

SPAD 5083 Dynamics of Team and Group Interaction

Course Syllabus Fall 2026

Dr. Julie Wood

Contact Information

- Office: Bridwell 322
- Hours: 10:30-12:00 MTWR; Anytime the office door is open or by appointment.
- Email: julie.wood@msutexas.edu

Contact Preference

My preferred method of communication is by email. I check my email throughout the day (MTWRF), so you can expect to hear back from me usually within a few hours of receiving your message. I generally do not respond during the evening hours or over the weekend. If you should call and leave a message, I would appreciate it if you would also send me an email as I most often do not pay attention to the phone.

Course Description

Study of the psychosocial dynamics impacting team and group interaction and performance.

Textbook

Gill, D.L., Reifsteck, E.J., & Brooks, D.D. (2026). Psychological Dynamics of Physical Activity (5th ed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will examine how participant personality, attentional capacity, cognitive skills, and self-perception impact team and group performance.
2. Students will examine how behavioral and social cognitive approaches can be used to improve motivation and group behavior.
3. Students will examine how emotions, stress, and ability to cope impact performance and mental health.
4. Students will examine how various processes can impact group interactions and performance.

Course Essentials

Syllabus

The syllabus provides general information about the course, assignment expectations and requirements, and assessment information.

Course Calendar

The course calendar is the road map for this course. The course calendar identifies: (1) the topics to be studied, (2) the chapter reading assignments, (3) the assessment activities to be completed, and (4) the completion dates for the assessments.

Textbook

The textbook is required reading for this course. The authors are leading scholars in the field, the research is current, and examples and discussion relevant.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

This course is delivered on the MSU Texas online platform D2L. Each student is expected to be familiar with this platform as it is the source of communication regarding assignments and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Texas Homepage.

Content Folders

The content for this course is organized into folders on D2L. The folders can be found listed in the course browser or by clicking on the content icon on the course homepage.

Assignments

Non-graded Assignments

Four non-graded assignments are offered for students to complete, each related to a unit of discussion in the text. The non-graded assignments offer students an opportunity to demonstrate learning and receive instructor feedback. The non-graded assignments serve as preparation for the two graded exams required in this course. Refer to the content folders on D2L.

Exams

Two exams, each covering two units of discussion, serve as the graded assessments for this course. Each exam is worth 50% of the final grade. Questions for each exam relate directly to the non-graded assignments.

Student Expectations

Course Content

Students are responsible for reading assigned material.

Assignment Responses

Unless otherwise noted, it is expected that assignment responses correspond to information presented in the text.

Scholarly Research

Students are responsible for locating scholarly material through the MSU library or other online scholarly sources when needed to complete the assignments.

Plagiarism

Students are expected to submit original work. Please do not copy the work of others without providing proper citations.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

If you should choose to use AI tools to complete your assignments, please be sure to indicate the tool you used at the end of the assignment.

Writing Conventions

Written assignments should be double spaced using 12-point font. Copying and pasting information is not acceptable.

Citations and References

When references are requested, citations and reference information should be complete and formatted following APA guidelines. The APA manual 7th edition can be found online at [Purdue Owl APA](#) or [American Psychological Association](#).

Assignment Submission

Be sure to submit the correct document to the assignment drop box.

Late Assignments

A grace period of 24 hours is allowed for late submissions if you wish to receive feedback or credit for completing the assignment. Assignments will not be accepted after the 24-hour grace period.

Resubmissions

There are no redoes for assignments.

Extra Credit

There are no opportunities for extra credit.

Questions

Please stop by the office or contact me via email if you have questions about the class or an assignment.

Assessment

Assignments, Points, Due Dates

Assignments	Points	Due Date
The Person	0	Sunday September 6
Motivation	0	Sunday September 13
Exam 1	100	Sunday September 20
Emotions, Stress, & Coping	0	Sunday September 27
Social Processes	0	Sunday October 4
Exam 2	100	Sunday October 11
Total	200	

Final Grade Determination

Grade	Points	Percent
A	180-200	90-100
B	160-179	80-89
C	140-159	70-79
D	120-139	60-69
F	000-119	00-59