



**SPCH 1318.101C1  
Interpersonal Communication  
Fall 2024**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 11:00 am – 12:20 pm**

**Instructor Information:** Juliana H. Garcia ♦ Email: jgarcia37@com.edu ♦ (409) 933-8314

**Office hours and location:** Suite B LRC – Room #234

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	9:00 am – 11:00 am		9:00 am – 11:00 am	By Appointment
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm		12:30 pm – 1:30 pm		

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

**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 it is transferable.

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

- Four (4) activities
- Three (3) Discussion Threads
- Four (4) Concept Slides
- Professionalism
- Participation
- Final Film with Article Analysis Presentations

**Professionalism:** All students are required to be respectful of everyone in the classroom (*professor included*). The following actions will negatively impact the student’s grade:

- Being consistently tardy or leaving early
- Walking in during speech presentations
- Using the cellphone during class
- Talking during lectures or presentations
- Using offensive language towards others
- Being unprepared for class
- Etc. (*other unprofessional behaviors will be discussed in class*)

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

- This assignment is worth 350 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 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 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 of the 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.
  - Evaluate the quality of the relationship(s) as it is demonstrated in the film.
  - What impact did the concept/theory have on a particular character and/or relationship from the movie?
  - How can this information be applied to everyday life?
  - Elaborate and support their opinion.
- 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. A grade tracking sheet has been provided for you (see below) to help you keep track of scores and progress.

<b>Assignments:</b>	<b>Points:</b>
<b>Activities:</b>	
Activity #1	25
Activity #2	25
Activity #3	25
Activity #4	25
<b>Discussion Threads:</b>	
Unit A Discussion Thread	100
Unit B Discussion Thread	100
Unit C Discussion Thread	100
<b>Concept Slides:</b>	
Unit A Concept Slide	25
Unit B Concept Slide	25

Unit C Concept Slide #1	25
Unit C Concept Slide #2	25
<b>Misc.</b>	
Professionalism	50
Participation	100
<b>Final Presentation:</b>	
Final Film with Article Analysis Presentation	350
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

**Grading Scale:**

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

**Make-Up Policy:**

**The opportunity to make up a missed assignment is left to the professor’s discretion.** All major assignments MUST be submitted through D2L. Failure to do so will result in losing 30% (or more) of the assignment grade.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is vital and mandatory! Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Aside from military service and religious holidays, absences in college courses are not defined as “excused” or “unexcused”.

Dual credit and collegiate high school students will be counted as absent if they do not attend class due to high school extracurricular activities (i.e., sports, fields trips, etc.) as they will be held to the same standards as all students.

Students are allowed to miss three (3) classes for the entire semester. After reaching the limit, a full letter grade will be deducted from the student’s semester average for each additional absence. For example, if a student’s semester average is 92% (A) and the student has missed a total of five (5) classes for the semester, the final semester grade will be a 72% (C).

Excessive absences can easily eat away at your semester average, so avoid skipping class and reserve these absences in case a personal issue arises.

Please note: the professor reserves the right to drop a student from the course. If, however, it becomes the student’s decision to not continue in the course, the normal procedure for dropping a course should be followed by the student. Remember, it is not the professor’s responsibility to initiate the withdrawal in such a case and failure to do so by the student may result in an “F”. All students should familiarize themselves with the posted “W” Day cutoff. It is the student’s responsibility to withdraw from a class. If a student simply stops participating in the class and does not officially withdraw before “W Day”, it will result in

receiving an F in the course. This is the easiest way to fail a course and the most preventable. Mark your calendars for this semester's "W-Day"!

**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</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Students will exhibit understanding of interpersonal theories and principles.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation
2. Students will demonstrate ability to analyze and critique verbal and nonverbal interactions in mediated and face-to-face contexts.	Critical Thinking (CT) & Communication Skills (CS3)	Nonverbal Communication Assignment
3. Students will identify perceptual processes as they relate to self and others.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation
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 With Academic Journal Article PowerPoint Presentation
5. Students will demonstrate understanding of the relevance of cross-cultural, co-cultural, gender and age influences on human communication.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Discussion Thread
6. Students will demonstrate ability to identify, evaluate, and apply conflict styles and conflict management techniques in dyads and/or groups	Teamwork (TW)	Conflict Management Scenarios
7. Students will identify types of and barriers to effective listening.	Communication Skills (CS2)	Final Film Analysis PowerPoint Presentation

**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 appropriate discipline action.

**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.

**Course outline:** See page 7

---

## **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 [https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2024-2025\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf). *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 the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through 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

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland 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 October 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 26.

**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 in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**Resources to Help with Stress:**

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just 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 office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:**

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.

**SPCH 1318 Tentative Course Overview  
Fall 2024**

*(Please note that this schedule is subject to change.)*

<b>Units:</b>	<b>Agenda:</b>	
<p><b>Unit A</b></p> <p>Aug. 19</p> <p>-</p> <p>Sept. 2</p>	<p>Course Information Ice Breaker Introduce Final Film Analysis <b>Movie: <i>Spanglish</i> (2004)</b> <u>Concepts/Theories:</u> - Self-Awareness - Transactional Communication - Maslow’s Hierarchy Theory of Needs - The Self (concept/esteem) - Personality (OCEAN) - Attachment Styles - Life Positions - Attitudes, Values, Beliefs</p>	<p align="center"><b>Must watch the movie: <i>Spanglish</i> (2004)</b></p> <p align="center"><u>D2L Assignments:</u> Activity #1 - Self-Awareness Profile - <b>25 pts</b> Activity #2 – Attitudes, Beliefs, Values – <b>25 pts</b> Unit A Discussion Thread – <b>100 pts</b> Unit A Concept Slide – <b>25 pts</b> <b>DUE DATE:</b></p>
<p><b>Unit B</b></p> <p>Sept. 2</p> <p>-</p> <p>Sept. 16</p>	<p><u>Concepts/Theories:</u> - Perception - Impression Formation Theory - Implicit Personality Theory - Uncertainty Reduction Theory - Halo/Horn Effect - Intercultural Communication - Culture - Ethnocentrism - Diversity - Communication Accommodation</p>	<p align="center"><b>Select a Movie from the Approved List</b></p> <p align="center"><u>D2L Assignments:</u> Activity #3 – Submit movie selection form – <b>25 pts</b> Unit B Discussion Thread – <b>100 pts</b> Unit B Concept Slide – <b>25 pts</b> <b>DUE DATE:</b></p>
<p><b>Unit C</b></p> <p>Sept. 16</p> <p>-</p> <p>Sept. 30</p>	<p><u>Concepts/Theories:</u> - Nonverbal Communication - Conflict Management - Family - Parenting Styles - Social Exchange Theory - Deception - Triangular Theory of Love - Love Languages</p>	<p align="center"><u>D2L Assignments:</u> Activity #4 – Submit article selection form – <b>25 pts</b> Unit C Discussion Thread – <b>100 pts</b> Unit C Concept Slide #1 – <b>25 pts</b> Unit C Concept Slide #2 – <b>25 pts</b> <b>DUE DATE:</b></p>
<p><b>Unit D</b></p> <p>Sept. 30</p> <p>-</p> <p>Oct. 10</p>	<p><u>Workshop and Presentations:</u> - PowerPoint - Presentation/Delivery Requirements</p>	<p align="center"><b>Final Film Analysis with Academic Journal Article Presentations – 350 pts</b></p>