



**SPCH 1318.302CL**  
**Interpersonal Communication**  
**Spring 2024**

**Instructor Information:** Doreen Bridges, [dbridges@com.edu](mailto:dbridges@com.edu) 409-944-1401

**Student hours and location:** Tuesday and Thursday, 7:10 am – 8:30 am League City

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Beebe, S.A., Beebe, S.J., & Redmond, M.A. (2020)  
Interpersonal communication: Relating to others. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. 9th Edition

**Course Description:** This is a course in the theory and practice of human interaction, including the study of self-concept, perception, listening, creating and developing relationships, conflict management, as well as verbal and non-verbal communication. \*This course is a 3-credit hour semester course and is transferable.

**Course requirements:** SPCH 1318 (Interpersonal Communication) is based on a 1000-point system. Your final grade in this course is based on your performance in the following areas:

- Four quizzes (Blackboard)
- 9 assignments/activities (2 Brightspace/7 in-class)
- 1 mini-presentation (in class)
- Final film analysis presentation (in class)

***Special Project: A Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation***

- This assignment is worth 250 of your overall grades. The assignment provides Interpersonal Communication (IC) students with an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to identify, describe, and understand interpersonal theories, concepts, and principles. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender, and age influences on human communication.
- Students are to choose a major motion picture from the **APPROVED** list provided in class. After watching the movie, students are to identify at least 6-8 Interpersonal Communication (IC) concepts depicted in the movie. The objective is to demonstrate how each concept is portrayed in the film of choice.
- Students will also identify and explain the relevance of co-cultural, cross-cultural, gender, and age IC relationships portrayed in the films.
- Students will develop an argument in support of how the concept is illustrated in the movie, scene, and/or among the characters. Students are to teach and clarify concepts/theories, such as:
  - The concepts or theory's purpose and relevance to interpersonal communication and relationships.

- How this information can be applied to everyday life?
- Is the IC concept applied effectively or ineffectively?
- Elaborate and support their opinion.
- Evaluate the quality of the relationship(s) as it is demonstrated in the film.
- Students will demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, and applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments. A minimum of *one source* (i.e. an academic, peer-reviewed journal article) is *required*.
- The information will be presented in PowerPoint OR Prezi format.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:** Your grades for SPCH 1318 are based on a one thousand (1000) point system. Here is a grade tracking sheet - provided for you (below) to help you keep track of your scores and progress.

Assignments Point Your Grade	Points	Your Grade
<b>Quizzes</b>		
Quiz #1 (Ch. 1-3)	100	
Quiz #2 (Ch. 4-6)	100	
Quiz #3 (Ch. 7-9)	100	
Quiz #4 (Ch. 10-12)	100	
<b>Assignments</b>		
Self-Introduction	25	
Self-Fulfilling Activity	25	
Johari Window	25	
Personality Inventory	25	
Listening Activity	25	
Language Activity – Eras	25	
Assertive Communication	25	
Ch. 7 Nonverbal Assignment	25	
Ch. 8 Conflict Management Assignment	25	
<b>Presentation</b>		
Culture and Communication Presentation	125	
<b>Final Presentation</b>		
Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation with source(s)	250	
Extra Credit Assignments: There will be opportunities to gain extra credit during the semester.		
<b>TOTAL</b>	1000	

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Extra Credit Assignments: There will be opportunities to gain extra credit during the semester.

Grading Scale:

- A 895 – 1000 (Exceptional)
- B 795 – 894 (Above average)
- C 695 – 794 (Average)
- D 595 – 694 (Below Average)
- F 0 – 594 (Unacceptable)

*Course Schedule on pages 7-8*

However, Late Presentation Work may not be accepted. If late presentation work is accepted, a 50-point deduction will be applied for each class day the assignment is late. See the professor for further information.

Make-up quizzes are only given to those students who miss the scheduled date due to illness (appropriate documentation from a doctor is mandatory), the court (documentation from the judge is mandatory), death of a loved one (documentation in the form of an obituary, service pamphlet, or death certificate is mandatory), hospitalization (documentation from the hospital is mandatory), automobile accidents (documentation from the police report is necessary) and any other unforeseen circumstances that the professor may choose to excuse pending documentation.

**Attendance Policy:** *Regular class participation is expected!* A student CANNOT expect to pass this course without contributing to discussions and other assignments regularly. Students are expected to check their course messages a minimum of 1-2 times a week! In an online class, participation is considered attendance and will affect one’s progress in this course. If a student misses more than 4 classes, he/she places the successful completion of this course in jeopardy. I reserve the right to drop students after 4 missed classes.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

<b>Student Learner Outcome (SLO)</b>	<b>Criteria for Success</b>	<b>Means of Assessment</b>
1. Students will exhibit an understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation
2. Students will demonstrate an ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.	Critical Thinking (CT) & Communication Skills (CS3)	Quiz #3 and #4
3. Students will identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Quiz #1
4. Students will demonstrate critical thinking ability by effectively researching, evaluating, and applying communication theories in oral and/or written assignments.	Critical Thinking (CT) & Communication Skills (CS1)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender, and age influences on human communication.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation
6. Students will demonstrate an ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups.	Teamwork (TW)	Chapter 8 Conflict Management Scenarios
7. Students will identify types of and barriers to effective listening.	Communication Skills (CS2)	Quiz #2

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action. See Plagiarism Policy Below.

**Plagiarism:** The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

**COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND**  
**HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**  
**POLICY STATEMENT: PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. To plagiarize is to steal the words or ideas of another and pass them off as one's own. Two forms of plagiarism are common. In the first form, the writer incorporates published or otherwise recorded material without properly acknowledging its sources. In the second form, the writer submits work done by someone else. (The student who allows his/her work to be used by others is also guilty.)

**Any student who plagiarizes will receive a grade of “0” on his/her plagiarized work and may, as a result, receive a failing grade in the course.** Ignorance will not be an acceptable defense: all students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules of documentation.

Violation of the Plagiarism Policy may result in a referral to the College of the Mainland Judicial Coordinator or further disciplinary actions as stated in the current Student Handbook <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>.

Note: All work submitted to College of the Mainland ENGL, HUMA, or PHIL classes must conform to the documentation system established by the Modern Language Association (MLA). MLA documentation guidelines are distributed by your instructor, found in your textbook, or on reserve in the library (<http://library.com.edu/>). The documentation format in SPCH classes is up to the individual instructor. In this class, it will be APA and follow the appropriate system guidelines.

When using APA format, **follow the author-date method of in-text citation**. This means that the author's last name and the year of publication for the source should appear in the text, for example, (Jones, 1998), and a complete reference should appear in the reference list at the end of the paper.

1. You must document when you quote directly from another source.
2. You must document when you paraphrase words from another source.
3. You must document when you summarize ideas from another source.
4. You must document when you use facts (statistics in a chart or graph, for example) or visual material from another source.

Link(s) to resource(s) about ways to avoid plagiarism: <http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Brian Anderson, Humanities Department Chair, at 409- 933-8186, [banderson@com.edu](mailto:banderson@com.edu).

## Institutional Policies and Guidelines

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook [Student Handbook 2022-2023 v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students with the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center in the Administration Building #2.

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending COM is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is March 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 24. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is May 3.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer for you to meet your academic goals. You should also contact your instructor to discuss the referral. Dual Credit students' referrals are directed to your high school counselor.

**Resources to Help with Stress:**

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, and housing, or feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students Dr. Marita Esposito 409-933-8957.

**SPCH 1318 Tentative Course Overview Spring 2024**  
**(Please note that this schedule is subject to change.)**

#	WEEK	Agenda
1	January 17 Through Unit A	Course Information and Review Course Syllabus Ice Breaker Self-Introductions – <b>DEADLINE Jan. 22 at 11:59 pm</b>
	January 20	Lecture: Chapter 1 Assign Movie #1
2	January 23	Chapter 1 continued
	through January 27	Chapter 2 Self-fulfilling Activity – IN CLASS
3	January 30	Chapter 2 continued Introduce Johari Window
	through February 3	Johari Window Activity – IN CLASS
4	February 6	Lecture: Chapter 3
	through February 10	Chapter 3 continued Quiz #1 (Chapters 1-3) - <b>DEADLINE Feb. 12 at 11:59 pm</b>
<b>B</b>		
5	February 13	Lecture: Chapter 4 Introduce Mini-presentation assignment
	through February 17	Chapter 4 continued Personality Inventory - <b>DEADLINE Feb. 26 at 11:59 pm</b>
6	February 18	Mini presentation on Culture - IN CLASS Assign Movie #2
	through February 25	Lecture: Chapter 5 Listening Activity – IN CLASS
7	February 26	Lecture: Chapter 6 Language Activity (Eras) – IN CLASS
	through March 3	Chapter 6 continued Assertive Communication Activity – IN CLASS Quiz #2 – <b>DEADLINE March 5th at 11:59 pm</b>
<b>C</b>		
8	March 4	Lecture: Chapter 7 Nonverbal Activity – IN CLASS
	through March 10	Continue Chapter 7
March 11-15		SPRING BREAK
9	March 18 through	Lecture: Chapter 8 Assign Conflict Management Activity
	March 24	Continue Chapter 8 Conflict Management Activity – IN CLASS
10	March 25	Assign Movie #3 Lecture: Chapter 9
	through March 31	Chapter 9 continued Quiz #3 – <b>DEADLINE April 2 at 11:59 pm</b>
<b>D</b>		

<b>11</b>	April 1 through April 7	Assign and Discuss IC Movie Select Movie and Order Lecture: Chapter 10
<b>12</b>	April 8 through April 14	Continue Chapter 10 Lecture 11
<b>13</b>	April 15 through April 21	Lecture 12 Complete all lectures Quiz #4 – <b>DEADLINE April 21 at 11:59 PM</b>
<b><i>You must be present for classmates' presentations or you lose points from yours!</i></b>		
<b>14</b>	April 23 And April 25	Presenters 1-4 Presenters 5-9
<b>15</b>	April 30 May 5	Presenters 10-14 Presenters 15-19
<b>16</b>	May 7 May 9	Presenters 20-25- Final Presenters Final Presenters <i>Last official day of class is May 10th</i>