



Course: Wildlife Management and Wildlife Management Lab

Course Number & Section: BIOL 4423_001; BIOL 4423_01L (4 credits)

Instructor: Tara Korzekwa, MSc. **Email:** tara.korzekwa@tamusa.edu **Office:** STEM 311Z

Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11AM – 1PM; before/after class; by appointment; feel free to email me!

Meeting times: Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00-10:50 AM; Fridays from 10:00AM – 1:45PM

Location: Face-to-Face in STEM 141 on Mondays and Wednesdays; CAB 310 on Fridays unless noted differently for field trips (see schedule); occasional virtual meetings may occur and will be posted through Blackboard Announcements and sent through Jagwire Email.

Lab: MUST BE ENROLLED IN BIOL 4423_01L LAB CONCURRENTLY.

REQUIRED COURSE PREREQUISITE: BIOL 3407 Ecology.

REQUIRED Material:

Blackboard: This is where you will go for lecture notes, assignment submission links, grades, and weekly announcements. Power-point/PDF versions of lectures and labs will be posted on Blackboard, if applicable; Announcements regarding lectures or labs may be posted on Blackboard; Grades for individual assignments/labs etc... will be posted on Blackboard as we go along.

You!: Wildlife Management is a discipline that revolves around working with people and being outside. Therefore, your presence during each class and especially lab (field trips) is key to getting most out of this class. It is also important to keep an open mind and think about the Big Picture. *As juniors and seniors, you are expected to be able to manage your time appropriately and keep a calendar* (I recommend Google Calendar or an old fashioned paper planner).

Lab: Old-fashioned notebook that you can take outside with you (this is a spiral notebook or similar. You might not want to take an electronic notebook/tablet in the field with you). All field trips and most outdoor labs will require you to wear outdoor attire (pants, closed-toes shoes you can walk longer distances in, hat, sunscreen, water bottle).

Recommended Material:

Textbook: Introduction to Wildlife Management (The Basics) by Paul R. Krausman. Publisher: Pearson. ISBN-13: 9780132808507

You are also **HIGHLY** encouraged to work off of a computer or laptop with audio/microphone as a phone does not have the capacity to run some of the virtual material. If you need a computer or wi-fi, please contact IT directly for assistance. IT contact information can be found in the Table of Contents in Blackboard as well as the University website. Furthermore, computer labs on campus are open and available to you! Finally, it is up to the student to have a **stable internet/browser connection** when conducting any online coursework.

Catalog Description

BIOL 4423. Wildlife Management 4 (3-3-0)

This course introduces the student to the fundamental components that are involved in wildlife management. We will approach the study of wildlife management by reviewing important ecological principles, understand the significance of conservation in wildlife management, and identify how various management efforts may be



applied for sustainable wildlife populations. With laboratory section. TSI Restriction(s): Reading, Math, and Writing.

Learning Objectives:

1. To introduce students to local and regional wildlife species and to develop expertise in wildlife identification.
2. Learn common field techniques used by wildlife managers, including camera trapping, radio telemetry, tracking, and population estimation.
3. Gain experience collecting data and researching the best available science to present results and management action for a given species.
4. Learn how to write simple biological assessments (management plans) that can be applied in future wildlife management jobs.
5. Understand the variety of challenges facing wildlife today.

Grading and Methods of Assessment:

Knowledge and understanding will be assessed through lecture exams, a laboratory practical, participation effort in both lecture and lab including field trips; understanding and application will be assessed with an oral and written group management plan and presentation. Lecture is worth 75% and Lab is worth 25% of the final grade.

The final grade will be determined as follows for Lecture:

Lecture Exams	2 at 100pts = 200 pts
Group Management Plan (Document)	= 40 pts
Group Management Plan Oral Presentation	= 60pts
Pioneer in Wildlife Portfolio	= 20 pts
Participation in Group Discussions, etc.	= 10 pts
	330 pts total

The final grade will be determined as follows for Lab:

Laboratory Practical	= 50 pts
Field Trip Attendance	4 at 10pts each = 40 pts
Field Trip Reflection/Notebook	4 at 10pts each = 40 pts
On-campus Laboratory Attendance	8 at 5pts each = 40 pts
	170 pts total

Grading:

I will not be scaling exams or assignments during the course of the semester regardless of the average. Throughout the semester, you will be informed of your grade standing. Grades will be posted on Blackboard.

Grade Scheme:

- 90 – 100 = A
- 80 - 89 = B
- 70 - 79 = C
- 60 - 69 = D
- <59.5 = F

I will consider scaling up from a B to an A if you have earned an **89.7 and** you have great attendance. I will *not* scale up from a B to an A (regardless of your attendance) if you have earned an 89.1%, that is a B through and through.



Essay Exams: There will be two essay exams (100 points each) that will cover Unit 1 and Unit 2 lecture material. You will be required to discuss material application to the wildlife management field.

Laboratory Practical (50 points): There will be a laboratory practical towards the end of the semester (see Lab Schedule) that will require you to identify common Texas wildlife species, wildlife surveying techniques/equipment, habitat management application and any other material discussed in the lab handouts and lab/field time throughout the semester.

Laboratory Field Trips: There are four (4) scheduled Friday field trips occurring during lab time (see schedule) worth 10 points each. Because wildlife management typically occurs in the field, the goal of these field trips are to incorporate real-world on-the-ground learning opportunities. I will work with all of you to make sure everyone can complete the field trip requirement for the class. Please do not schedule work or other activities during this timeslot; we will be doing many outdoor labs that require driving to field locations so this time will be needed! Locations for field trips or outdoor work *may* include:

1. Campus
 2. Government Canyon
 3. San Antonio River
 4. Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
 5. San Antonio Zoo
 6. Kendalia Wildlife Rescue
 7. Phil Hardberger Park
 8. Other local locations may arise during the semester
- Students will need to provide their own transportation to off-campus locations (individual or carpool). We will do this during the Friday lecture time-slot (10:00-10:50AM) with field trips beginning promptly at 11AM. If you are late, you have forfeited the field trip since we are coordinating with other entities; therefore, do not take this time to grab lunch. Any potential student entry fee will be covered.
 - Weekend field trips may be added, if necessary. If you do not have a way to get to field trips, please let the instructor know so we can arrange accommodations as soon as possible.
 - Field trip information, documents, locations, etc. will be provided prior to the scheduled trip. All field trips will be outdoors and will require some hiking and standing. Please be sure to adhere to the outdoor attire description on the first page. There may be the potential for kayaking.

Laboratory Notebook and Reflection Papers: It will be very handy to keep a notebook throughout the semester where you can write down your field observations and instructor/wildlife professional comments. It is *highly recommended that the notebook is not electronic* since we will be outside. Information from field trips may be included on the laboratory practical. After each of the four Friday field trips, you will be required to write up a reflection paper on the field trip's purpose/objectives and wildlife management application (10 points each). These will be due on the Sunday following the field trip (2-day turnaround) via Blackboard. Additional information will be provided on Blackboard.

Laboratory Exercises: There will be 8 regular laboratory exercises that we will conduct during lab time. Each exercise will coincide with lecture and will be worth 5 attendance points each (40 total points). I will award students the full 40 points on the first lab meeting, and then deduct from there, if applicable. Wildlife Management is a very hands-on field; therefore, your attendance is important! Lab handouts will be provided on Blackboard prior to lab.

Pioneers of Wildlife Portfolio (20 points): As part of Unit 1: Introduction to Wildlife Management, you and a partner will research an important pioneer (historical figure) of wildlife management and prepare a 3-5 minute presentation on their life and contribution to the field. Instructions and pioneer choices will be provided



during the first lab meeting. Presentations *will occur randomly* during lecture the following week as we discuss the history of wildlife management.

Wildlife Management Plan (40 points) and Oral Presentation (60 points): You will form a group of 4 at the beginning of the semester and this will be your wildlife management plan working group. Each topic discussed and skills you learn during lecture and lab can be incorporated into a wildlife management plan; therefore, your group will work all semester together writing a management plan in the form of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's 1-D-1 Tax Evaluation Program with a focus on urban wildlife management: our growing university. At the end of the semester in lieu of a final exam, your group will present your wildlife management plan to the class and potentially invited guests for feedback (i.e. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Bexar County Biologist, Biology Program Professors, etc.). You will also submit a hardcopy of your management plan on Blackboard. Additional information, grading rubrics, etc. will be provided on Blackboard at the beginning of the semester.

Participation in Class Discussion: During class, I will note your contributions to our conversations on weekly topics. You do not have to comment every class period, but you should make multiple comments throughout the semester. There will also be the potential for guest speakers during our lecture classes to share their wildlife profession with us. Your attendance during guest lecturers will be documented.

****HINTS FOR SUCCESS.** Complete assignments and submit them in on time. Do not wait until the night before to study for exam or complete assignment. All assessments are provided with plenty of completion time.

1. A student must master 70% of the competencies in order to receive credit for the course. A student demonstrating 90% or more knowledge of all competencies will receive an A in the course.
2. There will be several activities that are conducted during class time and/or outside with either in-class and/or online submissions. It is important to read the instructions!
3. All exams will be Face-to-Face during scheduled class time. Please see the syllabus schedule.
4. All exams and assignments will be graded on a point system.
5. All exams and assignments are scheduled on the tentative syllabus schedule and Blackboard Calendar.
6. You may turn assignments in ahead of the deadline, but if you miss the deadline, your assignment will be assigned a zero. I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK.
7. There is the *potential* for extra credit opportunities for this class. These will be announced during class time so be sure to attend class regular because not all can be made up. Extra credit will be up to the instructor's discretion.
8. Exams and all other in-person practicals/presentations/assignments must be taken when scheduled.
 - You may make up an assessment, etc. only if
 - you contact me within one day (24-hours) of the scheduled exam
 - your absence is one approved by college policies (illness, death in the family, other immediate-family emergencies). Documentation will be required.
 - Again – if I do not hear from you within 24 hours of the scheduled assessment, you have forfeited the right to make up the assessment.

Attendance / Participation:

This is a face-to-face course; therefore, actually coming to class is important. I will randomly take attendance during some lecture days, which can consist of roll call, activity participation, question of the day submissions,



etc. Therefore, if you miss class and attendance is taken, you have forfeited any attendance points for that day unless you provide a university-excused absence documentation (per the syllabus). *As juniors and seniors, you are expected to be able to manage your time appropriately and keep a calendar* (I recommend Google Calendar or an old fashioned paper planner).

Makeup Policies:

Due to the nature of this course and the fact that exams and all other assessments are given plenty notice and/or are open for more than one week, make-up opportunities will only be allowed for:

- a. Hospitalization (evidence required),
- b. Hospitalization of an immediate family for which you are the primary caretaker (evidence required), or
- c. Incapacitating illness, such as COVID (evidence required).

If any of the above have prevented you from turning in exams and assignments by the due date, you must contact me within 24 hours of the due date. **Due dates for anything assigned will be strictly enforced.**

Laboratory Attendance Policy - Laboratory courses are unique to your education in that they will provide you with hands-on opportunities to gain the skills and critical thinking processes inherent to the study of biology. For these reasons, we have a strict departmental attendance policy:

- Attendance is **mandatory**.
- **If you miss more than 3 labs for whatever reason (excused or not), the maximum score you can earn for the laboratory section of a course is 50%.**
- If you miss a lab section for a university excused absence, you may attempt to make up the lab in another lab section (if another section is available) if the following criteria are met and directions followed: *a) the absence is considered a university excused absence and was determined to be one by your primary instructor, b) you must contact via e-mail both your instructor and the instructor of the section you would like to attend, and c) you must receive written confirmation that you are able to make up the lab. If you do not receive written confirmation, you will not be allowed to make up the lab.*

Tardiness is not acceptable. I will start class exactly on time. If you arrive late, *you are responsible for the material that you have missed*, and you will not be disruptive so that the other students are distracted from learning the material. Additionally, it will be *up to my discretion* whether to allow you the opportunity to complete any assignments that have already been administered.

Blackboard and Course Communication

All grades and assignments will be posted and accessible through the course's Blackboard site. Students must log-in regularly to both the Blackboard site and to their TAMU-SA email account to keep updated on information related to the class. Each student MUST have an active TAMU-SA email account. This will be the email address that is used for any communication between me and you. Students who e-mail me Monday-Thursday ordinarily can expect a response within 48 hours. Students who e-mail Friday-Sunday ordinarily can expect a response by 9:00 PM on Monday.

Use of Generative AI Permitted Under Some Circumstances or With Explicit Permission

There are situations and contexts within this course where you may be asked to use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to explore how they can be used. Outside of those circumstances, you should not use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any student work (assignments, activities,



discussion responses, etc.) that is part of your evaluation in this course. Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate with attribution what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, students should reach out to their instructor for clarification before submitting work for grading. Use of AI-generated content without the instructor's permission and/or proper attribution in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

NOTE: Guidance for how to cite AI-generators, like ChatGPT, can be found here <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

1. **Attendance:** Regular and punctual attendance in all classes and laboratories, day and evening, is required. Students who are absent for any reason should always consult with their instructors prior to absence (if possible). Both tardiness and early departure from class may be considered forms of absenteeism. A student may be dropped if there are excessive absences. Review the college policies on attendance and excessive absences as stated in the college catalog.
2. **Students will need to check their emails daily in case of changes or updates to the class.**
3. A student absent for the equivalence of **2 weeks** of classes may be automatically dropped from the course with a "W".
4. The instructor will only withdraw students for nonattendance until the official Withdrawal Date. Students who have not withdrawn themselves or requested withdrawal by the instructor, and stop attending class after this date will receive a performance grade (A/B/C/D/F).
5. It is not the instructor's responsibility to provide a student with any notes, assignments, or reviews missed due to student absence. All materials may be obtained by contacting the instructor during office hours, getting with a classmate, and/or downloaded from your Blackboard course. All material for the course is located on Blackboard.
6. **Email Etiquette:** Professional email etiquette is a requirement when communicating with me (or anyone) online. A proper greeting (e.g. Mrs. Korzekwa, Professor Korzekwa, Hello Mrs. Korzekwa, etc.) with a coherent message needs to be included with every email sent to me. **Emails that do not satisfy these conditions will be ignored. *Please do not write emails as you would text or include the entire email body in the subject heading, and please be respectful to all.***
7. **Assessments:** All chapter homework, quizzes, and assignments are due Sunday by midnight on the Blackboard website. You are encouraged to get ahead on assignments. Once the deadline has passed, your score will be zero with no make-up opportunity if it has not been completed, unless your instructor states differently. Blackboard will have a calendar displaying when all assignments and exams are due. It is the student's responsibility to frequently check this calendar. Finally, it is up to the student to have a **stable internet/browser connection** when conducting online assignments. Feel free to utilize the campus or contact IT for assistance.
8. **Grades:** All grades are final at the end of the semester. If there is an issue, please make an appointment with me and be prepared to defend your case (i.e. bring ALL assignments, etc.).
9. **Studying Tips:** In college, it is expected that for every credit hour you spend in class, you spend 3 hours working on that material at home. Thus, in the class, it is expected that in addition to coming to class, you also spend 9 hours a week on outside work pertaining to this class. This of course takes time-management skills. **Please take this into consideration when planning your semester activities.**



10. **Laptops and Cell Phones:** If you are going to use your laptop for taking notes, please sit in the back row as research has shown computers disrupt others around and behind you. If I catch you doing something other than taking notes on your computer, you will be asked to leave. ALL cell phones must be placed on silent or off and put away during class time. If you are caught using a cell phone then you will be marked absent and possibly asked to leave the class. Please inform me prior to class if you are expecting an emergency notification. ***Since some assessments are online, you are HIGHLY encouraged to work off of a computer or laptop with audio/microphone. Please coordinate with IT and feel free to use the campus resources such as computer labs, as needed.**
11. **Questions:** Wildlife Management is an exciting discipline in the sciences, and one that I really enjoy teaching (it is my passion)! If you have any questions over the content, email me!



<i>TENTATIVE</i> COURSE SCHEDULE			
*Note: Lecture topics may be switched around, as needed.			
*All Exams will be given <u>face-to-face during class time</u> on the dates indicated below. <u>LATE SUBMISSIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.</u>			
Lecture		Lab	Notes
Monday	Wednesday	Friday*	
		*Friday Labs will begin at 10AM in CAB 310 instead of the normal lecture classroom unless noted.	
8/26 Syllabus & Intro	8/28 Wildlife Mgmt. Intro	8/30 Safety, Syllabus/Schedule, Field Trip Expectations, Pioneers of Wildlife Assignment	In CAB 310.
9/2 Labor Day: No Class! *Have your Pioneers in Wildlife Portfolio ready by Wed.! *	9/4 Pioneers of Wildlife & Laws *Pioneers in Wildlife Portfolio*	9/6 Bobwhite Quail Necropsy: Understanding the species you are managing.	In CAB 310.
9/9 Pioneers of Wildlife & Laws/1D1 Mgmt. Plan Intro *Pioneers in Wildlife Portfolio*	9/11 Leopold & 5 Tools	9/13 Government Canyon Field Trip: Conservation/Preservation & Prescribed Fire <u>*Please arrive to location at 10:30AM*</u> Reflection Paper Due Sun., 9/15 @ 11:59PM	*Bring field notebook, <u>water</u> , hiking attire including appropriate shoes, snack(s). <u>It will be hot!</u>
9/16 1D1 Mgmt. Plan Intro / North American Model of Wildlife Mgmt.	9/18 1D1 Mgmt. Plan Intro /North American Model of Wildlife Mgmt.	9/20 Mitchell Lake Field Trip: Conservation/Preservation & General Surveying (focus=birds) <u>*Please arrive to location at 10:30AM*</u> Reflection Paper Due Sun., 9/22 @ 11:59PM	*Bring field notebook, water, hiking attire including appropriate shoes, snack(s).
9/23 Exam 1	9/25 Population Dynamics	9/27 Run For Your Life Activity & Population Dynamics Activity (Aging deer jaws and age/antler data with mgmt. application)	Will occur both in CAB 310 and outside on campus.
9/30 Habitat 101: 5 major components	10/2 Habitat 101: 5 major components/Wildlife Techniques Intro	10/4 Mitchell Lake Field Trip: Native Plants & Wildlife Tracking <u>*Please arrive to location at 10:30AM*</u> Reflection Paper Due Sun., 10/6 @ 11:59PM	*Bring field notebook, water, hiking attire including appropriate shoes, snack(s).



10/7 Habitat & Wildlife Techniques	10/9 Habitat & Wildlife Techniques: Soils & Watersheds	10/11 Soil & Watershed Mapping & DIY Rainfall Simulator Construction	Will occur in CAB 310.
10/14 Habitat & Wildlife Techniques: Urban Wildlife	10/16 Habitat & Wildlife Techniques/Urban Wildlife/Conflicts	10/18 San Antonio River Authority (SARA) Mission Reach Tour <u>Field Trip</u> (possibly via kayak) <i><u>*Please arrive to location at 10:30AM*</u></i> Reflection Paper Due Sun., 10/20 @ 11:59PM	*Bring field notebook, water, proper attire including appropriate shoes, light change of clothes, snack(s).
10/21 Human – Wildlife Conflicts / Diseases	10/23 Exam 2	10/25 Habitat Evaluation Activity	*Bring field notebook, water, proper outdoor attire (will be on campus).
10/28 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	10/30 GPS/Mapping Overview	11/1 GPS/Mapping Overview & Game Camera Set-up on campus	Will occur both in CAB 310 and outside on campus.
11/4 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	11/6 Set-up CSI Scent Station at Cameras on campus	11/8 Game Camera Take-down & being analysis	Will occur both in CAB 310 and outside on campus.
11/11 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	11/13 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	11/15 Lab Practical / Camera Analysis after practical completion	In CAB 310.
11/18 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	11/20 <i>Applied Wildlife Mgmt.:</i> Jobs, Organizations, Hobbies, Citizen Science, etc./Student’s Choice	11/22 Camera Analysis / Mgmt. Plan Workday	In CAB 310.



11/25 Mgmt. Plan Workday	11/27 Study Day – No Class!	11/29 Thanksgiving Holiday!	Enjoy! (but prep your plan!)
12/2 Management Plan Presentations (in-class)	12/4 Management Plan Presentations (in-class)	12/6 Study Day – No Class! *Hardcopy (PDF) Mgmt. Plan submitted on Blackboard by 11:59PM	



IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Academic Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us <https://www.tamusa.edu/Disability-Support-Services/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

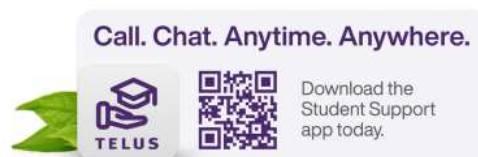
Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information on SCC services visit tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').

Additionally, the TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including support for in the moment distress, an anonymous peer to peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.



Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/emergency-management/>.



Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/>.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE referral (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots' Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.



Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.



Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and pregnancy/parenting or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty, and administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, [Student Code of Conduct](#), on our website, and University Catalog, and to comply with them, as well as with federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notifications.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or disability. Conduct that infringes on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student-rights-and-responsibilities/documents/Student-Handbook-2022-23.pdf>) or visit the resources available in the OSRR website (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-integrity.html>).



Important Dates:

August 26	First day of class
September 2	Labor Day Holiday
November 11	Last day to drop with an automatic "W"
November 19	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
November 27	Study Day – No classes
November 28-30	Thanksgiving Holiday – No classes
December 5	Last day of classes
December 6	Study Day – No classes
December 7-13	Final exams

The complete academic calendar is available online: <https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>.