



**MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**A Member of the Texas Tech University System**  
**Course Syllabus: Human Experiences**  
**Gordon T. & Ellen West College of Education**  
**COUN 2143-X28**  
**Spring 2026 - January 20 – May 15, 2026**  
**Contact Information**

<u>Instructor:</u> Mrs. Angie Bullard	<u>Office hours:</u> Tuesday 10:00 am – 11:15 am Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm Thursday 10:00 am – 11:15 am *Other times available by request
<u>Office:</u> Bridwell 210 <u>Office Phone:</u> 940-397-4136 <u>E-mail:</u> <a href="mailto:angela.bullard@msutexas.edu">angela.bullard@msutexas.edu</a>	

**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 Programs

## **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [\*\*Student Handbook\*\*](#) can be found on the [Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)  
[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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).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 you 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. If AI is used, its use must be disclosed within the assignment. 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.

## **Grading**

*Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment*

Assignments	Points
Major Assignments	400
Discussion Boards	300
Key Assessment	300
Total Points	1000

*Table 2: Total points for final grade.*

Grade	Points
A	900
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799

Grade	Points
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

### Assignments

**The Perspective Analysis Portfolio** is the major assignment. The purpose of the portfolio is to help you 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, you will reflect on differing perspectives and apply course concepts to evaluate the factors influencing these perspectives.

### Quizzes

You will not have any quizzes for this class.

### 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.

### Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be given or accepted.

### Late Work

Work must be turned in when it is due for full credit. Late work will only be accepted if cleared with instructor and due to an emergency.

### Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: 1/23/26 Check due date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: 2/16/26 Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W": 4/29/26 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. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

### Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you 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, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.** 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!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. 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](#).

## Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Students are expected to log into D2L at least 3 times per week. This demonstrates that the student is dependable, reliable, and responsible. Students are also expected to participate in all class activities and discussions each week. If a student fails to log in each week, this is considered evidence of a lack of dependability, and is taken seriously. It is the student's responsibility to make up for any missed assignments. Discussion boards cannot be made up.

## Instructor Class Policies

D2L will be used for posting the syllabus, course communication, course schedule, attendance, and gradebook. There will be online office hours announced through D2L. You should check D2L at least three times per week.

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 plagiarism of 30% and above is too much! The assignment will be reduced by one letter grade for anything above 30%.**

## 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) exists 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](#).

### **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. You may do so by contacting: Laura Hetrick, Title IX Coordinator, Sunwatcher Village Clubhouse, 940-397-4213, [laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu](mailto:laura.hetrick@msutexas.edu)

You 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

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

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

### Course Schedule:

Week # Tuesday -	Dates Monday	Topics/Focus/Reading	Assignment Due
Week 1	1/19	Introductions Syllabus Review Introductory Activities - Discussion Board	Discussion Board (See discussion guidelines for details and requirements) <b>Due Sat 1/24</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post <b>Due Mon 1/26</b> Introduction Presentation <b>and</b> Discussion Board Responses to Classmates
Week 2	1/26	Introduction Autobiography Perspective Module	<b>Due Sat 1/31</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 2/2</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 3	2/2	Complete Autobiography No Discussion Board this week	<b>Due Mon 2/9</b> Autobiography
Week 4	2/9	Introduction – Research What is research & how do I understand it?	<b>Due Sat 2/14</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 2/16</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 5	2/16	Perspective Activity	<b>Due Sat 2/21</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 2/23</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 6	2/23	Discussion Board Topic	<b>Due Sat 2/28</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 3/2</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 7	3/2	Work on Portfolio No Discussion Board	No Discussion Board No Assignment Due
Week 8	3/9	Spring Break	
Week 9	3/16	Sense of Belonging Module	<b>Due 3/21</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s)

Week # Tuesday -	Dates Monday	Topics/Focus/Reading	Assignment Due
			<b>Due Mon 3/23</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 10	3/23	Portfolio Activity	<b>Due Sat 3/28</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 3/30</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 11	3/30	Perspective Analysis (continued) No Discussion Board this week	<b>Due Sunday 4/6</b> Perspective Analysis (through Week 11)
Week 12	4/6	Communication and Social Media Module	<b>Due Sat 4/11</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 4/13</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 13	4/13	Perspective Assignment	<b>Due Sat 4/18</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 4/20</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 14	4/20	Perspective Analysis Continued Final Paper Instructions Acknowledgement	<b>Due Sat 4/25</b> - Initial Discussion Board Post(s) <b>Due Mon 4/27</b> - Two DB Responses to Classmates
Week 15	4/27	Work on Final Key Assessment	<b>Due Mon 5/4</b> -
Week 16	5/4	Wrap Up Synthesis Paper MUST be submitted to TK20 to get credit for this class.	<b>Due Mon 5/11</b> Reflection Assignment and Completed Portfolio
Week 17		Finals Week	Completed Perspective Analysis Portfolio

**\*Important note:** Tables are already set up for compliance. If you wish to add another table, make sure do the correct compliance setup for tables which you can find in the [How To – Word Doc ADA Compliance PDF](#).

**Additional Readings (not required):**  
Not applicable – See Appendix A

#### Appendix B:

Assignment/Activity	Standard/Competency: Core Content & Core Skills
Autobiography	Explain and expand on classifications about the student themselves.
Argument Analysis	Summarize scholarly resources
Perspective Analysis	Evidence, acknowledge, and justify the need and value of people's differences Synthesize the communication patterns of various populations and how they relate to interpersonal relations To develop a vision of society that promotes the success of all members, based on relevant knowledge and theories

Assignment/Activity	Standard/Competency: Core Content & Core Skills
<p><b>*Discussion Boards</b></p>	<p>Recognize communication patterns in self and others that enhances or inhibits the communication process</p> <p>Distinguish similarities and differences among communities</p> <p>Critically examine various group contributions to American society.</p> <p>To demonstrate the ability to analyze the complex causes of poverty and other disadvantages and their effects</p> <p>To serve as an advocate</p> <p>To develop responsiveness to all factors</p> <p>To learn to respond appropriately to various needs</p> <p>To communicate and work effectively with different groups</p>