



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

CSCI 4406-001, **Computer Networks**, Fall 2023, CRN: 11226
CSCI 4406-60L, **Computer Networks Lab**, Fall 2023, CRN: 11702

Department of Computing and Cyber Security, College of Business
Course Syllabus

Modality: **F2F**
Class Meeting Time and Place: **R** 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm (Class) y: Online - Synchronous
T 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm (Lab) Modality: **Online - Synchronous**

Class Duration: 08/24 - 12/13
Instructor: Dr. Izzat Alsmadi
Office: STEM 211 F (Online)

E-Mail: ialsmadi@tamusa.edu
Student emails will receive a reply within two business days.

Course Website: <https://tamusa.blackboard.com/>

Office Hours :
T 3:30 pm - 07:00 pm
R 05-07 pm

Catalog Course Description:

CSCI4406: This course covers subjects related to computer networks including TCP/IP and OSI models, network applications, distributed systems and an introduction to network security. The course focuses on concepts, principles and technologies that enable the use of current computer networks and protocols. Prerequisites: CSCI 2436, CSCI 3321, and MATH 3340.

Course Objectives: The objective of the course is:

- To learn basic knowledge of networking technologies and network management concepts
- To understand the layering concepts in computer networks (OSI).
- To analyze the functions of each layer (OSI) and gain knowledge in different applications that use computer networks.
- To emphasize the hand-on experience of network topology, analysis in a laboratory environment

- To be familiar with contemporary issues in networking technologies

Specific topic coverage includes:

- Introduction to Networking
- How Computers Find Each Other on Networks
- How Data Is Transported Over Networks
- Structured Cabling and Networking Elements
- Network Cabling
- Wireless Networking
- Cloud Computing and Remote Access
- Network Risk Management
- Unified Communications and Network Performance Management
- Network Segmentation and Virtualization
- Wide Area Networks
- Industrial and Enterprise Networking

AACSB Assessment:

The College of Business is in the process of applying for AACSB accreditation. As part of that process, students will be assessed on program level outcomes based on course outcomes from various courses. The materials from this course may be used for assessing such program level outcomes, and hence students must follow the necessary rigor to ensure mastery and retention of the above course outcomes.

ABET Assessment:

The Department of Computing and Cyber Security is in the process of applying for ABET accreditation for the bachelor's program in Computer Science. As part of that process, students will be assessed on course and program level outcomes based on various courses. The materials from this course may be used for assessing such program level outcomes, and hence students are required to follow appropriate guidelines for submission of course work, as well as the necessary rigor to ensure mastery and retention of the course outcomes. More specifically, the ABET outcomes measured for the course are:

Student Outcomes: Graduates of the program will have an ability to:

1. Analyze a complex computing problem and to apply principles of computing and other relevant disciplines to identify solutions.
2. Design, implement, and evaluate a computing-based solution to meet a given set of computing requirements in the context of the program's discipline.

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- To understand the organization of computer networks, factors influencing computer network development and the reasons for having variety of different types of networks.
- To contrast the protocol architectures such as OSI and TCP/IP
- To explain how switches and router's function.
- To demonstrate proper placement of different layers of ISO model and illuminate its function.
- To be familiar with several network tools and network programming.

- To determine proper usage of the IP address, subnet mask and default gateway in a routed network.
- To understand internals of main protocols such as HTTP, FTP, SMTP, TCP, UDP, IP, etc.
- To impart basic concepts and basic skills for setting up routers

COVID-19 SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

COVID-19 is a dangerous illness. Above everything else, your health and safety are our concern. The best estimate now is that 20–40% of people infected with the virus have no symptoms. In compliance with safety practices, students are required to complete the COVID-19 student training course. Upon completion, you will receive a certificate with your name and date of completion. If you have yet to complete the course, please do so immediately, as completion is required to return to campus and participate in the Fall 2023 academic semester.

NOTE: *If you do not complete this training, you will have a Dean of Students hold on your records, which will prevent adds, drops, and registration.*

Students are required to conduct a self-assessment each day before coming to campus to determine if they are exhibiting any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19. Your presence on campus means that you certify that you are not exhibiting any signs or symptoms.

CHECKLIST

If any of the following apply to you, stay home!

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a diagnosis or suspected case of coronavirus; 2. Are currently exhibiting any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19 as listed on the CDC “Symptoms of Coronavirus” web page https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html—even one symptom (e.g., cough or headache); 3. In the past 14 days have had close (less than six feet) contact with a person who has a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19; 4. In the past 14 days have had close (less than six feet) contact with a person who is awaiting results of a COVID-19 test because of symptoms or exposure; 5. In the past 14 days have returned from travel or have traveled through an area with state or local travel restrictions that mandate quarantine upon arrival home. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever or chills (feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit) • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Fatigue • Muscle or body aches • Headache • Loss of taste or smell • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea |
|--|--|

When in doubt, stay home!

If any of the above apply to you, **do NOT come to campus. Instead, contact your professor and the Dean of Students Office** dos@tamusa.edu, office phone: (210) 784-1354.

All components of this class, including assessments, can be completed virtually, through Blackboard or other platform used in this class. Office hours will be held via Webex or other platform provided by the instructor.

For lecture classes that include a face-to-face component:

Accommodation for missing class if you meet one of the criteria on the checklist or do not feel comfortable physically attending will be made without penalty. Visitors are not allowed, and students can attend class only on their designated day for in-person attendance. All students have a responsibility to ensure they are always contributing to a safe learning environment by following all health and safety protocols.

For laboratory classes that include a face-to-face, hands-on component:

Unlike lecture classes with face-to-face components, laboratories are designed to provide hands-on experience and training in particular skills that are difficult to attain online. Thus, if students are registered for a laboratory course with a face-to-face component, it is expected that they physically attend on their scheduled day. However, if students have a documented health issue, are in another high-risk category, or feel uncomfortable attending in person, they may be able to enroll in a section of the course that is designated OLC (on-line class). If no such section exists, which may occur in upper-division courses, it is imperative that students contact their instructors immediately, and accommodations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Note: You and your instructor may decide that it's in your best interest to finish the course at a later date.

Once enrolled in either a hybrid or a fully on-line section, students may not switch between in-person and on-line learning without instructor approval due to the unique nature of preparing for hands-on activities in a laboratory environment as well as tight regulations on the number of students physically allowed in the laboratory. Accommodation for missing class if you meet one of the criteria on the checklist or do not feel comfortable attending will be made without penalty.

While in the classroom:

1. Sanitize your hands upon entering.
2. Always maintain at least six feet from others, including your instructor and other students.
3. Front-row seating will not be used.
4. Sit in designated seats.
5. Always wear a cloth face covering or surgical mask fully covering your mouth and nose at all times while in the classroom, even if alone.
6. Observe and conform to any markings on the floor indicating appropriate spacing and don't sit in a location that has been marked as being off limits.
7. You may ask questions by raising your hand during class or by emailing the instructor outside of class. Do not approach your instructor before or after class to ask a question or attempt to hand your instructor any document or item, as this does not facilitate social distancing.

While in the laboratory: Special laboratory safety instructions will be provided on the course-specific syllabus, and appropriate training will be provided.

Students who do not live up to these responsibilities will not be permitted to physically attend class. Failure to comply with these health and safety protocols is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. A student who is not in compliance with these health and safety protocols will not be allowed to remain in the classroom and will be reported to the student- conduct office, which may result in the student being barred from the classroom for the remainder of the semester and may also lead to expulsion from the university.

Certain classes may transition to fully online when necessary for health and safety.

Required Materials:

- **Textbook:** The main textbook that will be used in this course is:
 - Network+ Guide to Networks, 7th Edition, Jill West, Tamara Dean, Jean Andrews, Copyright 2016Published Previous Editions 2013 912 Pages
 - Computer networks with the completely updated NETWORK+ GUIDE TO NETWORKS, 7E. Prepare students for success on CompTIA's Network+ N10-006 certification exam with fully mapped coverage of all objectives, including protocols, topologies, hardware, network design, and troubleshooting. This edition addresses the latest developing technology with new organization and features that make essential information easily accessible and help students visualize high-level concepts. New OSI layer icons visually reinforce the link between concepts and the OSI model. New and updated "On the Job" stories, Applying Concepts activities, Hands-On and Case Projects help readers further explore chapter concepts. The NETWORK+ GUIDE TO NETWORKS, 7E's emphasis on real-world problem solving provides the tools students need to succeed in any computing environment.
 - Other supporting materials and books are shown in BlackBoard
- **Blackboard:** Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. You will have lecture notes and other supplementary materials in Blackboard. All class communications will be through Blackboard and students should monitor this several times a day.
- **Software:** Most software apps will be installed in Virtual environments. We are using fabric and chameleon cloud for the laboratory simulations.
- **Computer Hardware:** In order to participate in the tutoring sessions, you will need a computer with an internet connection, a microphone and speakers/headphones.
- **Time:** You are expected to spend 4-8 hours per week for the course. Based on the background, some student may require more time. Time spent may be longer when assignment/exams are due.

Other Recommended / Reading Materials: Any material relevant to computer networks

Course Requirements every student must fulfill in order to succeed in course:

1. Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages (e-mail) systems in Blackboard on a regular basis.
2. Students should keep current with all course assignments and examinations.
3. If the course uses remote proctoring for exams, students must schedule their exam early in the semester.

4. Students should remember that online and hybrid courses assume greater responsibility and independent learning skills by the student for their own learning outcomes.
5. For online courses, students should keep current on class recordings, if not attending the live class (either in person or online).
6. For online asynchronous courses, there will be no online class sessions. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.
7. For online synchronous courses, there will be online class sessions as indicated. Students are expected to attend the online session at the given time. If a student is unable to attend a session, instructor will make the recording of the session available for the student to view. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.

Course general guidelines

Projected Grades Distribution (Subjected to possible slight changes, without notice)

Paper/Project 40-50 %

Lab Quizzes 40-50%

Attendance 5-10%

Grading scale

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: Above 90% \Rightarrow A; 80 – 89% \Rightarrow B; 70 – 79% \Rightarrow C; 60 – 69% \Rightarrow D; Below 60% \Rightarrow F.

Homework and Exam Expectations:

- 1. Please follow deadlines through BB, under no circumstance, HWS will be accepted late or through emails. HWS may have a couple of days late submission for partial grading**
- 2. Homework assignments and labs will be available in Blackboard, and must be submitted only through BB, if you have any issues with the submission, it is your responsibility to check and follow up within the deadlines of the HW.**
- 3. As a general rule, no make-ups will be offered for any missed HW. Make-ups may be administered only in extra-ordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation within a few days of the missed exam.**

MAKE UP / LATE ASSIGNMENT/EXAM/QUIZ POLICY: As a general rule, no make-ups or late submissions will be offered/accepted for any missed assignments/exams/quizzes. Late submissions or make-ups may be accepted/administered only in extra-ordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation within a few days of the missed assignment/quiz/exam.

University Policies and Procedures

Class conduct and civility code: Everyone in class is expected to follow all rules in the student handbook, as well as common courtesy during classroom lectures and discussions in class and online, including the following:

1. Attendance may be taken by an appropriate method by the instructor.
2. It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
3. Student must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes and provide it to the instructor, if necessary. Keep own copies of all computer files and e-mails till final grade is received.
4. Talking while the instructor is lecturing is extremely disruptive and discourteous to the instructor and other students.
5. Using computers or phones (except for a valid urgent need) during class for a purpose not related to class is disruptive. All cell phones and gadgets should be turned OFF.
6. For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor, well in advance of the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
7. All communications will be via e-mail communications to the Texas A&M University e-mail account, and students are expected to use their school provided email account. The instructor will reply to a student e-mail messages and voice messages within 2 business days (Monday-Friday).
8. All assignment submissions must be uploaded as instructed by the due date and time. Submission window may close or marked late, even if late by one second.

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary actions.

Class attendance and Participation: A vital part of every student's education is regular attendance of class meetings. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work, and frequent or persistent absences may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material and most students find at least some parts of it difficult. Class participation is highly encouraged as it makes the class more interesting and enhances the learning experience. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussions and problem solving. Good attendance and participation will be rewarded when final grades are assigned.

The course is intensive and challenging and you are expected to master the materials presented in class. The structure of the class makes your individual study and preparation outside of class extremely important. Reading the assigned chapter(s) and having some familiarity with them before class will be very useful for understanding lectures.

DROPS POLICY: You may drop the course on or before (see dates below) with an automatic grade of Q. If you wish to drop the class after that date, you will receive either Q (if you have satisfactory record so far) or F. The last date to drop a course, or withdraw from the University is Oct. 27th, 2017. If you wish to drop the class, you must submit the necessary paperwork to the proper authority.

DISCLAIMER:

The provisions and information set forth in this schedule are intended to be informational and not contractual in nature. I reserve the right to amend, alter, change, delete or modify the provisions of the schedule. Changes to the schedule will be made only under extenuating circumstances. All the changes

will be announced in class/Blackboard and you are responsible for the announcements made in class/Blackboard.

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 includes 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 his/her 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 his/her federal aid.

Jaguar Writing Center

The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing assistance to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center has two locations: Central Academic Building, Suite 208 and Brooks City-Base, Room 104. Both locations can be reached by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu or calling (210)-784-1332. Appointments can also be made through JagWire using TutorTrac, which is found under the services tab.

University Email Policy and Course Communications

All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at sahelp@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-4357.

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.

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disability. If you believe you have a disability that may require accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. DSS is located at the Main Campus on the 2nd floor of the Central Academic Building in room 210 and at the Brooks City-Base Campus in room 149. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dssupport@tamusa.edu.

Student Misconduct

Appropriate conduct is essential to the effective functioning of the University. University policy defines unacceptable conduct, both academic and non-academic misconduct, and penalties for such behavior in The Student Handbook and The Student Code of Conduct.

Academic Misconduct Policy

Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty

includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. This includes holding other students to the same standards and reporting any incidents of alleged violation of the honesty policy to the instructor involved or, if necessary, to the appropriate academic department head. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Misconduct Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook. University policy prescribes serious consequences for acts of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, a grade of ‘F’ on the particular paper or assignment or a failing grade in the course. Also, a referral may be issued to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities where the sanctions can vary up to possible expulsion from the University. Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students’ best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If you are ever unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please contact your instructor for an assessment of the situation. All student term papers, and other written assignments are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software.

SCHEDULE

Week	Topics	Chapter Readings
1	Introduction to Networking	Chapter 1
2	How Computers Find Each Other on Networks	Chapter 2
3	How Data Is Transported Over Networks	Chapter 3
4	Structured Cabling and Networking Elements	Chapter 4
5		
6	Network Cabling	Chapter 5
7	Wireless Networking	Chapter 6
8	Cloud Computing and Remote Access	Chapter 7
9	Network Risk Management	Chapter 8
10	Unified Communications and Network Performance Management	Chapter 9
11	Network Segmentation and Virtualization	Chapter 10
12	Wide Area Networks	Chapter 11
13	Industrial and Enterprise Network	Chapter 12
14		

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via tamusa email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at 210-784-4357.

Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Title II of the ADAAA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a diagnosed disability that may require an accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. DSS is located at the Main Campus on the 2nd floor of the Central Academic Building in suite 210. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dsupport@tamusa.edu.

Academic Learning Center : All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center is an appointment based center where appointments are made through the Navigate platform. Students access Navigate through Jagwire in the Student Services tab. The Center is active on campus outreaching to students to highlight services offered. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.tamus.edu or calling (210)-784-1332. Appointments can also be made through JagWire under the services tab.

Counseling Resources: As a college student, there may be a time when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at A&M-SA, please contact the Office of Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC & WS) located in Modular C Room 166 (Rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. All mental health services provided by SC & WS are free, confidential (as the law allows), and are not part of a student's academic or university record. SC&WS provides brief individual, couples, and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling.

In a crisis, please walk-in to the SC & WS services between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM to be seen by a licensed clinician. After hours, please contact UPD at 911 or text "HOME" to 741-741 24/7/365 to connect with a trained crisis counselor. The National Suicide Prevention hotline also offers a 24/7/365 hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

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 and/or phone call with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Preparedness and the Emergency Response Guide can be found here: <http://www.tamusa.edu/riskmanagement/index.html>.

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.

Jaguar Writing Center: The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing assistance to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 208. Appointments can also be made through JagWire under the services tab.

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 contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military@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 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.

Respect for Diversity: We understand that our students represent diverse backgrounds and perspectives. When we are equity-minded, we are aware of differences and inequalities and are willing to discuss them so we can act to resolve them. The University is committed to building cultural competencies, or the attitudes, skills, and knowledge that enable individuals and organizations to acknowledge cultural differences and incorporate these differences in working with people from diverse cultures. Respecting and accepting people different than you is vital to your success in the class, on campus, and as a future professional in the global community. While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values, and beliefs.
- Be open to the views of others.
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues.
- Value each other's opinions and communicate respectfully.
- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and across the A&M-San Antonio community.

Drop Policy: You may drop the course with an automatic grade of W on or before the date listed in the academic calendar at www.tamusa.edu. The last date to drop a course, or withdraw from the University is also indicated in the academic calendar on the university website (www.tamusa.edu). If you wish to drop the class, you must submit the necessary paperwork to the proper authority. Students dropping a course are subject to all conditions listed in the university catalog.

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, equality of 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, diversity, pluralism 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, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran 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.

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, 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 University officials.

2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules and to comply with them, as well as 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 maintain a level of behavior that is consistent in supporting the learning environment of the institution and to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.

Violations of Academic Conduct (Section 14.5 Student Handbook): As a member in an academic community, students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education, be mature, be self-directed and be able to manage their own affairs. Students who are unwilling to abide by these basic expectations will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Students are expected to share in the responsibility and authority with faculty and staff to challenge and make known acts that violate the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Code of Conduct. For more information please visit the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities website <http://bit.ly/TAMUSAStudentRR>.

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. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions, collusion, lying and bribery. For more information, refer to the Student Code of Conduct, Article III: Conduct Rules and Regulations. Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty has the discretion to impose grade penalties as deemed necessary.

Faculty members are required to report such serious breaches of academic honesty to their chair, their dean and the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. In cases of academic misconduct, students may be subject not only to grade sanctions in courses but to disciplinary action. Grade sanctions may be imposed only by faculty members, but suspension or expulsion may be imposed only by the Vice President for Student Affairs. If a student wishes to appeal the decision of suspension or expulsion due to violations of academic misconduct, they must initiate their appeal as outlined within the Student Code of Conduct. Extenuating circumstances may cause the University to deviate from the defined time frames.

All student term papers and other written assignments are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software. Posting of any class work given to student, or solutions, or discussion, on publicly accessible forums or on social media is not permissible.

Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students' best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If a student is unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please she/he should contact the instructor for an assessment of the situation.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

<https://www.tamusa.edu/student-resources/academic-affairs/documents/Syllabus-policies-and-resources-Fall-2024-08232024.docx>