exam

Your final major assignment will count as your Final Exam and will be submitted to TK20 as a key assessment. It is worth 100 points and 10% of your overall grade.

Grading

Assignments will include instructions and details in D2L. Additional information will also be giving during class. Descriptions below are generalized into different assignment types. Specific details can be found in the applicable modules in D2L.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Syllabus Quiz	25
Weekly Activities (Completed in Class), Attendance, and Class Participation	250
Weekly Assignments	600
Perspective Analysis Portfolio	100
Assignment Punctuality (No Late Assignments)	25
Total Points	1000

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	900 to 1000
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

Projects Required

There are no outside projects in this class. There will be project-like activities during some classes throughout the semester.

Extra Credit

Twenty-five points extra credit will be applied to the grade of any student that turns in all assignments on time. No other extra credit assignments are planned for this course.

Late Work

Assignments must be turned in when they are due to receive full credit. Late work will only be accepted for assignments if cleared with the instructor prior to the due date and due to an emergency. Discussion boards will receive 0 credit if posted late and cannot be made up for any reason.

Make Up Work/Tests

Make-up work is not given. For late assignments, see above.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: **August 27, 2026.** Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: **September 21, 2026.** Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:": **November 23, 2026.** Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. Students can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Face-to-face students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Students are graded on intellectual effort and performance; however, attendance does account for a portion of your overall grade (see Table 1), therefore absences will lower the student's overall grade. Class attendance and participation are required for this course. Attendance will be taken on each day of class. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Individual faculty members have the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Online Computer Requirements

A face-to-face class still requires all students to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date. Personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, discussion postings, etc.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline.*** If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the 'Americans With Disabilities Act', with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Instructor Class Policies

D2L will be used for posting the syllabus, course communication, course schedule, attendance, and gradebook. Students should check D2L at least three times per week in addition to attending classes.

Expectations for written work:

- Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling are expected on all written assignments (although web discussions are not held to the high standard of a research project or other written assignment).
- Written assignments can be done in one of the following:
 - Microsoft Word and turned in as an attachment in Dropbox on D2L
 - PDF Document and turned in as an attachment in Dropbox on D2L
 - Google doc with the share link submitted to D2L (Make sure share settings are set to "anyone with the link can view or edit")
- Discussions should be completed within the D2L discussion space and NOT uploaded as an attachment.

As previously mentioned, cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given) will not be considered. Turnitin is used for the written assignments and D2L directly syncs with it (the student does not have to do anything). Each student will be able to see the plagiarism percentage and is welcome to make changes and resubmit **BEFORE** the due date.

Any Turnitin score of 30% or more is too high. The assignment will have to be corrected and resubmitted (if applicable) or the assignment grade will be reduced by one letter grade.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the [Schedule of Classes](#) each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the [Office of Student Affairs](#): Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on university property or at university-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Inclement Weather

In the case of campus closure due to inclement weather, key decision-makers will monitor weather projections and communicate with local news agencies and WFISD leadership to make a delay or cancellation decision. The timeline is as follows:

Event	Time	Day	Decision
Inclement weather occurs during regular work/class day	3:30 PM	Day of inclement weather	Cancel classes/events after 5 PM
Overnight inclement weather expected	8 PM	Day before inclement weather	Close campus or delay opening
Delay called the day before but change to closure due to the extent of weather impact	6:15 AM	Day of delay	Close campus
No cancellation or delay decision made the night before	5:30 AM	Day after no decision made the night before	Close campus or delay opening

Delay/closure times are as follows:

- MWF class day: Delay to either 10 AM or 11 AM; all classes prior to opening do not meet.
- Tu/Th class day: Delay to 11 AM; all classes prior to opening do not meet
- Saturday or Sunday: Delay to either 10 AM or 11 AM; classes may start after campus is open.

Notification processes - Notification occurs through official campus channels and in communication with the local news networks. MSU channels include MSU Alert, MSU Safety app, Postmaster, and website headers. MSU Police and the Office of Marketing and Public Information. Information for all channels can be found at [MSU Ready](#).

Activity	Recommendation
Face-to-face or hybrid courses	Indicate in a syllabus statement whether the course will shift to fully online in inclement weather. A shift to online is not required, but is permitted as long as you describe your inclement weather practices in class and in your syllabus.
Online courses	Fully online courses may continue as scheduled, but should communicate course practices in syllabus statements and news items on D2L.
Graded assessments	If assessment deadlines coincide with the closure dates, Academic Affairs recommends delaying the deadline until after the campus reopens. A syllabus statement should state if deadlines will stand during closure.

Obligation to Report Sex Discrimination under State and Federal Law

Midwestern State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. State and federal law require University employees to report sex discrimination and sexual misconduct to the University's [Office of Title IX](#). As a faculty member, I am required to report to the Title IX Coordinator any allegations, personally observed behavior, or other direct or indirect knowledge of conduct that reasonably may constitute sex discrimination or sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking, involving a student or employee. After a report is made, the office of Title IX will reach out to the affected student or employee in an effort to connect such person(s) with resources and options in addressing the allegations made in the report. You are also encouraged to report any incidents to the office of Title IX. Students may do so by contacting: Laura Hetrick, Title IX Coordinator, Sunwatcher Village Clubhouse, 940-397-4213, laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu

Students may also file an online report 24/7 on the [Sexual Misconduct Report Form](#).

Should you wish to visit with someone about your experience in confidence, you may contact the MSU Counseling Center at 940-397-4618. For more information on the University's policy on Title IX or sexual misconduct, please visit the MSU Sexual Misconduct Resource Page.

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Course Schedule – See next Page

Course Schedule:

Week #	Dates	Weekly Topic	Activities & Assignments Due (See D2L Course Schedule for Assignments Due)
Week 1	8/24-8/30	Introduction to Human Experiences Perspectives - What shapes who we become?	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 8/31
Week 2	8/31-9/6	Know Your Perspective Autobiography Introduction	Class Activities - T/Th No Assignments Due
Week 3	9/7-9/13	Autobiography Lab Days (Student Conferences)	Due 9/14 Autobiography Assignment
Week 4	9/14-20	Success - Defined Perspective Analysis Portfolio - Introduction	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 9/21 (if applicable)
Week 5	9/21-27	Introduction to Research Perspective Analysis – Summary	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 9/28
Week 6	9/28-10/4	Other Perspectives Perspective Analysis – Inquiry & Analysis	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 10/5
Week 7	10/5-11	Opportunity	Class Activities - T/Th Suggested: Work on Source 2 Summary
Week 8	10/12-18	Resilience / Choice	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 10/19
Week 9	10/19-25	Defying Expectations	Class Activities - T/Th Suggested: Work on Source 3 Summary
Week 10	10/25-11/1	Money and Success	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 11/2
Week 11	11/2-8	Facilitators of Success Perspective Analysis – Introduction and Conclusion	Class Activities - T/Th Suggested: Work on Perspective Analysis Portfolio (Introduction and Conclusion)
Week 12	11/9-15	Connections Perspective Analysis – Course concepts	Class Activities - T/Th Suggested: Work on Perspective Analysis Portfolio (Connections to Course Concepts)
Week 13	11/16-22	Perspective Analysis – Personal Reflections	Class Activities - T/Th Assignments Due 11/16
Week 14	11/23-29	Beyond the norm..	Suggested: Work on Perspective Analysis Portfolio (Combining Sections for Final Draft)
Week 15	11/30-12/6	*Last Week of Class	Class Activities - T/Th
Week 16	12/6-11	Finals Week - Submit Key Assignment (Final Draft of Perspective Analysis Portfolio)	Key Assignment Due 12/6 Perspective Analysis Portfolio (In APA 7 Format with all previously submitted portions corrected/revised, and combined into a final draft for submission)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Appendix A

Not applicable – Additional Readings (Not required)