



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

COMM 1315-001: Fundamentals of Public Speaking Department of Sociology and Communication Spring 2026 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Jenny Moore

Office Location: Central Academic, Room 320

Office Hours: Monday & Friday- 11:00 am to 12:00 pm or by appointment

E-Mail: jmoore@tamusa.edu

Weekly Meeting Information:

9:30 am - 10:45 am Mondays & Wednesdays Business Library Hall (BLH) 266

Course Description:

Introduction to Public Speaking details the history, theory and practice of public speaking with an emphasis placed upon the organization and delivery of informative and persuasive speeches. Further emphasis is given to the reduction of anxieties associated with public speaking. This course meets the standards for the Component Area Option category of course under the core curriculum.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate awareness of self-perception through recognizing diverse perspectives and understanding ethical implications of communication.
2. Cultivate active listening skills.
3. Design intentional messages by practicing audience analysis.
4. Research, develop, and deliver extemporaneous informative and persuasive speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal messages.
5. Develop critical thinking skills through practicing effective group communication.

Textbook Information:

The Art of Public Speaking by Stephen E. Lucas and Paul Stob (2023 Release)

ISBN10: 1265455643 | **ISBN13:** 9781265455644 with Connect Access Card

The e-book is available online through McGraw Hill Connect and can be purchased through the TAMUSA Bookstore:

<https://www.bkstr.com/texasamsanantoniostore/product/connect-3p-inclusive-access-1-semester-online-access-for-the-art-of-public-speaking--custom--879584-1>

Recommended Materials:

Students will need the following:

- A laptop/desktop with internet access and Microsoft Office applications (i.e. Word, PowerPoint).
- Working knowledge of Blackboard.
- A free Canva or Adobe Express account.
- Note-taking method (i.e. notebook and pen/pencil).
- A way to save and backup your work (i.e. Google Drive, iCloud, USB, etc.)
- McGraw Hill Connect Account (comes with the purchase of your eBook)

Course Policies and Procedures:

This is a face to face, on campus course with twice weekly meetings. All course related materials are available on Blackboard or Connect. You are expected to check Blackboard and your student email address weekly to receive important course content and information. Make sure that you have course notifications set up through Blackboard to ensure that you receive alerts when announcements, grades, assignments, or other course related materials are posted and/or updated.

Most readings will come from the textbook, but any supplemental readings will be posted on Blackboard. You are expected to complete these readings prior to attending class in preparation for class discussion and instruction. Refer to the course schedule for information on readings and assignment due dates, and follow along accordingly.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities for all of the classes for which they are registered. Attendance is a vital part of every student's education, and absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work in a course, and frequent or

persistent absences may preclude a passing grade or cause a student to be dropped from one or more courses upon the request of a faculty member.

Absences cannot be made up; this includes any in-class activities that are completed for credit. Part of maintaining regular attendance means arriving to class on time and prepared for course engagement.

Attendance will be taken by your instructor every class meeting within the first 10 minutes of class. If you are not present, you will be counted absent. Attendance is defined as a student actively participating during the designated meeting day and time for the course.

Absences are not allowed on speech delivery days. You will know your speech delivery date in advance. Only emergency situations count as legitimate excuses for missing class on speech delivery days. Documentation must be provided for all emergency situations.

Missing class for two (4 absences) or more weeks will result in your instructor reducing your final grade by a minimum of 10%, in addition to receiving zeros for all missed assignments.

For absences related to critical situations and/or medical or family emergencies, you must speak to your instructor AND contact the Office of the Dean of Students to explore options related to filing a **Class Absence Notification Request**. (Visit: <https://www.tamusa.edu/dean-of-students/class-absence-notification-request.html> for more information).

Examples of critical situations and/or medical or family emergencies include:

- Concussions
- Crime Victimization
- Death in the Family
- Hospitalizations
- Housing Fire/Natural Disaster
- Life-threatening Issues
- Terminal Illness

Non-emergency absences should be addressed with your professor directly. Please email or visit your professor during designated office hours to discuss attendance issues matters.

The following examples are not considered emergencies by your instructor and do not serve as excuses for missing class:

- Doctor's Appointments
- Events (i.e. Family graduations, Weddings, etc.)
- Job Interviews
- Relationship Conflicts
- Sprains
- Allergies

For more information on **TAMUSA's attendance policies**, visit <https://catalog.tamusa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/class-attendance/>.

It is your responsibility to contact your professor should you have any issues with attendance at any time over the course of the semester.

Assignment Submission:

All assignments must be submitted through Blackboard or McGraw Hill Connect on the specified due date, unless otherwise stipulated. Assignments are not accepted through email unless the student has discussed the need for this with the instructor. All writing assignments must be submitted in PDF format unless a particular project or assignment requires the use of a different program and/or format.

All assignments are due on the assigned due date (see the Course Schedule) by 11:59 pm through Blackboard or Connect UNLESS your instructor provides different instructions.

All assignments should adhere to the assignment guidelines as expressed on the instruction sheets provided to you by your instructor. Instruction sheets will be available on Blackboard in accordance with the Course Schedule.

The delivery of speeches MUST BE completed in class on your assigned presentation date.

Late Work Policy:

Late work is not accepted UNLESS you have extenuating circumstances, as determined in conference with your instructor. If you are facing extenuating circumstances that result in your failure to submit an assignment on the specified due date, you must contact your instructor within 48 hours of the assignment due date to discuss your options, if any. If you are granted an extension on any assignment, you have 48 hours to turn in the missing assignment. Failure to turn in the missing assignment after 48 hours will result in a zero, no exceptions.

If you are facing ongoing issues completing work in a timely manner and/or attending class on a daily basis, it is your responsibility to discuss your circumstances with your instructor to determine if there are any options.

Extra Credit

Extra credit is a possibility. Should such possibilities arise, your professor will inform you of such opportunities over the course of the semester.

Communication Policy:

Email your instructor directly at jmoore@tamusa.edu using your TAMUSA student email address. Emails will be answered within 24 hours of being received, Monday-Friday. If you email your instructor over the weekend, you may not receive a reply until the following Monday. Please make sure to read through the course syllabus before emailing your instructor with questions related to the information presented in the syllabus and course schedule.

Make sure to include your name and class period information (i.e. COMM 1315-009) in all emails sent to your instructor or you may not receive a response. Please express yourself as clearly as possible and address your instructor in a professional manner in all emails you plan on sending to your instructor or you may not receive a response. To ensure a speedy response, do not use Blackboard Messages to contact your instructor.

Etiquette and Civility: Your instructor is committed to creating and fostering a welcoming and inclusive learning environment in which students are encouraged to speak up, sharing their thoughts, opinions, insights, and/or experiences. This can only be accomplished through mutual respect and understanding. In order to build a sense of community in our classroom, it is important to share your thoughts, ideas, opinions, insights, and/or experiences in a respectful manner and be open and understanding of differing viewpoints. Therefore, should any student engage in any type of violent,

harassing, and/or discriminatory speech or behavior, the student will immediately be asked to leave the class and will be reported to the university and may be subject to the Student Code of Conduct, as outlined in the [Student Handbook](#).

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.

Technology Policy: The use of laptops during class is restricted to note taking, assignment preparation, assignment completion, and attendance. Please refrain from engaging with technology use that distracts you from participating in live course attendance and participation.

Cell phones are to remain silent during class time. Please do not use your cell phones during class. Use your time to connect with your classmates and your own work in this course. If you absolutely need to make or take a phone call during class time, please ONLY do so during emergencies, outside in the hallway.

The use of assistive technology is allowed in accordance with accommodations for students provided to the instructor by the Center for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Integrity Statement:

Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. This

includes holding other students to the same standards and reporting any incidents of alleged violation of the honesty policy to the instructor involved or, if necessary, to the appropriate academic department head. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Misconduct Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook.

University policy prescribes serious consequences for acts of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, a grade of “F” on the particular paper or assignment or a failing grade in the course. Also, a referral may be issued to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities where the sanctions can vary up to possible expulsion from the University. Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students’ best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If you are ever unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please contact your instructor for an assessment of the situation.

Assignment and Grading Information:

All grades will be posted to Blackboard and will be updated as assignments are graded by the instructor. These grades are representative of all assignments. All assignments submitted by the specified due date will receive a grade based on the rubrics posted on Blackboard for each assignment. Assignments that are not completed and submitted by the due date will be posted as a zero (please see the Late Work Policy section for more information). Receiving a zero has the potential to drastically bring down your grade, so make sure to complete and submit all assignments according to the due date.

Grade Breakdown by Assignment:

Assignment	Possible Points	Grade
Introductory Speech	40	
Informative Speech & Visual Aid	150	
IS Outline & References	50	
Persuasive Speech/Group Project & Visual Aid	150	
PS Outline & References	50	
Infographic & Rhetorical Situation Write Up	100	
Peer Reviews	50	
Impromptu Speech	40	
Quizzes (5 @ 20 points each)	100	
Connect Assignments	50	
In-Class Activities/Assignments (Attendance	50	

Grade)		
Total Possible Points	830	

Grading Scale:

A: 747–830

B: 664–746

C: 581–663

D: 498–580

F: 0–497

Description of Assignments

Introductory Speech: You will be introducing yourself to the class based on a topic of your choice related to your personality. For example, you might speak about a hobby that you participate in and why it's so important to you or why you enjoy it so much. The speech will be between 2 and 3 minutes long. This speech is designed to get you used to delivering speeches in front of an audience and to work on listening skills.

Outlines: Outlines are necessary in order to help you organize your thoughts, and they will be required for each speech you make. Several models for outlining will be provided on Blackboard.

References: For each of your speeches, you will be required to turn in a reference list in APA format comprised of credible resources. This will be discussed further in class. Your references should consist of a variety of sources to include books, interviews, journals, documentaries, etc.

ALL YOUR SOURCES MUST BE BOTH CURRENT AND CREDIBLE.

Research: You must conduct research for each of your speeches. For this aspect of speech preparation, we will discuss how to use library resources so that you are introduced to the various ways in which to conduct research. However, the research that you conduct for your speeches will be conducted on your own time.

Topic Proposals: While you will be given some choice when it comes to the topics for your speeches, you must clear the topic with your instructor to make sure it is worthy of research and discussion.

Informative Speech: For this speech, you will be required to present the class with

some new, interesting information. An outline, references, and a visual aid will be required. You must conduct research for this speech. You will provide your instructor with a preliminary outline a week before your presentation date and a final outline on the day of your presentation. A minimum of three credible references is required in APA citation format to be typed and turned in on the day of your speech. You must have a visual aid, like PowerPoint, for this speech. The time allotted for this speech is exactly 5 to 7 minutes. You must also clear your topic with your instructor exactly one week before your scheduled presentation date.

Persuasive Speech/Group Project: In groups of 3-4 students, each group will pick a persuasive topic on which to focus following Monroe's Motivated Sequence. Each group member will be responsible for a specific task, as decided upon by the group. Each group will then construct presentations in which each group member will discuss one to two sections of MMS. You will be required a visual aid for this assignment, an outline, and a bibliography. The time allotted for this speech is 10-12 mins. Your topic choice must also be preapproved by your instructor.

Speech information: ***You are not allowed to read your speech!*** In order to avoid reading your speech, you have the option of using index cards. Number your cards so that if they get out of order, they can be easily reorganized. Write large enough so that you are able to see what you wrote on them and they are actually helpful for you. You must maintain eye contact with your audience in order to engage with them, and reading your speech verbatim distracts your audience, causing you to lose their attention.

To avoid reading your speeches, you must practice! Practice in front of your family and friends and have them time you to make sure you stay within the time limits for each speech.

Remember: Practice makes perfect, and I will be able to tell how prepared you are. If you are not prepared, it will reflect in your grade! If you are having issues with speech preparation, speak to your instructor!

Infographic and Rhetorical Situation Write-Up: To demonstrate your understanding of audience analysis, you will design an infographic (informative or persuasive) that provides your target audience with an overview of a more complex topic and/or raises awareness for a specific issue or cause. You will then write a summary discussing your stylistic choices based on the audience you are attempting to target through your infographic.

Quizzes: If you come to class, you should be able to get full credit for all the quizzes. I will ask you to answer questions pertaining to the course material and readings. As long as you attend class regularly, take notes, and complete the readings, you should easily be able to pass the quizzes. You will complete these through Connect.

Connect Assignments: These assignments must be completed through McGraw Hill Connect (linked through BB). Each will focus on a different aspect of communication and/or public speaking and are designed to help you think about the material being covered in class and how it can be applied.

In Class Activities: These exercises will take place in class, but may require outside work. You must be present to get full credit for these exercises as they are designed to help with speech preparation and/or to illustrate lessons from the readings. These exercises are not always announced and they cannot be made up for any reason.

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 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

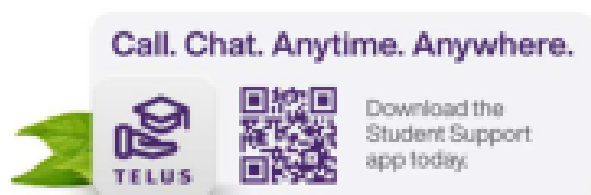
emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

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 <http://tamusa.edu/studentcounseling>.

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331.

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 by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (the first week of class) will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

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 e-portfolios, 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/StudentRights-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 with an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

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

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual on our campus and within our state, nation, and world.

All decisions and actions involving students and employees are to be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in

accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the University's Civil Rights Officer at 210-784-2061 or titleix@tamusa.edu.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university 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 based on sex, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more.

The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related sex-based misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

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

The university will provide such reasonable modifications to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with 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.

Young Jaguars: can support parenting students with daycare who meet this criteria: Must be enrolled in classes at TAMUSA in the current semester. Must be Pell eligible or a single parent. They serve children ages 3 to 12-years-old. Children must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. youngjaguars@tamusa.edu (210) 784-2636

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

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.

2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, 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 students' rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

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

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: Fall 2025 Regular 16-Week Session

January 20	First day of class
February 4	Census Date
April 17	Last day to drop with an automatic "W"
May 1	Last day to withdraw from the University
May 5	Study Day – No classes
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Holiday – No classes
May 4	Last day of classes
May 5	Study Day – No classes
May 6-12	6-12 Final exams
December 16	Commencement

The complete academic calendar is available online:

<https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>