



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND ARTS SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDIES III SPANISH 2313, SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE, FALL 2026

Course Description

Focuses on the development of academic reading and writing skills, conversation skills, and intercultural competency to develop bilingual and bicultural literacy. This course is inclusive of second language learners. Prerequisite: SPAN 1315, 1312, or placement test. (TAMUSA Catalog description)

Spanish for Heritage Learners III is a third semester course designed for students who have been raised in a Spanish-speaking environment and speak, or understand, some Spanish as a result of hearing it in the home, and in the community by family, friends, and neighbors. Students in this course will continue to develop their ability to narrate events in the past and will be able to describe hypothetical situations. Students will also develop their ability to express wishes, desires, and necessities. This course focuses on the cultural capital and linguistic knowledge brought to the class by the heritage language students. By examining social justice topics, culture, and multimedia production from and about the Spanish-speaking world, students will use the Spanish language to reflect on and produce multimedia content that links and contextualizes learners' home, families, and communities' stories within the US and global society. In this way, students will enhance not only their linguistic skills but their media literacy and critical thinking as well. This course will help the student build confidence in their Spanish abilities and expand the language use in the areas of writing, reading, oral production and listening comprehension. The course will also explore the diverse identities and experiences of Spanish-Speaking groups in the United States and student's home and community culture, while raising students' critical language awareness of speech and Spanish language variations in different contexts.

Course Credits: 3 credits

Teaching Professor: Yanina Hernández

Class Time: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-1:45 pm via Zoom

Zoom virtual office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, and by appointment

Email: yanina.hernandez@tamusa.edu

Required Textbook and Materials:

- Hernández Yanina y José Esteban Hernández. 2020. [Reflexiones sobre nuestra lengua](#). Open Educational Resource*.
- Other resources
 - Microphone and camera access
 - <https://spark.adobe.com>
 - <https://www.wordreference.com>
 - <https://www.linguee.com>

*An open educational resource, as defined by SB810, is "Open educational resource means a teaching, learning, or research resource that is in the public domain or has been released under an intellectual property license that permits the free use and repurposing of the resource by any person. The term may include full course curricula, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge”.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Interpersonal Communication: Students can exchange information on a wide variety of familiar topics in which the students use appropriate vocabulary to describe their daily lives and narrate events in the past with some degree of ease and confidence. Students will record a podcast.
2. Written expression: Students can write an essay/news articles/opinion pieces in the target language, and that effectively conveys a series of past events to the reader that may include recent and distant past.
3. Interpretive listening: Students can identify the main idea and key information in short straightforward conversations, different media outlets, and podcasts.
4. Interpretive reading: Students can understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward informational and fictional texts.

5. Critical cultural and language awareness: Students can recognize and explain some of the issues facing bilingual communities in accordance to the instructor's expertise and articulation with previous and subsequent courses.

Communicative Functions to cover

- expressing concern for other people's welfare
- expressing joy at another's success (or disappointment at another's misfortune)
- extending and accepting invitations / refusing invitations politely or making alternative arrangements
- indicating agreement or disagreement
- sharing and asking about others' wishes, hopes, desires, problems, beliefs, thoughts, opinions, etc.
- discouraging someone from pursuing a course of action

Instruction and Evaluation Activities

A variety of learning activities are designed to support the course objectives, facilitate different learning styles, and build a community of learners. Learning activities for each module include the following: participation, quizzes, exams, reflection assignments, discussion board assignments, creative writing assignments, and a digital project.

Methods of Instruction | Interaction and Discussions

This course is highly interactive. You will read, listen, review, and interact with the materials, each other, and me. Creating an interactive online community will stimulate class participation, which is an essential part of this course. You will interact with other students and me via regular discussion boards, cross-postings, and comments on material, and one-on-one feedback with me. You are expected to stay engaged in the discussion board activities. A good discussion post is:

- Substantial (relates to the course material)
- Concise (one screen may be the ideal message length)
- Provocative (encourages others to respond)
- Hermeneutical (expands concepts or connects ideas in new ways)
- Timely (occurs in a reasonable period - when the topic is under discussion)
- Logical (supports point of view with reasons and evidence)
- Grammatical (is professionally written)
- Only those comments that meet these criteria receive full credit.

Methods of Evaluation | Writing Assignments, Projects, and Assessments

- **Participación (20%):** Participation is a fundamental part of this course. Please read ahead, practice the vocabulary for the week so you are able to actively contribute in the class. No hay la posibilidad de make-ups en el caso de las actividades de clase. (Please note: This is not merely an attendance grade, but rather a global assessment of the quality of your participation in class activities. You are expected to contribute to all group activities and class discussions.)
- **Manual de práctica, Tareas (15%) y Pruebas (Quizzes) (10%):** There will be various assignments about the studied grammar vocabulary, and spelling topics presented on each unit. Gramática, ortografía y vocabulario are topics found under each unit module. There will also be several other homework assignments some of these include discussion film assignments, creative writing assignments, and Blackboard assignments. At the discretion of the instructor, there may be quizzes to measure comprehension of the materials being discussed in the course such as vocabulary, spelling, and grammar. The specific dates for these quizzes are not stipulated in syllabus, but instructor may opt to advice on the tentative dates and material covered.
- **Exámenes (20%):** There will be two major tests that will include the material covered in each unit: Manual de discusión y reflexión and Manual de práctica. Exam dates as specified in the calendar.
- **Reflexiones (20%):** Reflexiones entries will be submitted as specified in the calendar, they are found at the end of each unidad. It is important to do these written assignments on your own. The help of a dictionary is essential. Once your instructor grades the first Reflexiones entry, look over any comments or suggestions (content, spelling, punctuation, or grammar) that will improve your writing. These corrections should reflect in future entries, since failing to do so may result in a lower grade, compared to initial entries. Each Reflexiones entry will be graded as follows: content and originality (40%), sentence structure (20%), spelling and punctuation (20%), grammar (20%). Instructor may opt to give further instructions. The entries should be in Spanish mainly, but a limited use of English is acceptable (translanguaging). All entries should include a title and your personal information, and every paragraph will contain a main sentence, and supporting evidence. Reflexiones entries should be one paragraph long (200-250 words), computer-written assignments, using double space, Times new Roman and size 12 font, and include one-inch margins.

- **Autobiografía Digital ó PSA (15%):** The final project component of the course will be a digital autobiography with 3 main parts: preparing the script (20%), presenting a preliminary version (20%), and final version (60%). Plan ahead and keep on track! The instructor will provide additional guidelines-over the course of the semester. Autobiografía digital should be turned in as a link to instructor.

If you chose to do a PSA (Public Service Announcement), you will still need to prepare a script (or a pitch), present your preliminary version, and final version, but you have two choices: create a PSA info graphic (which you present to the class) or a PSA video. The topic for the PSA has to be related to topics discussed in the classroom, and you want to inform and persuade your audience using facts and convincing reasons to back up your claims.

Be aware that some documents take time to be uploaded and sent electronically; therefore, plan ahead and send the project with plenty of time.

COURSE POLICIES

1. Course Prerequisite

Spanish 2313 is an intermediate level course designed for students who are bilingual and/or have taken SPAN 1313 and SPAN 1315 at A&M-San Antonio. The course is inclusive of bilingual and second language learners of Spanish. The course focusses on developing grammatical, conversational, and listening skills in a positive and culturally relevant setting. Prerequisite: Placement by exam or departmental approval, or successful completion of SPAN 1315.

2. More on Placement Testing

Students wishing to enroll in Spanish must take the A&M-SA Spanish Placement Exam (SASPE) for appropriate placement.

3. Attendance

Attendance and participation are mandatory. You must come to class every week and you must be ready to participate actively in class discussion as well as small group activities. Attendance factors into your participation grade.

- You are allowed two “grace” absence, which cannot be taken on a day when you are scheduled to make a presentation or a report. For each subsequent absence 2% will be deducted from your final grade.
- Missed work can only be made up if you have valid documentation. Legitimate excused absences include the following: verifiable confining illness, serious

verifiable family emergencies, subpoenas, jury duty, and military service. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor of any excused absences as far in advance as possible. Work must be made up in a timely manner (e.g. before the next scheduled evaluation).

- Documentation for excused absences must be presented as soon as possible. No documentation will be accepted after the last day of regularly scheduled classes.

NOTE ON ZOOM: This is a synchronous class; occasionally, due to documented illness or other pressing issues, you might request the instructor to allow you to join via Zoom. If the request is granted, you are expected to have your camera ON during the class and to actively participate.

4. Class participation

This course is conducted in Spanish. Students are expected to participate (group discussions and assignments) in Spanish. This is a class for YOU to feel confident producing the Spanish you may have heard before as you were growing up. Taking risks in Spanish is crucial for you to build up your oral skills. The use of Spanish is expected in every activity in the class with the instructor and classmates. You are expected to attend all classes, read the material before class, and participate actively in classroom activities. You will be expected to participate in class activities and discussions, to continue to improve your speaking fluency. A grading rubric for oral participation will be provided. Keep in mind that if you are absent, you will receive no participation points for that day.

5. Technology use

In general, the use of laptops, tablets, and cell phones for personal use during class is not allowed. Exceptions will be made when talking about discussion posts in class or accessing BLACKBOARD for course materials. Please turn off and put away these devices during class lectures, discussions, and exams. These devices can be distracting to you and others in the class and can prevent you from focusing on course content and participating in class discussions.

6. Assignment due dates

Due dates are firm. Work is due at the beginning of each class period (unless specified otherwise) and late work will not be accepted. Late coursework will receive zero points for the assignment. We will make exceptions for university-excused absences and unavoidable circumstances (e.g., deaths, personal/family illness and emergencies) with written verification. All assignments must be uploaded to BLACKBOARD.

7. Make-up exams and presentations

If you are not in class on the scheduled day to take an exam or to participate in the group presentation you will receive a score of zero. Make-up exams and presentations will be arranged for university-excused or unavoidable circumstances (e.g., deaths, personal/family illness, and emergencies), but only with written verification. Proper documentation must be submitted within 72 hours of your absence. I also ask that you inform us of these types of situations at least 24 hours in advance, whenever possible.

8. Blackboard/e-mail

There is a BLACKBOARD site for this course where readings will be posted, along with grades and other course information and assignments. It is your responsibility to check BLACKBOARD regularly for announcements and updates. You are also responsible for all information that is sent to your TEXAS A&M email account regarding the course, and you should check this information regularly. E-mail is the easiest and quickest way to get in touch with your instructors, and we will do our best to respond to your emails within 24 hours.

This course will require five written assignments and a final paper. All written work should be excellent, high-quality academic work. Poorly written, unedited assignments will not be awarded a top grade. It is vital at this stage in your career that you set high standards for your written work product. All word counts include footnotes. Rubrics are provided for each assignment.

9. Academic misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee/Office on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <https://www.tamusa.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-conduct.html>

In this course, academic misconduct is constituted by using any online automatic translators, such as Google Translate, or automatic translator on SpanishDict.com, among others, or receiving help in composition or exams from others. We encourage students to visit the Writing, Language, and Digital Literacy Center for writing and language support and to use resources such as <https://www.wordreference.com/> for sentence level and grammatical checks on essays and projects. However, these resources must not be used on exams or quizzes unless it is explicitly permitted by the instructor. If you are unsure

about using a resource, please ask your instructor. You will receive a zero on the assignment turned in using any of the resources listed above (or similar ones) the first time. On the second offense will receive a zero and you will be reported to the office of academic misconduct.

The sanctions for the misconduct can include a failing grade in this course and suspension or expulsion from the university.

Due Dates

Due dates for all instructional and evaluation activities are provided in the **Course Schedule**.

Course Schedule

Module/Week	Material Covered	Due Dates
Week 1 24 de agosto	- Introducción al curso - Diagnóstico	Discusión: A conocernos Presentación Tarea de Orientación
Week 2 1 de septiembre	Unidad 1: Para empezar - Manual de discusión y reflexión - Preparación ¿Yo estudiante de herencia? Para ver el video: La familia	Manual de práctica: I. La ortografía II. El vocabulario
Week 3 8 de septiembre	- Manual de discusión y reflexión - Preparación para la lectura: Mareo escolar Lectura: Mareo escolar	Manual de práctica: III. Acentuación ortográfica (La sílaba)
Week 4 15 de septiembre	Manual de discusión y reflexión Lectura: Yo me llamo Antonio	Manual de práctica: IV. La gramática. Reflexión 1
Week 5 22 de septiembre	Unidad 2: Así hablamos los bilingües - Manual de discusión y reflexión - Preparación - Así hablamos los bilingües Para ver el video: opinión sobre “Spanglish”	Manual de práctica 2: I. La ortografía II. El vocabulario y ortografía
Week 6 29 de septiembre	Hablantes del español en los Estados Unidos, Actividad 1 (EN BLACKBOARD)	Manual de práctica 2: C. ¡A escribir! III. La acentuación escrita
Week 7 6 de octubre	Manual de discusión y reflexión	Manual de práctica 2: IV. La gramática

Module/Week	Material Covered	Due Dates
	○ Preparación de las lecturas de Sagel y Laviera Lectura: El osito, Ya mero y La vecina	V. Lectura
Week 8 13 de octubre	• Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Lectura: Poemas de Tato Laviera	Reflexión 2
Week 9 20 de octubre	EXAMEN 1 (UNIDAD 1-2)	
Week 10 27 de octubre	Unidad 3: Seguimos andando • Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Preparación Las lenguas y los préstamos	Manual de práctica 3: I. La ortografía II. La acentuación escrita
Week 11 3 de noviembre	• Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Para ver el video: Decidiendo una especialidad Spanglish en el salon de classes: translenguando, Actividad 3 , (EN BLACKBOARD)	Manual de práctica 3: III. El vocabulario IV. La gramática
Week 12 10 de noviembre	• Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Preparación para la lectura: Memorias de mi viaje Lectura: Memorias de mi viaje	Reflexión 3 Autobiografía o PSA: Guion
Week 13 17 de noviembre	Unidad 4: Poco a poco vamos llegando • Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Preparación ○ Los Estados Unidos y sus migraciones	Manual de práctica 4: La ortografía. II. Gramática y ortografía
Week 14 24 de noviembre	• Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Preparación de la lectura de Naranjas Lectura: Naranjas	Manual de práctica 4 : III. La acentuación escrita IV. El vocabulario. Autobiografía o PSA: Versión preliminar
Week 15 1 de diciembre	• Manual de discusión y reflexión ○ Preparación de la lectura de En busca de Bernabé Lectura: En busca de Bernabé	Reflexión 4
Week 16 8 de diciembre	Identities interseccionales, Actividad 1, Paso 2 y 3 // Actividad 2, Paso 5 (EN BLACKBOARD)	Autobiografía o PSA: Versión final
	EXAMEN 2 (UNIDAD 3-4)	

Module/Week	Material Covered	Due Dates

Grading Policy and Scale

Final Grades in this course are determined by the following criteria:

Assignment Category	Weight of Category
Participación	20 %
Reflexiones	20%
Midterm exams (2 total)	20% (per exam)
Autobiografía digital o PSA	15%
Manual de práctica, tareas	15%
Pruebas	10%
Total	100%

I will assign grades for this course per the following grading system and in accordance with the Academic Standards in the [Student Handbook](#).

Letter Grade	Grade Point Average (GPA)	Percentage
A	4.00	94-100%
A-	3.66	90-93%
B+	3.33	87-89%
B	3.00	84-86%
B-	2.66	80-83%
C+	2.33	77-79%
C	2.00	74-76%
C-	1.66	70-73%
D+	1.33	67-69%
D	1.00	64-66%
F	0.00	<64%

Course Expectations

Student Expectations

I expect you to log on to the course at least five days each week and spend approximately 20 hours each week reviewing assigned material, studying, and considering that material on your own, and participating in activities and assignments presented in each module. I expect you to post all assignments by the stated deadlines and exhibit significant effort and professionalism in all work. Finally, I expect you to participate in a timely and responsive manner in group projects, which may include multiple posts and exchanges prior to an assignment deadline.

Faculty Expectations

I will be online and available to answer e-mails, posts to the Ask Your Professor page, and other asynchronous inquiries at least five days each week and will endeavor to answer questions within 48 hours (about 2 days). If you want to speak with me over the phone or through chat, send me an e-mail, and I will arrange a time to talk. I will provide feedback on assignments within 7 days. I will host weekly office hours via Zoom.

Attending office hours will count toward your participation grade. Cameras should remain on during Office Hours. If cameras are off, the professor will assume the student is away from the computer, and the student will not receive credit for attending Office Hours. I understand that situations may arise that require cameras to be temporarily disabled. Exercise good judgment, return to Office Hours as soon as possible and turn on your camera. If your camera is malfunctioning, please notify the professor before or at the beginning of Office Hours.

If you cannot attend Office Hours at the scheduled time due to a personal conflict, you can satisfy the Participation requirement by scheduling appointments. I will be available to answer questions about feedback on assignments during Office Hours and by appointment. I will post timely announcements as appropriate to this course, including any changes to the schedule or assignments.

Academic Policies

University Email Policy and Course Communications

All correspondence between professors and students must occur via university email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357). If you don't

hear back within 48 hours, contact them again. They have many requests during the first part of the semester, so you may need to follow up with them.

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 in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us at the website 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 academic accommodation with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

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 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. Online tutoring is also available for after hours and weekend assistance.

While tutoring hours may change based on tutor schedules and availability, the current tutoring hours for MATH in the ALC are as follows:

Day of the Week	Appointments Available	Walk-in Tutoring (no appointment needed)
Monday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

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, visit our website, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

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 24/7/365 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 or through the TELUS student support App.

The [TELUS Student Support App](#) provides a variety of mental health resources to include 24/7/365 support for in the moment distress, crisis support, 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 system. 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 the [Jag E Alert System website](#). You can access more information about [Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan on our website](#). 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 by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (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, Language, and Digital Composing Center (WLDCC)

The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, 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 e-portfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects.

The Writing Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. Students can schedule appointments with the Writing Center in JagWire under the **Student Services tab**. Click on **Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center** to make your appointment. Students wanting to work in real time with a tutor can schedule an **Online Appointment**. Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an **e-Tutoring appointment**. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on the [Writing Center's website](#). The Writing Center can also be reached by emailing: writingcenter@tamusa.edu.

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 report for support](#). Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources. The [General's Store is a food pantry](#) that is available on campus as well.

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 wide variety 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 with 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 on our campus and within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees are to 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, based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the University's Civil Rights Officer at 210-784-2061 or titleix@tamusa.edu. Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university. If you have experienced any form of sex discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking based on sex, 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 sex-based 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 accommodation for pregnant students as it would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that is 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. Young Jaguars can support parenting students with daycare if students meet this criteria: (1) must be enrolled in classes at Texas A&M-San Antonio in the current semester, (2) must be Pell eligible or a single parent, (3) child(ren) must be aged 3 to 12-years-old, and (4) child(ren) must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. For more information, please contact Young Jaguars at youngjaguars@tamusa.edu or call (210) 784-2636.

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, 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 students' 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.

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](#) or visit the resources available in the [OSRR website](#).

Important Fall 2026 Dates

Dates	Event
August 20	Tuition & Fee Payments deadline
August 24	First day of class
September 7	Labor Day Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
September 9	Census Date – Students not paid in full or enrolled in a payment plan by 4:59 pm may be dropped for non-payment
October 5 – October 16	Midterm grading period
November 13	Last day to drop with an automatic “W”
November 25	Study Day – No classes
November 26-November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
November 30	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
December 4	Last day of classes
December 5 – December 11	Final exams
December 15	Commencement

The complete [Academic Calendar](#) as available on our website.

Artificial Intelligence Policy

No Use of Generative AI Permitted [SPAN 2313]

This assumes 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.

Course Participation

Each module/week, you may engage in whole class and small group discussion boards. Your participation and engagement in these boards will be assessed each week based on the quality and accuracy of your answers to the assigned questions and tasks as well as your interaction and engagement with your peers (this includes responding to the initial question/task and replying to your classmates). Failure to participate in the assigned discussion forums will significantly affect your grade as it reflects your level of effort in the course's learning community. Your posts, including the accuracy, as well as your replies

and comments to your peers should contribute to the overall learning community. Your participation will be assessed using the Participation Rubric.

Of note, the readings and other materials presented in this course build upon each other so it is critical that you complete the initial assignments early in the module/week so that you may proceed to the next set of materials and assignments. Also, it is imperative that you post early so that the class may benefit from your discussion and have opportunities to reply to and engage in meaningful dialogue with your peers in the discussion forums.

Please keep all modules' topical, subject-related discussions in the assigned module discussion forums.

Attendance

You are expected to participate in all course activities except where religious observance, serious illness, personal emergency, or a reason that is adequate in my judgment that prevents such participation. **Attendance means posting answers to discussion questions, participating in the online community, and submitting all assignments promptly.**

Late Work

You must complete all activities in this course by the identified deadlines in the Course Schedule. Failure to submit an assignment, complete a discussion, or participate as outlined in the Learning Modules and Course Schedule, will lead to a grade reduction. I recognize that you all have busy personal and professional lives that sometimes make meeting deadlines impossible. Early communication with me is vital if you foresee that. I want to clarify that I expect you to turn in assignments on time. You will lose 10% of the total potential points for each day that an assignment is late, down to 50% off. I will not accept an assignment more than three days after its due date.

This late policy does not apply if I have approved an extension for the requested activities because of an emergency or other extenuating circumstances. You must promptly request the extension and inform me of any extenuating personal circumstances that warrant an extension.

If you have an emergency or some other extenuating personal circumstance, you must inform me as soon as possible. Only upon this notification will I be able to discuss accommodation.

If there is a medical or family emergency or other extraordinary or extenuating circumstance, you should contact the Vice Dean for Students and me to make

alternative arrangements. Again, prompt communication is key, and that is your responsibility.

Professor Comments

I will provide substantive comments on each of your deliverables. I may provide additional comments during general discussions. If you have questions or doubts about the course or assignment instructions, e-mail me to seek an answer.

Add/Drop and Incomplete Policy

Please refer to the [Student Handbook](#) to review these policies. You can find the Student Handbook on the [Student's Rights and Responsibilities page](#).

Academic Honesty

[The TAMUSA Honor Code and the Code of Ethics](#) apply to all activities, assignment submissions, and conduct in this course. You are required to be familiar with the Honor Code. Student conduct in this course may not violate the Prohibited Conduct classes of violations recognized in the Honor Code (located in the [Student Handbook](#)).

Plagiarism is a class one violation of [TAMUSA's Honor Code](#). The school uses various software programs to detect plagiarism in all forms. I will report any suspected cases of plagiarism to the Vice Dean for Students.

Netiquette

All communications in this course (email, discussion boards, and assignments) should use good netiquette. For an overview and explanation of this, visit [the Netiquette Home Page](#) and follow the core rules of netiquette.

Other Student Policies

All student handbook policies and procedures apply to this course. For more information about student academic and institutional policies, review the [Student's Right and Responsibilities](#) page.