



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

CSEC 1436 Cyber Security Programming I +Lab, Spring 2025,
CRN: 22811 (*Class Section 600*), 22812 (*Lab Section 60L*)
Course Syllabus

Class Modality:	Online Synchronous using Zoom. Students are required to attend the online ZOOM sessions during class and lab meeting hours. Attendance <u>will</u> be taken. Recording of Zoom session <u>will not</u> be done, and not permitted for individual students.
Class Meeting Time and Place:	Thursdays: 2:00 – 4:45 PM, online using Zoom
Lab Meeting Time and Place:	Tuesdays: 5:00 – 6:30 PM, online using Zoom
Class Duration:	Jan 21, 2025 – May 13, 2025
Instructor:	Dr. Akhtar Lodgher, Office: STEM 211, Tel: 210-784-2353 (leave message) E-Mail: ALodgher@tamusa.edu (preferred way of contact). Do not contact through Blackboard Messages as they are not monitored by the instructor. Student emails will receive a reply within two business days, excluding weekends and official holidays.
Course Website:	https://tamusa.blackboard.com/
Office Hours:	T R 10:00 am - 12:00 noon (zoom appointment) Instructor can meet via zoom or face-to-face in office based on preset appointment time

To meet with the instructor during office hours, send an email to the instructor (ALodgher@tamusa.edu) to set up a time during office hours and a zoom link will be sent to the student for a meeting to ensure individualized attention

Catalog Course Description: Course covers introductory programming for cyber security applications such as forensics, penetration testing, cryptography, etc. Introductory python structures, features, and modules are used for developing these applications. Course includes lab component for lab-based exercises. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in MATH 1314 or equivalent must be completed first.

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Students who do not meet the prerequisites must contact the instructor immediately. The department degree programs require that all Math, CSCI, and CISA prerequisites, even for courses transferred in, must have a grade of C or better.

Course Objectives: Students will learn the basics of reading, writing, and understanding small-scale python programming applications for the domain of cyber security. The course will cover the foundational topics of python programming as it is used for the art and implementation of cyber security offensive and defensive programming.

Important note: This course does not count as equivalent for CSCI 1436 for BS Computer Science students. They should drop out from this course and lab and contact their academic advisor and department chair of computer science immediately for schedule adjustment.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

- Understand and apply concepts, principles, and techniques of Python programming
- Understand introductory programming for cyber security applications
- Demonstrate python programming ability by analyzing cyber security problems and designing and implementing small applications as solutions

Text book and Class Materials:

- **Textbook (required):** Title: *Introduction to Python Programming*.
- WebSite: <https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-python-programming>
- This is an open source text book available for free under the open source license, and has exercises that a student can do at their own pace (highly recommended). The main concepts of Chapters 1 through 10 and chapter 14 will be covered. Students are required to go through each of those chapters for a thorough study of the basic python concepts and their use.

Requirements for this online synchronous course:

- **Blackboard connectivity:** Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com> to access lecture notes and other supplementary materials in Blackboard. All class materials will be posted through Blackboard and students are required to monitor this several times a day.
- **Hardware/Software:** Students are required to have a good computing laptop or desktop (MSWindows or Linux) with dedicated screen, camera, microphone and audio to enable accessing, discussing, and completing class work. Minimally, the following is necessary to be installed on a student computing machine (laptop).
 - Python 3.10 or above. Download and install from <https://www.python.org/downloads/>
 - Microsoft Visual Studio Code (VSC version 1.58.2 or above) for code development. (<https://code.visualstudio.com/Download>). This should be installed on the student laptop or desktop. Programming for this course will begin from the first day of class/lab using this environment.
 - This course requires the use of a computing environment with *owner privileges* using MS Windows or a Linux laptop/workstation. Other configurations such as Apple products, SurfacePro, cell-phones, tablets, etc do not have the required computing power/memory/hardware configuration or user privileges to allow the installation and or completion of the required course work. Students are required to use the appropriate environment to be a success in the class. In class work will use MS Windows/MS Visual Studio Code (VSC) environment for exercises.
 - **Note 2:** This course is a programming intensive course. There will be programming exercises done in the class, and a student is expected to continue those programs and do other programs outside the class. Every student is expected to have their laptop/desktop ready with the above programming environment for every class to complete in-class programs. This will enable a seamless transition from class work to homework.

- **Internet Connectivity:** Students are required to have high speed internet connectivity (typically more than 25 MB/sec) when joining the zoom session of the class, as well as for exam and class work submissions. On slower connections, students should submit their work early enough to enable the transmission of their work to be complete before the due date/time, as submission window may close before submission is complete.
- **Recording:** Instructor does not record any class or lab zoom sessions, and recording through zoom is disallowed/disabled. Students registered with DSS who are authorized to make class recordings should make arrangements to record respective class sessions on their devices using other authorized mechanisms from DSS.
- **Classwork submission:** All class work, homework, and other course materials shall be submitted through **Blackboard only**. Specific instructions for file naming and other details will be provided for each work submission. University email *cannot* be used for submission as security protocols remove python and other attachments. It is a student responsibility to check that their submissions are complete and available in Blackboard.
- **Time:** Each student is expected to **spend 4-8 hours per week for the course outside of class/lab time** reviewing class materials, reading the text book and completing hands-on practice of writing python programs. Based on the background, some students may require more time. Time spent may be longer when assignment and project deliverables are due. **Keywords: Practice, Practice, Practice** writing python programs from scratch.

Other Recommended / Reading Materials: There are many python tutorial websites. Students are encouraged to access those websites and to use Google/YouTube to search for “python tutorials” as a first resource. Sites include: <https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/index.html>, <https://www.w3resource.com/python-exercises/>, <https://www.w3schools.com/python/>, etc., The website: <https://docs.python.org/3/library/> has the official documentation of python language features.

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

1. It is a student responsibility to adhere to all university health and safety protocols
2. It is a student responsibility to check Blackboard on a regular basis for course material updates.
3. It is a student responsibility to keep current with all course class work, assignments, quizzes, and examinations, especially if they have missed a class
4. It is a student responsibility to ask questions and communicate with the instructor either in class, online, off-line or during office hours.
5. It is a student responsibility for availability of internet connectivity, computing hardware and software resources and access to BB and class text book/materials for class sessions and class work. Extensions will not be granted for lack of availability of these resources.

Grading Policy: The final course grade will be based on a student’s performance on the labs, exams, assignments and class participation using the following weights:

Attendance and class participation (checked any time in class)	5%
Lab work/ Lab exercises (almost once every week)	35%
Assignments (due dates notified in class)	20%
Mid-term Exam (mandatory)	20%
Final Exam (mandatory)	20%
Total	100%

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: 90% and above ⇒ A; 80 – 89% ⇒ B; 70 – 79% ⇒ C; 60 – 69% ⇒ D; Below 60% ⇒ F. The Course has a requirement of a grade of C as a minimum acceptable passing grade.

This course is a four hour course- it is split into a class and a lab session due to system scheduling. The course (including the lab session) will receive the SAME lower grade as the class / lab based on the above grade computation. Students have to pass the course AND the lab session to get a satisfactory grade for both.

Example 1: *If a student gets an F in the course and even if the student has a satisfactory grade for the lab work, the course and the lab will get an F.*

Example 2: *If a student get an F in the lab exercises and even if the student has a satisfactory grade for the course work, the course and the lab will get an F.*

University grade procedures are listed at: <https://catalog.tamusa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/grades/>

Examinations: There will be a mandatory mid-term exam, a mandatory final exam (as per university schedule). Being absent for an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam and may result in a fail grade in the course. The exams will consist of either: conceptual multiple-choice questions, problem solving questions, programming questions, and short essay questions. The exam materials will be based on class lecture materials, the text, labs, and class discussions. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class. Students are expected to take detailed notes of class discussions. Exams may be proctored by online proctoring service – in which case the student will be required to install the required proctoring software and allow access to the camera, microphone, and other requirements of the proctoring service.

Exams/Labs/Assignment submission: There will be labs (approximately one each week) and two assignments during the course. Individual lab and assignment statements and due dates will be posted through Blackboard. For all exams, assignments and lab problems, ALL code, data and output files must be submitted as per requirements. Students are responsible for ensuring that the code works (runs) without any changes by the instructor. For the programming exams/assignments/labs, a clear representation of the program code and logic including comments is necessary. Submission of files must be as indicated in each work requirement. Zip/compressed files will not be opened and will not be graded. Students are expected to open the files in BB after submission to ensure they are correct and complete. Students are expected to test their submission to ensure that the program submitted is working, complete and meets all requirements. Considerable points will be taken off for not following these requirements.

Labs, Assignments and Exams requirements: These will be distributed to students present in the respective zoom class session and will not be available to students who do not complete the attendance and honesty statement adherence of the respective zoom session when the lab/assignment/exam was given. Students not attending the zoom session when the lab, assignment or exam is given will get a grade of zero for the class work given in that session, unless the student informs the instructor of their absence before class, and in the case of an extenuating circumstance, within two days after the class/lab.

The instructor may use external software for detecting plagiarism.

Online individual / Group Activities: Students are NOT allowed to message the entire class.

Make up and late Lab/Assignment/exam policy: As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions for individual students will **NOT** be offered or accepted for any missed assignments/exams/labs. Late submissions or make-ups may be accepted/ administered only in extraordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, a student must provide comprehensive documentation either before or within a few days of the missed assignment, lab or exam.

Copyright: All classwork, labs, assignments, etc are the copyright of the instructor, and students are not permitted to share the work with other class members, anyone outside the class, or post on any online forum, blog, social media, AI tools such as ChatGPT, etc.. Labs, assignments, and exams may be coded with the student identification information, and students are required to complete the work with their information, and not anyone else's work.

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

1. Attendance will be taken by Zoom attendance or Blackboard quiz anytime in the class.
2. It is the students' responsibility to obtain, install and successfully use the required materials (hardware, software, connectivity, textbook, etc) for this class.
3. Student must retain copies of all submitted and graded work for verification purposes. Keep separate copies of all submissions (computer files, e-mails, etc) in addition to the submission into BB. That copy should **NOT** be changed in case verification of submission is needed.
4. While students are encouraged to ask questions, unrelated talking / commenting while the instructor is lecturing is extremely disruptive and discourteous to the instructor and other students and shall be avoided. Repeated logging in and out of online sessions is disruptive and strongly discouraged.
5. For any questions about the labs, assignments, and exams, a student should contact the instructor, **before** the day it is due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
6. All communications will be via Black Board and 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 within 48 hours during weekdays (Monday-Friday, excluding weekends and holidays). While the instructor will make every effort to answer on weekends/holidays also, it may not be possible in all cases.
7. All assignment submissions must be uploaded to Blackboard before the due date/time. Do not change or access files after submission until the instructor has given the OK to do so.
8. All class work (exams, quizzes, etc), must be done individually without seeking help from other students or from outside sources. **Not even a single line of code or text can be copied from anyone (in class or outside), or anywhere (from web searches, ChatGPT and similar bots) without consent or attribution.**

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary actions.

Class attendance and Participation: A vital part of every student's education is regular attendance of class meetings. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work, and frequent or persistent absences (*more than two*) may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material, and most students find at least some parts of it

difficult. Class participation is highly encouraged as it makes the class more interesting and enhances the learning experience. Students are strongly *encouraged* to ask questions and participate in class discussions and problem solving.

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

Spring 2025 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.

Week #	Week Begin Date	Description
Week 1	Jan 20	Syllabus, Chapter 1, Python environment
Week 2	Jan 27	Chapter 2: Data types and expressions
Week 3	Feb 3	Chapter 4: Decision Statements
Week 4	Feb 10	Chapter 5: Loops
Week 5	Feb 17	Chapter 8: Strings
Week 6	Feb 24	Chapter 14: Files
Week 7	Mar 3	Midterm exam, Tuesday March 4th 5:00 – 6:30 pm (Lab time.)
Week 8	Mar 10-15	Spring Break – No class
Week 9	Mar 17	Chapter 8,14: Application of strings/files
Week 10	Mar 24	Chapter 9: Lists
Week 11	Mar 31	Chapter 10: Dictionaries
Week 12	Apr 7	Chapter 9,10: Application of Lists and Dictionaries
Week 13	Apr 14	Chapter 3, 6,7: Objects, Functions, Modules
Week 14	Apr 21	Chapter 6,7: Functions, Modules
Week 15	Apr 28	Chapter 6,7: Functions, Modules - Applications
Week 16	May 6, Tuesday	Study Day – No classes
Final Exam	May 8th Thursday	2:00-3:50pm as per A&M-SA Final exam Schedule.

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 210-784-4357.

Dropping the course:

The last date to drop the course with an automatic grade of W and the last date to withdraw from the University are listed in the academic calendar on the university website. For either option, you are

required to meet with your academic advisor first and submit the necessary paperwork. Students dropping a course are subject to all conditions listed in the university catalog.

Violations of Academic Conduct (Section 14.5 Student Handbook)

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

Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions, collusion, lying and bribery. For more information, refer to the Student Code of Conduct, Article III: Conduct Rules and Regulations. Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty has the discretion to impose grade penalties as deemed necessary.

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

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

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

Use of Generative AI NOT Permitted for any course submission

CSEC 1436 class, assignment, exam and labwork assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of any exam, assignment or laboratory work for them, which

includes hiring a person or a company and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT, etc to write any portion of the exams, assignments or lab work. While the use of the web or AI tools such as ChatGPT, etc is allowed for review of class topics, submission of any work generated using any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

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

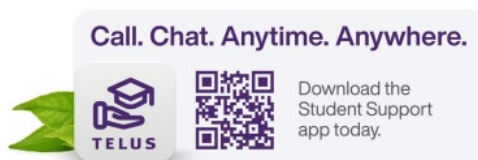
Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a

temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

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

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

Students' Rights

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

Students' Responsibilities

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

5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notifications.

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

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

Key Dates for Spring 2025 Semester

January 21	First day of class
April 18	Study day, No classes
April 21	Last day to drop with an automatic “W”
April 28	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
May 5	Last day of classes
May 6	Study Day – No classes
May 7-13	Final exams

The complete academic calendar is available online:

<https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/documents/AY2025-Academic-Calendar.pdf>