



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
**SAN ANTONIO**

**CISA 1305 - 600**  
**Business Computer Applications**  
Spring 2025  
College of Business  
**Course Syllabus**

**Class Modality Time and Place:** Online Asynchronous  
**Class Duration:** 01/21 – 05/13  
**Instructor:** Dr. Jiang Hu  
Office: BLH 441E  
E-Mail: [jiang.hu@tamusa.edu](mailto:jiang.hu@tamusa.edu)  
Student emails will receive a reply within one business days.  
**Course Website:** <https://tamusa.blackboard.com/>  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

**Catalog Course Description:** Students will study computer terminology, hardware, and software related to the business environment. This course focuses on business productivity software applications and professional behavior in computing, including word processing (as needed), spreadsheets, databases, presentation graphics, and business-oriented internet utilization.

**Course Objectives:** Students will learn about core Microsoft business software and systems and how to utilize them in everyday business and personal scenarios. Students will gain a greater understanding of Business Computer Applications

**Prerequisites:** None

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Understand how to use Microsoft's core suite of business software.
2. Navigate through Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.
3. Develop/ Create artifacts from each tool to be utilized in a business setting.

## Required Materials:

**A. Cengage:** In addition to the assignments in Blackboard, you will complete Lab assignments in an online homework management system called Cengage. Follow the below instructions to access and purchase course materials:

Step 1: Sign into Blackboard and click on CISA 1305

Step 2: Under **Content** section, Click on the Cengage link.

Step 3: Create (use your university email) or sign into your Cengage account to access or purchase the materials for this course.

**B. Microsoft Office 2016 or 365** (with Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access\*). This is required to complete the lab assignments and is available on Windows computers in various labs across campus. Access is optional in this course.

- **Time:** You are expected to spend 4-8 hours per week on the course. Based on the background, some students may require more time. Time spent may be longer when assignments/exams are due.

**Other Recommended / Reading Materials:** Additional reading materials are available on the course website as recommended by the instructor.

### ***Course Requirements every student must fulfill in order to succeed in the 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, quizzes, and examinations.
3. Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor either in class, online, offline, or during office hours.
4. For all classwork, exams, quizzes, etc., if a student is completing it off-campus, then they are responsible for the availability of internet connectivity. Extensions will be granted for lack of availability of internet connection only if the instructor is notified.

Students should remember that online courses assume greater responsibility and independent learning skills by the student for their own learning outcomes.

**Grading Policy:** The final course grade will be based on your performance on the quizzes, exams, assignments, and class participation using the following weights:

<b>Assignment/Exam</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Module Assignments (quiz)	9%
Lab 1 (Word)	10%
Lab 2 (PowerPoint)	10%
Lab 3 (Excel)	10%
Lab 4 (Access)	10%
Exam 1	17%
Exam 2	17%
Exam 3	17%
TOTAL	100%

### **Grades will be based on the following percentage ranges:**

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

**Examinations and Quizzes:** All regular exams and the final exam will be administered via Blackboard on the dates listed in this syllabus. **There will be NO MAKEUP EXAMS.** If you miss an exam due to a true emergency (e.g., serious illness, death in the family, etc.), please contact your instructor immediately. With proper documentation, such as a doctor's/hospital's note or death certificate. In such cases, your instructor will use your final exam grade to replace the missed exam. Otherwise, the grade will be a zero. If you have questions concerning an exam grade, you must inform the instructor within three (3) days of the exam. Grades will not be discussed after that time. The exam/quiz materials will come from lecture slides and the lecture video. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class. You are expected to read every chapter in advance, watch a video lesson and complete a quiz based on the content of the video and chapter.

**Lab Assignments:** There will be 4 groups of lab assignments, which will require a computer with an Internet connection, and Microsoft Office 2016 (or 365) with Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. All lab assignments will be available on Blackboard according to the course schedule below. Labs are due by 11:59 on the dates listed in the schedule. **LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED ON LAB ASSIGNMENTS BUT WITH A 20% PENALTY PER DAY—NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Makeup and Late Assignment policy:**

Exams: As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions will **NOT** be offered or accepted for any missed assignments/exams/quizzes. If you miss an exam for a valid documented excuse, then the grade for the missed exam will be replaced with a grade equivalent to the percentage score in the final exam. If you miss the final exam, you must contact the instructor within 24 hours and provide valid proof of your special situation.

Assignments: Late submissions will be assessed as a grade reduction penalty. The grade reduction penalty will be specified in the instructions for the assignment. The grade reduction penalty for late assignments will be waived only if you have a valid **documented** extraordinary circumstance such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. Attendance is not a direct component of your semester grade; however, a situation may affect your grade if it causes you to miss assignments. E-mail me if you have a valid excuse but **do not submit any documentation until requested.**

**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. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
2. Students must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes. Keep copies of all computer files and e-mails.
3. If you will not be able to complete this course, dropping from this class is your responsibility.
4. For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor before the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
5. 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 24 hours during weekdays.
6. All assignment submissions must be uploaded to Blackboard by the due date/time.

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary action.

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 in advance will be very useful for understanding topics. Each student will be expected to spend enough time in the preparation of the assignments.

### ***Spring 2025 CISA 1305 Class Schedule***

The provisions and information set forth in the schedule below are intended to be informational and not contractual in nature. The instructor reserves the right to amend, alter, change, delete or modify the provisions of the schedule.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Concept Module</b>	<b>Software Module</b>	<b>All Due by 11:59 p.m.</b>
01/21	1	Syllabus		Set up Cengage
01/27	2	Unit 1 - Digital Content		Unit 1 Blackboard Assignment
02/03	3	Unit 2 - Digital Devices	WORD 1	Unit 2 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (WORD 1)
02/10	4	Unit 3 - Networks	WORD 2	Unit 3 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (WORD 2)
02/17	5	Unit 4 - The Web	WORD 3	Unit 4 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (WORD 3)
02/24	6	Exam 1 (Unit 1 - 4)		02/25 from 8:00 am to 11:59 pm
03/03	7	Unit 5 - Social Media	POWERPOINT 1	Unit 5 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (POWERPOINT 1)
03/10	8	Spring Break		
03/17	9	Unit 6 - Software Basics	POWERPOINT 2	Unit 6 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (POWERPOINT 2)
03/24	10	Unit 7 - Digital Security	POWERPOINT 3	Unit 7 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (POWERPOINT 3)
03/31	11	Unit 8 - The ICT Industry	POWERPOINT 4	Unit 8 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (POWERPOINT 4)
04/07	12	Exam 2 (Unit 5 - 8)		04/08 from 8:00 am to 11:59 pm

04/14	13	Unit 9 - Information Systems	EXCEL 1	Unit 9 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (EXCEL 1)
04/21	14	Unit 10 - Database	EXCEL 2	Unit 10 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (EXCEL 2)
04/28	15	Unit 11 - Programming Tools	ACCESS 1	Unit 11 Blackboard Assignment Lab Assignment (ACCESS 1)
05/08	16	Exam 3 (Unit 9 - 11)		

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. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is [dsupport@tamusa.edu](mailto:dsupport@tamusa.edu).

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](mailto: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](http://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 Preparedness and the Emergency Response Guide can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/uploadfile/folders/sdbowen23/pdf/pdf-635073426137928167-10.100.20.116.pdf>

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.

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](mailto: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.

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, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. 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 victims 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](mailto:titleix@tamusa.edu), 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331, Modular C.

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](#).

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

There are situations and contexts within this course where you may be asked to use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to explore how they can be used. Outside of those circumstances, you should not use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any student work (assignments, activities, discussion responses, etc.) that is part of your evaluation in this course. Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate with attribution what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, students should reach out to their instructor for clarification before submitting work for grading. Use of AI-generated content without the instructor's permission and/or proper attribution in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

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>

## Key Dates for Spring 2025 Semester

The complete academic calendar is available online:

<https://catalog.tamusa.edu/undergraduate/academic-calendar/>

January 14	Tuesday	Tuition & fee payment deadline
January 16	Thursday	Drop for non-payment
January 17	Friday	Last day for students withdrawing to receive 100% refund for tuition
January 20	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No classes
January 21	Tuesday	First class day
January 28	Tuesday	Last day to register
February 5	Wednesday	Census Date
February 6	Thursday	Drop for non-payment
February 24-March 7		Monday-Friday Midterm grading period
<b>March 10-March 15</b>		<b>Monday-Saturday Spring Break</b>
April 18	Friday	Study Day - No classes
April 21	Monday	Last day to drop with an automatic grade of "W"
April 28	Monday	Last day to withdraw from the university
May 5	Monday	Last day of scheduled classes for weekday classes
May 6	Tuesday	Study Day - No classes
May 7-May 13		Wednesday-Tuesday Final examinations
May 13	Tuesday	End of term
May 16	Friday	All grades due by noon
May 19	Monday	Grades available in JagWire
May 20	Tuesday	Commencement

