



Course Syllabus: Interpersonal Communication

College of Fine Arts
SPCH 2423 Section 103
Fall 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

SPCH 2423 Interpersonal Communication is the application of communication theory to interpersonal relationship development, maintenance, and termination in relationship contexts including friendships, romantic partners, families, and relationships with co-workers and supervisors.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Handouts and PowerPoint Slides

Textbook is recommended, but not required:

Interpersonal Communication: Relating to Others
9th Edition
Steven A Beebe, Susan Beebe, Mark V. Redmond

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fmidwesternstate.bkstr.com%2fpages%2fcourse-materials-results%3fshopBy%3dcourse%26departmentDisplayName%3dSPCH%26courseDisplayName%3d2423%26sectionDisplayName%3d101%26termId%3df1bc68bd-6a35-40d9-9050-904889730c1a%26utm_medium%3demail%26utm_source%3dfollett%26utm_campaign%3drush_fall-2026-syllabus&c=E,1,5nZysIDi9xZA7V7sNaCneQU_axom0qJh00OGbgL4FpTXF4_u3uwe-jOp_9SsBWFZoVbc-rglra-wRL3ccPep1OcJ2AW02aImq7zoFrNS&typo=1

Student Handbook

Refer to: [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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).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](#)

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: Weighting assigned to each assignment

Assignments	Weighting
Test 1	10%
Test 2	10%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Oral Presentation 1	10%
Oral Presentation 2	10%
Oral Presentation 3	15%
Final Exam	25%

Table 2: Total percentage for final grade.

Grade	Percentage
A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	Less than 60%

AI Policy

Students are prohibited from using any form of artificial intelligence in this course.

Tests

Two tests will be given throughout the course. They will account for a total of 20% of your overall course grade.

Final Exam

A comprehensive, timed Final Exam will be given and will be worth 25% of overall grade. More details pertaining to the format of the Final Exam will be provided during the semester. See the schedule breakdown for Final Exam date and time.

Projects Required

This course will require three oral presentations, each of which will be assigned at specific times during the semester.

Mid-Term Exam

A timed Mid-Term Exam will be given during week 8. The exam will be worth 20% of overall course grade.

Extra Credit

I do not typically give or accept extra credit assignments. Students are expected to take advantage of my office hours, utilize handouts, keep abreast with readings and all other course material to earn the best possible grade.

Late Work

Students are expected to turn in all assignments on time, at the beginning of class, on the assigned due date. Late work will not be accepted, unless there are

extenuating circumstances that led to the work being late. I reserve the right to determine whether or not the reason given by the student is legitimate.

Make Up Work/Tests

A student who misses an assignment/test will only be allowed to do a make-up assignment/test if the student missed the original date because of a legitimate reason. Once again, I will determine whether or not the reason is valid.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: August 27, 2026
- Deadline to file for graduation: September 21st, 2026
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" November 23rd at 4pm.

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.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Given that this is a communication class, class participation is especially important. If your absence is due to extenuating circumstances, the absence will be excused, at my discretion. However, students with excessive absences will be dropped from the course by the instructor after receiving a warning.

Being more than ten minutes tardy will be counted as late. Three times tardy will count as an absence.

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

Students are expected to be respectful of both their peers and the instructor and conduct themselves in a manner that is in accordance with the university's Code of Conduct. Cell phones should be kept off or on silent for the duration of class. Texting and using social media are not allowed during class. Students are expected to bring their writing materials to each class in order to take notes during lectures.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular 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.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. 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 or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 08/24 – 08/28	Course Introduction Introduction to Interpersonal Communication Axioms of Communication	N/A
Week 2 08/31 – 09/04	Why Interpersonal Communication Matters Barriers to Effective Communication	N/A
Week 3 09/07-09/11	Communication, Perception, and the Self	Test 1 – 09/10
Week 4 09/14 – 09/18	Communication and Culture	N/A
Week 5 09/21 – 09/25	Verbal Communication Public Speaking Tips	N/A
Week 6 09/28 – 10/02	Oral Presentation 1	Oral Presentation 1: 09/29 & 10/01
Week 7 10/05 – 10/09	Non-Verbal Communication	N/A
Week 8 10/12 – 10/16	Effective Listening Mid-Term Exam	Mid-Term Exam – 10/15
Week 9 10/19 – 10/23	Communication and Emotion	N/A
Week 10 10/26 – 10/30	Sharing Personal Information (Self-Disclosure)	Test 2 – 10/29
Week 11 11/02 – 11/06	Oral Presentation 2	Oral Presentation 2: 11/03 & 11/05

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 12 11/09 – 11/13	Conflict and Communication Relationships	N/A
Week 13 11/16-11/20	Oral Presentation 3	Oral Presentation 3: 11/17 & 11/19
Week 14 11/23-11/27	Review Thanksgiving Holiday: November 25 th – 29 th	N/A
Week 15 11/30 – 12/04	Review	N/A
FINALS	Final Exam	Tuesday, December 8 th at 8am