TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

CSEC 5311-900: **Big Data Analysis and Security**, CRN: 25169, Spring 2025
The Department of Computational, Engineering, and Mathematical Sciences
College of Arts and Sciences

Course Syllabus

Class Meeting Time and Place: Thu 19:00 - 21:45, **In-Person, SciTech Bldg-122**

Class Duration: 01/21/2025 - 05/13/2025

Instructor:
Dr. Md Tamjid Hossain, CISSP, PhD
Office: SciTech 211J
Tel: 210-784-2369
E-Mail: MdTamjid.Hossain@tamusa.edu
Typically, student emails will receive a reply within two (02) business days.

Course Website: https://tamusa.blackboard.com/
Office Hours: Wednesday 20:00 - 21:00 (Online & By Appointment Only)
Thursday 21:45 to 22:45
Send me an **email in advance** about the appointment.

Catalog Course Description: This course will introduce students to the concepts, principles, and application of big data and big data analytics and security. It will provide knowledge and practical experience on big data analytics tools and platforms including MapReduce, Hadoop, and Spark which leverage big data to solve current business problems. Moreover, this course will cover recent advanced techniques to secure big data while it is in rest (storage) and/or in motion (over networks).

Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in each of: MATH 1314, CSCI 1436 (or CSCI 1336 and 1136), CSCI 1437 (or CSCI 1337 and CSCI 1137), and CSCI 2436 or CISA 3309.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students should demonstrate knowledge and proficiency in the following areas:

- Understanding the foundational principles of big data, including volume, velocity, variety, veracity, and value.
- Identifying potential security threats and vulnerabilities inherent in big data systems.
- Implementing secure data storage solutions for structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data in big data environments.

- Securing data in motion by leveraging encryption techniques, secure communication protocols, and access control mechanisms.
- Utilizing tools to analyze and process large datasets securely.
- Implementing privacy-preserving techniques, such as differential privacy, k-anonymity, and cryptographic encryption, in big data analytics.
- Conducting assessments of data governance frameworks to ensure compliance with laws and regulations such as GDPR and HIPAA.
- Documenting incidents and breaches in big data systems for legal and regulatory purposes.
- Designing and deploying distributed machine learning systems while maintaining data security and privacy using federated learning techniques.

Recommended Course Materials: There will be no required textbooks. A range of articles and materials will be posted during the class.

Required Materials:

- **Blackboard:** Connect to http://tamusa.blackboard.com. You will have lecture notes and other supplementary materials on Blackboard. All class communications will be through Blackboard and students should monitor this several times a day.
- **Computer Hardware:** In order to participate in the tutoring sessions, you will need a computer with an internet connection, a microphone and speakers/headphones.
- **Time Expectation for coursework:** 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 assignment/exams are due.

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

Method of Instruction: This class includes lecture and class discussion, demonstrations, and hands-on practice. Student participation is encouraged and mandatory in required assignments and practical demonstrations, including both individual and group tasks.

Expectations from Student: The students are expected to-

- Read all course materials, including the syllabus and description of the grading and testing systems to be used in the course.
- Attend every class session and complete all assignments on time.
- Participate in all classroom learning activities.
- Interact respectfully with faculty, staff, and fellow students.
- Refrain from all academic misconduct
- Avoid situations that give the appearance of misconduct.

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

1. Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages (e-mail) systems in Blackboard on a regular basis.
2. Students should keep current with all course assignments, quizzes, and examinations.
3. If the course uses remote proctoring for exams, students must schedule their exam early in the semester.
4. Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor either in class, online, off-line or during office hours.
5. For all classwork, exams, quizzes etc., if a student is completing it off-campus, then they are responsible for availability of internet connectivity. Extensions will **not** be granted for lack of availability of internet connections.
6. Students should keep current on class recordings, if not attending the live class (either in person or online).
7. The instructor reserves the right to reflect attendance in the final grade.
8. The presentations do not include everything said in class because that makes for a boring presentation, so expect to take notes in class.
9. It is strongly encouraged to read the recommended materials before class so that the lecture is not the first time that you are seeing a concept.
10. **There could be online class sessions depending on the circumstances**. The notifications of any online class session (if it is required for any unavoidable reasons) would be given by the instructor earlier through Announcement and Message (e-mail) system in Blackboard. Students are expected to attend the online session at the given time. If a student is unable to attend a session, the instructor will make the recording of the session available for the student to view. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.

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

Attendance	10%
Assignments/Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Project (Presentation + Report)	30%
Survey Paper	10%
Total	**100%**

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

90 – 100 **A**;
80 – 89 **B**;
70 – 79% **C**;
60 – 69% **D**;
59 and below **F**.

This course has a requirement of a grade of C as a minimal grade for satisfactory completion of the course.

Examinations: There will be mandatory one **mid-term exam**. Being absent for an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam and may result in a failure grade in the course. The exams may consist of multiple-choice questions, conceptual problem-solving questions, and short essay questions. The exam

materials will come from lecture notes, reference materials, and class discussions. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class.

Assignments: There will be several assignments during the course. For all assignments, ALL intermediate work of the problem solution steps MUST be shown. This includes the use of the formula, the values substituted in the formulas for problem solution, as well as the intermediate steps of the arithmetic computation. The units of measurement are extremely important and MUST be shown at each stage of the computation. The submitted assignment report MUST be readable and clear. The students are advised to follow the order of the questions while answering and submitting the report to make the grading system easy. Considerable points will be taken off for not following these requirements. All assignments will have a clearly indicated due date.

Make up and Late Assignment/Exam policy: All assignments will have a clearly indicated due date. **Late homework and tests get 25% of normal graded value and are accepted up to 24 hours after the due date and time. For example, if you would have gotten a 90 on the homework, it gets 67.5 when it is late**. **Submissions are not acceptable after the 24 hours of the due date and time, and the students will get ZERO (0) for the assignment (except for unavoidable and pre-authorized circumstances).** Generally, no make-up will be accepted for any missed assignments/exams. Make-up and Late submissions may be accepted/administered only in extra-ordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation (you should always redact the sensitive personal information before sharing) either before or within a few days of the missed assignments/exams. Clear and advanced communication with the instructor is strongly recommended.

Broader Use of Generative AI Permitted Within Guidelines: To advance technological proficiency while upholding academic integrity, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including ChatGPT and similar generative AI technologies, is permitted under the following strict guidelines. These rules aim to ensure students develop problem-solving skills and technological competence while maintaining scholarly integrity:

a. Permitted Use of AI Tools

1. **Scope of Use**: Students may use AI tools for tasks such as:
    - Conceptual understanding of topics.
    - Paraphrasing written content.
    - Grammar and syntax corrections.
    - Idea generation for brainstorming purposes.
2. **Restricted Assignments/Exams**: Specific assignments, exams, or labs may prohibit AI tool use. Restrictions will be explicitly stated in the assignment/exam/lab guidelines.

b. Guidelines for Ethical Use

1. **Initial Problem-Solving**:
    - Students must attempt to solve assignments, problems, coding exercises, or similar tasks independently before seeking assistance from AI tools.
    - Evidence of self-attempt (e.g., **AI-prompts**, draft notes, preliminary code, or conceptual explanations) is required in submissions containing AI-generated contents.

2. **Verification of AI-Generated Content**:
    - Any content generated by AI tools (text, images, videos, or other media) must be thoroughly reviewed by the student for factual correctness and clarity of understanding.
    - Students are solely responsible for errors or misinterpretations in AI-generated material incorporated into their work.
3. **Prohibition of Copy-Paste Submissions**:
    - Directly pasting AI-generated responses into assignments, reports, or other academic submissions without review, understanding, citation, and proper adaptation is prohibited.
4. **Citing AI Tools**:
    - Any use of AI-generated material must be properly cited. Citations should follow the format:
        - For text: "This section was informed by outputs from ChatGPT, [version], OpenAI, retrieved on [date]."
        - For code snippets: Annotate code with comments such as "Generated using ChatGPT, [version], OpenAI, retrieved on [date]."
        - Alternatively, guidance for how to cite AI-generators, like ChatGPT, can be found here: https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt
    - Failure to cite AI contributions constitutes academic dishonesty and will be addressed according to the University's standards of academic integrity.

c. Privacy Considerations

1. **Sensitive Information**:
    - Students must not share private, sensitive, or proprietary information about individuals, organizations, or entities with AI tools or similar platforms.
    - Violations of privacy guidelines may lead to disciplinary actions in alignment with university policies.

d. Policy Modifications

1. **Policy Changes**:
    - This policy is subject to change based on evolving academic and institutional needs. Any modifications will be communicated clearly through announcements on Blackboard.
2. **Compliance**:
    - By continuing this course, students agree to comply with this policy. Non-compliance may result in academic penalties, including but not limited to grade deductions or formal disciplinary action.

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

1. Attendance may be taken by an appropriate method by the instructor.
2. It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
3. Students must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes and provide it to the instructor, if necessary. Keep your own copies (unmodified and with time/date) of all computer files and e-mails till the final grade is received.

4. Talking among classmates and third parties while the instructor is lecturing is extremely disruptive and discourteous to the instructor and other students.
5. Using computers or phones (except for a valid urgent need) during class for a purpose not related to class is disruptive. All cell phones and gadgets should be turned OFF or kept SILENT.
6. For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor well in advance of the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
7. All communications will be via e-mail communications to the Texas A&M University e-mail account, and students are expected to use their school provided email account. The instructor will reply to student e-mail messages and voice messages within 02 business days (Monday-Friday) except for cases due to unavoidable circumstances.
8. All assignment submissions MUST be uploaded as instructed by the due date and time. The submission window may close or be marked late, even if late by one second.
9. The students MUST validate the status (of successful submission) and the readability of their assignments upon submission.

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 (for face-to-face/hybrid classes/online synchronous classes) or regular review of class materials posted by the instructor for asynchronous classes. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work and grades, and frequent or persistent absences may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material, and most students may 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, participate in class discussions and problem solving, and visit/contact the instructor during office hours following a prior meeting appointment in case of questions or concerns.

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 and may vary considerably based on student background. However, a **minimum** of two hours of work outside the class is expected for every one hour of class period per week. Reading the assigned materials and having some familiarity with them before class will be very useful for understanding lectures.

Minimum Technology Requirements: To complete this course, the student must have access to the following technologies:

A computing device - desktop, laptop (500GB to 1TB free space and 16G to 32G of memory) capable of:

- accessing Internet-based content
- displaying recorded video
- playing recorded audio - with speakers or headphones
- recording audio - with microphone or headset
- capturing your image and actions during exams - with a web camera (see RLDB & Respondus Monitor)

- Internet access of sufficient speed to download/display recorded lectures.
- Free or trial software capable of creating slide + audio presentations.
- Standard office productivity applications like MS Word, Excel & PowerPoint, and Adobe Reader
- A printer (for printing course calendars, etc.)

Submitted Work Naming Convention:

Save and submit all your work in .PDF format (only in other formats when specified). Make sure to save your files using the convention **FIRSTNAME_LASTNAME_COURSE ABBREVIATION_SEMESTER AND YEAR_ACTIVITY NAME_NUMBER** Or as specified in the assignment instructions.
Example: **Luke_Cage_CSEC5311_SP25_Assignment_1.pdf**

Communication With Professor:

I will be instructing a large student population, and I filter my emails based on the class number. When you need to reach out to me via email: you must include the complete Class Number (e.g., CSEC5311), followed by your complete name, subject of email (e.g., Assignment 1), (e.g., Bridget Jones), and followed by your student number (**e.g., J01234567**) in the SUBJECT line of the email. For example**: (Subject: [CSEC5311] Assignment 1 Bridget Jones J01234567).** Doing so will allow a more rapid response to your questions.

Spring 2025 CSEC 5311 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.

Note: This course outline is subject to change as per future needs. Any changes in the outline will be announced through prior class notice (if time allows) and Blackboard.

	Date	Chapters
Week 1	Jan. 23	Syllabus, Introduction. **Big Data Overview:** Definitions, Characteristics, Applications, Scopes
Week 2	Jan. 30	**Big Data Collection and Exploration**: Data Lakes/Data Warehouse, Workflow, Data Preparation/Cleaning Techniques, Dirty Data Challenges, Hadoop
Week 3	Feb. 6	**Big Data Processing and Analysis:** Frequency/Mode, Measure of Spread, Visualization Techniques, MapReduce/Spark
Week 4	Feb. 13	**Overview of Machine Learning/Deep Learning:** Applications, Categories, Metrics, Platforms & Frameworks

Week 5	Feb. 20	**Introduction to Different Learning Types:** Supervised, Unsupervised, Reinforcement
Week 6	Feb. 27	**Build and Train Deep Learning Models:** Convolution, Activation Functions, Hyperparameters, Neural Network Design, Regularization and Optimization
Week 7	Mar. 6	**Midterm**
Week 8	Mar. 13	**Spring Break; No Class**
Week 9	Mar. 20	**Security & Privacy of ML Systems Overview:** Federated Learning
Week 10	Mar. 27	**Cryptography for Big Data Security:** Techniques, Applications, Hashing
Week 11	Apr. 3	**Differential Privacy for Big Data Systems:** Methods, Applications
Week 12	Apr. 10	**Big Data Security Practices, Principles and Governance:** Relevant Processes/Standards, Certifications
Week 13	Apr. 17	**Presentation**
Week 14	Apr. 24	**Study day; No Class**
Week 15	May. 1	**Presentation**
Week 16	May. 8 - May 13	**Final Week; No Class**

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

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. The 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 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).

Important Dates:

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
March 10-March 15 Monday-Saturday – Spring Break
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

The complete academic calendar is available online: https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html.