



COURSE SYLLABUS

Texas A&M University- San Antonio
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Life Sciences

General Psychology: PSYC 2301. CRN

Fall 2024 (August 26 – Dec 7th)

Class MW 3:15pm – 4:45 pm

Brenya Buchalski, MA., JD.

Science & Technology Building RM 166

E-Mail: Bbuchalski@tamusa.edu

Student hours – appts per zoom

Course Description:

From the catalog:

A survey of general psychology: theories, methods, and basic principles and how these apply to human behavior. Topics include research, the brain, social psychology, learning, memory, and psychological disorders. The course emphasizes the understanding that psychological concepts are derived from the scientific method.

Required Course Material:

- *Textbook:*

In an effort to help reduce the cost of attending this university, we have chosen to adopt a textbook from OpenStax.org. This is a free textbook. See the following link for the textbook and more information about openstax.org. Book reference: OpenStax College, Psychology. OpenStax College. 8 December 2014. Revised October, 2019

<https://openstax.org/details/books/psychology-2e>

If you prefer a hard copy of the text, you can download and print it yourself for no charge, or order a bound copy on Amazon for \$30.80 (price as of early January; it could change any time). The hard copy available may not have the most recent updates. It has a 2014 date on Amazon. I've heard it was going to be revised, but I haven't seen any evidence of that on the website.

Course Objectives

Objectives:

- Students will develop an understanding of the major theories of psychology, including personality, learning, and social psychology, and they will be able to visualize the connection between biology and psychology.
- Students will develop an elementary understanding of the way in which research is conducted by psychologists.
- Students will develop an appreciation of how the study of psychology can relate to all people of the world, not just psychologists, psychology majors, and people in therapy. As an example, students will learn how stress affects people physically and psychologically.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Email is the method of communication with me:

Bbuchalski@tamusa.edu

I do not access any other form of communication

I will make an active effort to respond to class-related email queries within 24 hours. Therefore, use the email information given above - not the WebCT email system).

PLEASE READ OVER THE ENTIRE SYLLABUS BEFORE EMAILING ME.

FIRST AND FOREMOST ALL WORK IS DUE on December 4 - at 11:59 PM – No Exception.

Learning Objectives and Class Structure

When did psychology as we know it originate? On whose shoulders do we stand as we explore modern questions about behavior and mental processes? Did the times make these individuals, or did they forge new paths in the dark? These are the sorts of questions we will ask as we study the history of psychological inquiry from its roots in antiquity to the modern age. The first unit of this class will cover methods used in historical research, scientific reasoning, and Western philosophical perspectives about the nature of knowledge and how human minds attain it. The second will address the emergence of psychological science in Europe and the United States with a focus on Structuralism, Functionalism, and Behaviorism. Finally, we examine the modern science of psychology and its place in the future of human inquiry.

My part

Encouragement:

1. Student hours per zoom Meeting
2. Struggling with coursework or experiencing academic challenges at some point is a common part of learning, and is not judged.
3. I faced diverse academic challenges when I was a student. I was able to overcome them with time and strategies
4. We in our Class follow Growth Mindset

5. There is support for diverse student challenges – eg work – life conflict, housing /food issues, mental health
6. Life – Work Balance: I model health and family time – so am not available From Friday @ 5:00 pm to Monday @ 9:00 am
7. I do stick to policy and I do expect you to do your work within six days (by Saturday end of day) I am helping you as a para professional. You are learning through best practices to be a professional. All weekly assignments and work due in six days. Exception has to be syllabus and University sanctioned with Formal Documentation

Assessment of Student Learner Outcomes

Students will evince attainment of course objectives through their performance on unit quizzes and Discussions and Role plays and SONA.

Assessments/Assignments (to reinforce learning):

No late work accepted (Unless University sanctioned with formal documentation) – so do stay organized and plan ahead what is due in Class and Exams by using the syllabus

Schedule (subject to change):

Other readings will be assigned periodically throughout the semester.

Detailed Grading Scheme

Grades will sum to a maximum of 100 points in the following manner:

Source	Points	Percent of Total Points
In Class Introduction Ice Breaker and picking your Team	3	3%
Growth Mindset	4	4%

Syllabus Review	2	2%
Six Class Exercises	6 points (36 points)	36%
Role Play (# 1 & # 2)	5 points (10 points)	10%
Four Online Chapter Tests	10 points (40 points)	40 %
REC/SONA	5	5%
Total	100	100% of total

Day	Activities	Chapter
Monday August 26	Choosing Teams Introduction Ice breaker	Who I am Who am I Ice Breaker Earn Points
Wednesday August 28	Syllabus Review Growth Mindset Learning Styles	Growth Mindset Earn Points
Wednesday Sept 4	Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology	1 Class Exercise # 1 Come to Class to earn Points
Monday Sept 9	Chapter 2: Psychology Research	2 Class Exercise # 2 Come to Class to earn Points
Wednesday	Chapter 3:	3 & 5

Sept 11	Biopsychology Chapter 5: Sensation and Perception	
Monday Sept 16	Chapter 4: States of Consciousness	4
Wednesday Sept 18	Exam I Online	1,2,3 Online from 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
Monday Sept 23	Chapter 6: Learning	6
Wednesday Sept 25	Chapter 6: Learning	6
Monday Sept 30	Chapter 7: Thinking and Intelligence	7
Wednesday Oct 2	Chapter 8: Memory	8 Class Exercise # 3 Come to class to earn points
Monday Oct 7	Chapter 8: Memory Continued	8
Wednesday Oct 9	Exam II	6,7,8

	Online	Online from 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
Monday Oct 14	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development	9
Wednesday Oct 16	Chapter 9: Lifespan Development Attachments	Class Exercise # 4 Come to Class to earn points
Monday Oct 21	Chapter 10: Emotion	10 Interactive Class period
Wednesday Oct 23	Chapter 10: Motivation Check on YOUR REC/SONA PROGRESS	10 Class Exercise # 5 Come to class to earn points
Monday Oct 28	Maslow's Pyramid	Class Exercise # 6 come to class to earn points
Wednesday Oct 30	Chapter 11: Personality	11
Monday Nov 4	Chapter 11: Personality	11
Wednesday Nov 6	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	12 – Team Role Play # 1

		To earn points come both days
Monday Nov 11	Chapter 12: Social Psychology	12 – Team Role Play # 2 To earn points come both days
Wednesday Nov 13	Exam III Online Check on REC/YOUR SONA PROGRESS	10,11,12 Online from 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
Monday Nov 18	Chapter 13: Industrial Organizational Psychology	13
Wednesday Nov 20	Chapter 14: Stress, Lifestyle, and Health	14
Monday Nov 25	Chapter 15 Introducing Psychological Disorders	
Wednesday Nov 27	Study Day	Happy Thanksgiving Enjoy
Monday Dec 2	Chapter 15: Mood disorders	14
Wednesday Dec 4	EXAM 4 Online	13, 14, 15

Assignments:

Examinations: There will be four exams.. Your average can be calculated by finding the number of points you have earned and dividing by the total possible number of points.

The exams are closed book – done individually and online.

Exam dates are marked on the calendar distributed the first day of class. They will not be changed except in an emergency.

During exams there will be NO phones, no iPads, no laptops, and no friends.

In Class 6 Class/Team Exercises, 2 Team Role Plays, REC/SONA – you must be in class to earn points – keep track of schedule per syllabus

Research Experience Component (REC/SONA):

The Research Experience Component (REC/SONA) is designed to help students gain a more complete

understanding of the process and outcomes of psychological research.

Participating in research allows

you to truly understand the research process and can add greatly to your education in the field of

psychology. That said, you may earn REC by participating in research, watching and summarizing Ted Talks, and by attending scientific research talks.

The REC is worth 5% of your final grade.

Requirements:

- 5 credits must be obtained: 1 credit = 1 hour
- Credits can be earned by
 - Research participation (can be 1/2 credit or 1 credit)
 - Psychology Speaker Series (most are 1 credit)
 - Ted Talk summaries (most are 1/2 credit, but a few are 1 credit)

- Plan for this in advance. If we don't have a lot of research participation options you will need to watch several Ted Talks; Speaker Series are great, but there are a limited number of them.
- Attendance ONLY (no paper) is required for research participation and Speaker Series. A short summary is required for Ted Talks, and evidence of attendance is required for the Mind Science Foundation (see below).
- Sign up on SONA; credit awarded via SONA for research participation and Speaker Series.
- The Mind Science Foundation may be used for 1 credit also. It is March 24, 6:30 PM at the Pearl Stable, and is \$5 with student ID. It's is about the neuroscience of addiction. www.mindscience.org

Course Grades

Each student's grade will be based solely on his/her performance. Students will not compete against one another for grades (i.e., the instructor will not limit the number of As, Bs, etc.). An individual's course grade is based on his or her raw score points (i.e., the total number of points earned during the semester). For example, using the table below, a student who earns 850 points during the semester will earn a "B." A student who has a total of 642 points at the end of the semester will earn a "D" in the course.

Letter Grade Cutoff Table

<i>Course Letter Grade</i>	<i>Percentage Correct</i>	<i>Raw Score (total raw score points earned)</i>
----------------------------	---------------------------	--

A	90% or more	90 or more
B	80 to 89%	80 to 89
C	70 to 79%	70 to 79
D	60 to 69%	60 to 69
F	59% or less	59 and less

Grades will be posted on Blackboard so that any time during the semester, you can check your grade at any time.

Grading Breakdown:

Class Attendance

Very few students who miss a lot of class perform well in that class. Since you are paying a lot of money per class period, it is to your advantage to attend. I do include attendance in my grading system, because class participation depends on attendance. Students who attend every class *and* participate will receive full credit. Credit is subtracted after that based on participation level and number of absences. If you only miss one or two days, the attendance half of the attendance/participation grade will still be good. I will take attendance every day, but I will not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. If for some reason you must miss a lot of class, you might find it advantageous to drop the class and retake it in the spring. Come to me and we'll discuss what is best for you. Any work missed must be made up. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the assignment from a classmate. I won't repeat a lecture for you because you decided to skip class and go to the coast. After you read and try to decipher your classmate's notes, please come to me if I can answer some questions. You need to take responsibility for your missed work **FIRST**, then come to me for help if you still need it. I will be **VERY** willing to help you when you show me that you have put some prior effort into the missed material. This is for your benefit too--if you have worked with the material already, my help sessions will be much more useful to you.

Make-Up or Late Work:

Assignments which are turned in on time must be turned in within the first five minutes of the class time in which it is due, unless I have specified another time. If it is due at a certain time on a day the class is not held, it is one day late at 5 minutes after the time set by the instructor. Each day the assignment is late, ten percentage points will be taken off the grade for the assignment. For example, if a student turns in a perfect assignment two days late, the grade for the assignment will be an 80%. This goes for papers only. There are **NO** makeup labs or quizzes.

*******If you wake up sick or for some reason cannot make it to a test, you must email me **BEFORE** the test. Notifying me beforehand does not guarantee you will be able to make it up, but your request will be heard. If you are leaving town on a planned trip, let me know well in advance so we can plan to have you take it another time.

Other Classroom Policies:

Please be respectful of others. If a student talks to a neighbor during class, other students cannot hear the class lecture and discussion, and it will be apparent to the instructor that the student has not made the class a priority. In order for the classroom to remain a learning environment, students must make the effort not to disturb others. **This includes coming to class late, leaving early, and leaving during the class time.** This WILL affect your participation grade. Occasionally a student will find it necessary to leave during class, but if the same student continually has necessities, they will no longer be considered necessities by other students or the instructor. Let me know if you plan to leave early; it will be much easier to make in-class activity flow if I can anticipate your departure.

Turn off cell phones. Please do not answer them during class. (Yes, I have to write this because students HAVE answered them during class...) **PUT PHONES AWAY, OUT OF SIGHT.** This will result in points deducted from your participation grade for EACH instance. Putting your cell phone on vibrate and leaving during class to answer it should be done **ONLY IN EMERGENCIES.** If you do this regularly, it is obviously **NOT** an emergency.

Please take notes on paper and do not use a laptop. We will discuss the research that shows us evidence that typing notes is inferior to handwriting them.

Please do **NOT** talk to your neighbor unless we are discussing in small groups. I know I mentioned this above, but I have students every semester who complain to me because they can't hear over their classmates' discussions. Please don't contribute to the problem. I can't always hear the chatter at the back of the room like the students can, so just because I haven't stopped you does not mean your conversations are not distracting to others.

****All rules listed in the Student Code of Conduct must be followed in class.****

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. They are located on the second floor of the CAB building.

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, but may be moving to the modular buildings this spring, so please call first. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dsupport@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.

Military Students

Veterans and active duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, any special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in person, or to contact the *Office of Military Affairs* with any questions at (210) 784-1174.

****Any material on this syllabus is subject to change if a compelling situation arises. You will be notified via email and Bb announcement.****

Withdrawal Policy. Any withdrawals after the last day for an automatic “W” date established by the university will receive the grade of “F”.

REC (SONA) mandatory requirement for all Psyc 2301 students: This course includes mandatory REC credits through SONA

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Academic Accommodations for Persons 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, please contact Disability Support Services in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210, or at (210) 784-1335 or visit <https://www.tamusa.edu/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/or 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 Modular C, Room 166 (Rear entrance).

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.

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2'). For more information and self-help resources, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

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/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-operations-plan.pdf> and <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus->

[information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-action-plan.pdf](#)

Download the SafeZone App 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://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

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.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 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, 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 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 or 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 reasonable accommodations to pregnant students that would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition and 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, 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, University Catalog 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 recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notification.

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. Behaviors that infringe 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.

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

In our Class we assume that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups.

Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT.

Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

Important Dates:

January 16 First day of class

March 11-17 Spring Break – No classes

March 29 Study Day – No classes

April 13 Last day to drop with an automatic “W”

April 20 Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University

April 29 Last day of classes

April 30 Study Day – No classes

May 1-7 Final exams The complete academic calendar is available online: <https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>

In Blackboard's Course Content Folder, find a document with important "boilerplate" information about dropping, academic integrity, emergency weather accommodations, and other important information.