

Midland College
Syllabus
SPCH 1318
Interpersonal Communication
Fall S8 2026
SCH (3-0)

[BETTY CLEMENTS](#)

SPCH 1318 CW01

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Exhibit understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.
3. Identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural gender and age influences on human communication.
6. Demonstrate ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups.
7. Identify types of and barriers to effective listening.
8. Demonstrate personal responsibility by doing independent work and properly citing sources in presentations and papers.
9. Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication strategies.

The level of accomplishment of these outcomes will be assessed through written and oral examinations including term tests, reaction papers, oral presentations, midterm and final examinations.

Core Objectives

This course fulfills three hours of the Communications requirement in the Midland College Core Curriculum. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills, and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. The URL for the core Curriculum is [Midland College Core Curriculum](#) .

Communication courses present effective strategies that can improve communication to strengthen personal and workplace relationships. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Critical Thinking: The course implements strategic thinking in word choice and awareness of nonverbal message sending; in strengthening personal relationships; in developing and delivering effective presentations; and in offering feedback to other presenters so they can improve their presentations.

Communication: The course includes effective intrapersonal, interpersonal, group, interviewing, and public communication techniques that will improve communication. This is done through classroom discussion and exercises, research projects, writing, and presenting to the class.

Teamwork: Teamwork involves working and communicating with others to meet a specific goal. Students will learn effective teamwork strategies through group work in class exercises as well as a group project and presentation.

Personal responsibility: Students will demonstrate the ability to make ethical strategic choices in their communication. They will do original writing and research, participate in a group where they have responsibility for a part of the project, and present individually and with a group.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS (Text may vary)

Wrench, J.S., Punyanunt-Carter, N.M., Thweatt, K.S. (2023, 2020). *Interpersonal Communication-A Mindful Approach to Relationships*. SUNY New Paltz & SUNY Oswego via OpenSUNY. [eBook edition]. Mine Open Textbooks. [Interpersonal Communication - A Mindful Approach to Relationships \(Wrench et al.\) - Social Sci LibreTexts](#)

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Plagiarism is defined as the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own written work. A student commits plagiarism by doing any of the following:

1. Failing to acknowledge the sources of any information in a paper which is not either common knowledge or personal knowledge. A student can acknowledge a source through in-text citations, attribution lines, footnotes, or other forms of documentation approved by the instructor. (Common knowledge is the basic information within a field or discipline, as well as most historical dates and facts, and many ordinary observations.)

2. Failing to acknowledge direct quotation either by using quotation marks or (for longer passages) indentation. Without the quotation marks or block indentation, passages copied directly from a source might be considered plagiarized even if followed

by an in-text citation or a footnote. The citation or footnote acknowledges that there is a source, but it does not indicate that the writer has borrowed someone else's exact words. If a writer uses the language of a source, word-for word, he/she must use quotation marks or block indentation.

3. Merely paraphrasing the original words of the source. Some students think they can avoid a charge of plagiarism by changing a few words in each sentence they copy or by rearranging the shape of phrases or the order of sentences in a paragraph. This is not true. When taking notes students must be careful to put ideas in their own words or to use direct quotations when relying on phrases directly borrowed from a source.

4. Borrowing the ideas, examples, or structure of the source without acknowledging it. A student can be guilty of plagiarism by systematically borrowing the ideas and organization of a source and/or by using exactly the same ideas in the same order as they appear in the sourced article.

5. Taking, buying, or receiving a paper written by someone else and presenting it as the one's own.

6. Using one paper for two different courses, or re-using a paper previously submitted for credit, without the prior approval of the instructor or instructors.

7. Submitting AI writing as one's own. Using AI to write one's work or to aid in writing one's work is strictly prohibited and will result in a zero. The only acceptable use of AI is when the instructor has instructed students to use AI or has given approval for a specific use of AI.

Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on that assignment. Continued plagiarism may result in an F for the course.

COURSE POLICIES

COURSE SCHEDULE

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

DROP / WITHDRAWAL

The student is responsible for initiating a drop or withdrawal, not the instructor. Student should check the MC College Calendar for the last day to withdraw from the course and receive a "W." Please talk to the instructor before withdrawing.

The instructor is not able to withdraw a student from the course after the census date. A student wishing to withdraw must fill out the **withdrawal form in MyMCPortal**.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. For information and inquiries regarding Midland College's non-discrimination policies, go to:

[Midland College Title IX Information](#)

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact disabilities support services as soon as possible at:

[Midland College Accommodation Services](#)

Conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation. Accessibility Links can be found on the Pages tab in Canvas.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Name:

Email:

Office Location:

Office Phone:

Office Hours:

Department Chair: Dr. Amy Post-McCorkle

Division Dean, Fine Arts
and Communications: Dr. William Feeler

Secretary: Ms. Lula Lee

Division Office: 135 AFA

Phone: 432-685-4624

Division Office hours: 8-5, Monday-Friday