



Syllabus: MWSU 1233 -107 College Connections

Fall 2022

Class Time: TR 11:00 am – 12:20 pm

Class Location: 113F Moffett Library

Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Keith Mazachek

Office: Bridwell Hall 215

Office hours: By Appointment

Office phone: (940) 397-4096

E-mail: keith.mazachek@msutexas.edu

Email is my preferred method of communication. I will respond to emails within 24 hours during the week. Please expect a 48-hour response on weekends and holidays.

Peer Mentor: Zach Bohannon

Phone: (561) 704-1740

E-mail: zacharybohannon@gmail.com

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to help new students make the transition to a college environment, focusing on the cognitive, behavioral, and experiential dimensions of learning. There is an emphasis on study skills as well as written and oral communication. There will be a common read as well as a career exploration project. Attendance will be required at selected activities and at every class.

Required Course Materials:

- 3 Ring Binder with dividers
- *Your College Experience: Strategies for Success* 14th Ed. by John Gardner & Betsy Barefoot
- *Common Read Book: Old School Grit* by Darrin Donnelly
- *Mustangs Adventure Guidebook*
- Group Me app

Attendance:

Because class participation and in-class assignments are such a large part of this class, attendance is very important. Attendance will be taken during each class. Arrive to class on time. **You are allowed two unexcused absences. For every unexcused absence after that, 10 points will be subtracted from your attendance grade.** Medical absences must be documented by a physician. Other emergencies must be communicated to the instructor PRIOR TO CLASS.

Academic Misconduct:

Midwestern State University operates under the Student Honor Creed which states, **"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."** The full Student Honor Creed can be found online at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/conduct/>

Diversity Statement:

Tutoring and Academic Support embraces a notion of the intellectual community enriched and enhanced by diversity along many dimensions, including race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, class, and religion. We are especially committed to increasing and supporting those populations that have been historically excluded from participation in U.S. higher education.

Documented Disability:

- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations are made for any student with a documented disability. Students should register with Disability Support Services. More information can be found here: <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/disability/>
- Requests for accommodation are acceptable at any time during the semester, but you are encouraged to contact me in person, or via email, as early as possible.

Other Considerations:

- Assignments not submitted in class due to an excused absence must be turned in the following class period. If you are unable to attend class and an assignment is due that day, it is your responsibility to get the assignment to your instructor **PRIOR** to class that day.
- Other topics may be added by the instructor; changes and modifications to the syllabus may be made throughout the semester.
- Written reports are to be typed in a 12-point font and double-spaced.
- Since the success of this course relies on our ability to communicate goals and opinions successfully and maturely, the instructor and students will observe mutual respect and consideration.

Course Requirements and Points: (1000 Total Points Possible)

Grading Scale:

A = 1000-900 points

B = 899-800 points

C = 799-700 points

D = 699-600 points

F = 599-0 points

Class Participation and Attendance (150) – Active engagement in each class and attendance.

In-Class Assignments/Assessments (200) – There will be a variety of assignments and assessments completed in-class and assigned. You will put the assignments that we complete in class into your 3-ring binder.

Registration Assignment (150) – You will be responsible for completing 3 tasks related to the registration process at MSU. Details and deadline will be discussed during the semester and will include Degree Plan Knowledge, a 4 Semester Plan with Early Advising, and timely Class Registration.

Common Read Reflection Journal & Discussion (100) – You will journal a total of 4 times throughout the semester based on the assigned chapters. Each journal should be a minimum of 8-10 sentences and refer to the reading. Each journal will be worth 25 points.

Career Project (200) – You will be asked to choose a career that interests you and research that career. You will use resources from the Career Management Center, complete a resume, create a LinkedIn account, compile your research findings into a portfolio, and present those findings. More details will be given later in the semester.

Meetings with Instructor (50) – You will meet with your Instructor/Peer Mentor twice throughout the semester. Each meeting you will receive 25 points for showing up.

Exams (150) – There will be 3 exams throughout the semester. Each exam will be worth 50 points.

Course Schedule:

See the Course Schedule as a separate PDF in D2L