

CMST 1545 - Communication Foundations

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 55, CRN 40446,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Molly Burdette

Email: mmburdette@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Ms. Molly Burdette

Instructor Professional Qualifications: MBA, Youngstown State University; Graduate Certificate in Instructional Communication, Youngstown State University; MSED, Youngstown State University; BA, Psychology, Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: Meshel Room 108

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-2052

Instructor Email: mmburdette@ysu.edu

Course Description

1545. Communication Foundations. Theories, strategies, and skills for competent participation in interpersonal, group, and public communication situations. Application exercises in interpersonal, group, and public communication. Prereq.: ENGL 1549 or ENGL 1550. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Experience Communication (Looseleaf) - With Connect, 3rd edition	Child, Jeffrey	9781266162701

Publisher: McGraw Hill

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25			First Day sheets Orientation to course Student Introductions ALL unit quizzes active (8/2 5@8am) Click into Connect Introduction Speeches
Thu	8/27	• Chapter 1 Comm., Perception and Your Life		Introduction Speeches
Tue	9/1	• Chapter 9 Topic Selection and Aud. Analysis		Intro Inform Speech Review speech eval form
Thu	9/3	• Chapter 13 Public Presentations to Inform		Analyze sample speeches
Tue	9/8	• Chapter 10 Organizing your Presentation		See sample outlines on BB
Thu	9/10	• Chapter 11 Gathering Information and Supporting Materials		
Tue	9/15	• Chapter 2 Communicating Verbally		Informative Audience Analysis DUE
Thu	9/17	• Chapter 3 Communicating Nonverbally		
Tue	9/22	• Chapter 12 Comm. Apprehension and Delivery		Informative Outline DUE



Thu	9/24	• Chapter 14 Public Presentations to Persuade	Introduce the Persuasive Speech
Tue	9/29	• Chapter 4 Communicating Through Listening	
Thu	10/1		Informative Speech DUE
Tue	10/6		Informative Speech DUE
Thu	10/8		Informative Speech DUE
Tue	10/13	• Chapter 8 Small- Group Communication	Informative Speech Peer Assessment Due Intro Group Assignment Introduce the Individual Group RTM
Thu	10/15	• Chapter 5 Interpersonal Communication	Persuasive Audience Analysis- DUE
Tue	10/20	• Chapter 6 Intercultural Communication	Individual Group RTM DUE Persuasive Outline DUE
Thu	10/22	• Chapter 7 Mediated Communication	GROUP MEETING
Tue	10/27		Persuasive Speech DUE Group RTM DUE
Thu	10/29		Persuasive Speech - DUE
Tue	11/3		Persuasive Speech - DUE
Thu	11/5	• Chapter 15 Using Comm to Enter the Workplace	
Tue	11/10		GROUP WORK
Thu	11/12		GROUP WORK
Tue	11/17		GROUP WORK
Thu	11/19		Group Project (Outline and Speech)
Tue	11/24		GROUP WORK
Thu	11/26		Happy Thanksgiving!
Tue	12/1		Individual Group Critique- DUE
Thu	12/10		All quizzes must be Completed by 12/10 by 11:59pm Final survey completed by 12/10 at 11:59pm

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.