

Research Methods in Criminology

Section: CRIM 3370-004

Instructor: Dr. Danielle Fenimore

Instructor Email: dfenimore@tamusa.edu

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, or by appointment

Meeting Time: Mon/Wed 11:00–12:15 PM

Location: Classroom Hall 221

Course Description

This course will train students to align criminal justice research questions with appropriate methodological choices and to justify those choices. Emphasis is on formulating researchable questions, identifying variables and units of analysis, choosing and defending qualitative/quantitative/mixed methods, designing sampling and measurement strategies, and assessing threats to validity and ethics in applied criminal justice contexts.

Learning Outcomes

- Formulate empirical research questions.
- Classify independent, dependent, and control variables and the unit of analysis.
- Align research questions to methodological approaches (qualitative, quantitative, mixed) and data collection strategies.
- Operationalize constructs and assess measurement validity and reliability.
- Justify sampling logic and strategy selection for a given population and setting.
- Assess threats to internal, external, construct.
- Draft a research design proposal that justifies all major decisions.
- Communicate research reasoning in clear, concise writing for academic and practitioner audiences.

Required Materials

Textbook: Bachman & Schutt, Fundamentals of Research in Criminal Justice (edition as adopted).

Access Note: This course was added to the schedule late, and so the textbook was not available at the bookstore yet. The textbook will be announced in Week 1. Weeks 1–2 proceed without the textbook using instructor-provided handouts and lectures. Beginning Week 3, students upload handwritten reading notes (photos or scans) to Blackboard to show engagement with the textbook.

Assessment & Grading

Assignments will be submitted via Blackboard, unless otherwise specified. I anticipate grading and returning assignments within two weeks of their submission. If you have questions about the assignment, please email me no later than Friday at 5:00 PM before the assignment deadline. I will not be answering emails over the weekend unless it's an emergency.

If you have questions about your grade on any assignment, you have ONE WEEK after the grade is posted in which to come to me to question your grade (that is, to ask for point changes based on justifiable criteria— except for the last week, because grades are due within a few days, in which case you have 48 hours). After that time period, the grade stands (even if you did not check the grade until after that time period).

Should you raise serious questions about how something was graded, I reserve the right to re-grade your entire assignment (meaning your grade may go up or down). I recommend waiting 24 hours after a grade is posted to email with a question; often, initial emails are reactionary, and waiting 24 hours allows sufficient time to process. If you do choose to email me regarding a grade within 24 hours of its posting, be sure to use professional language in your email.

I do not bump grades or provide extra credit to raise grades at the end of the semester because I believe in being as fair and transparent in grading as possible. Please ensure you do your best work on each assignment and ask for help as needed throughout the semester.

Grading Mastery of Course Material:

This course utilizes a 4-point proficiency scale rather than a traditional 0–100 percentage scale. The 100-point scale is not mathematically useful because nearly two-thirds of the scale (0–59) is dedicated to failure, whereas the 4-point scale evenly distributes grades across performance levels, ensuring that a single zero does not mathematically prevent recovery.

Score	Grade Equivalent	Proficiency Level	Meaning
4	A (90–100%)	Mastery	Accurate, specific, and well-justified; anticipates a limitation or alternative.
3	B (80–89%)	Proficient	Work meets most standards; minor errors; accurate and justified; minor imprecision.
2	C (70–79%)	Approaching	Work meets some standards; partially correct; significant logic gaps.
1	D (60–69%)	Needs Support	Work is submitted but fails to meet minimum standards; major errors; major misunderstandings; minimal justification.
0	F (Below 60%)	Insufficient	No evidence submitted; off-task.

Final Grade Calculation

Your final grade is calculated based on a weighted average of your performance on the 4-point scale. To ensure your grade reflects your final mastery of the material rather than your initial attempts, assignments are divided into the five categories listed in the table below:

Component	Weight
Weekly Design Reps (10)	30%
In-Class Case Activities (8)	25%
Reading Notes Upload (Weeks 3–14)	10%
Research Design Portfolio (4 entries)	20%
Final Research Design Proposal & Lightning Talk	15%

Your final score (0–4) is calculated using the following formula: *(Average of Design Reps × 0.30) + (Average of In-class Activities × 0.25) + (Average of Reading Notes × 0.10) + (Average of Research Design Portfolio × 0.20) + (Final Design & Lightning Talk × 0.15) = Final Course Score*

Once your final course score is calculated, it is converted to a letter grade using the following scale. This 4-point scale ensures that the gap between failure (0) and a passing grade is mathematically proportionate, unlike the 100-point scale where 60% of the scale is devoted to failure.

- A (3.50 – 4.00)
- B (2.75 – 3.49)
- C (2.00 – 2.74)
- D (1.00 – 1.99)
- F (0.00 – 0.99)

Assignment Descriptions:

1. Weekly Design Reps (10 total, 30%): Design Reps are short assignments that let you practice a single research skill at a time (e.g., identifying variables, choosing a method, assessing validity). These tasks are intentionally low-stakes but high-frequency to help you build mastery through repetition. Any score of 2 or below may be revised within one week for up to a 3 after the grades are posted.
2. In-Class Case Activities (8 total, 25%): These are hands-on, small-group activities completed during class. Activities may include card sorts, gallery walks, coding exercises, debates, and sampling simulations. Your group will submit the required deliverable at the end of class. These assignments cannot be made up outside class but are graded on effort and reasoning, not perfection.
3. Reading Notes Uploads (10 total, 10%): Beginning Week 3, you will be asked to handwrite 1–2 pages of notes per assigned textbook reading. Notes help you absorb key concepts and prepare for in-class application. You will upload a photo or scan to Blackboard before the next class. Late notes receive a maximum of 2 points. Your notes must include:
 - a. An outline of the main point of the chapter;

- b. A list of key terms to keep in mind;
 - c. Something you found interesting, or that you did not know;
 - d. One question or point of confusion.
- 4. Research Design Portfolio (4 entries, 20%): The portfolio is a set of four cumulative assignments where you develop different parts of a research design across multiple criminal justice topics. Each entry focuses on a specific research skill. You may revise one entry before Week 15. The portfolio helps you build the components needed for the final research design proposal.
- 5. Final Research Design Proposal & Lightning Talk (15%): This is your culminating project for the course. You will submit a 6–8 page research design proposal that includes:
 - a. A clear research question
 - b. Variables and unit of analysis
 - c. Method selection and justification
 - d. Sampling and operationalization plans
 - e. Validity and ethical considerations.

You will also present a 3–4 minute lightning talk that summarizes your design decisions to an audience of your classmates. This proposal does not require collecting data; its purpose is to demonstrate your ability to align a research question with coherent methodological choices.

Course Policies

Attendance & Census Day Requirements

For this course, attendance for Census day (February 4) will be measured by attending at least three of the first four class meetings, and completing at least 75% of the assignments during that same time period. If you do not complete these requirements, you will be marked as not attending and the university will be contacting you.

Email & Written Communication

You will need to be looking for communications from me through your TAMUSA email. I regularly send messages to my courses to keep them updated with course. If you are not reading these or checking your school email, you will miss out on vital information for the course.

When you need to contact me, you must use an email through Outlook. My email address is at the top of this syllabus. I do not see messages from Blackboard until much later; please do not use that platform feature.

Your emails should be written formally and include an appropriate subject line that includes your course number and section, and a brief description about the subject of your email (e.g., CRIM 3370-004: Conflict with Due Date). The email itself must include a proper greeting, a fully



constructed body of the message using proper grammar and sentence structure, and a formal sign off. Without these features, I will not respond to your email.

This is an asynchronous course, but I will be active in the discussion boards and email. I typically respond to emails within 24 hours on weekdays. However, please note the following dates where I will have limited or delayed connectivity:

- **Jan 26 – Feb 1:** Traveling (Personal).
- **Mar 2 – Mar 8:** Research Conference (Philadelphia).
- **Apr 6 – Apr 12:** Traveling (Personal).

Late Work Policy

Grades in this course are designed to measure your academic achievement, not your behavior. Penalizing late work by deducting points distorts your grade, making it reflect compliance rather than your actual skill level. There are no point deductions for late work. HOWEVER, deadlines are set to keep you on track. If you fall behind, you are still expected to complete the work to demonstrate mastery.

The Redo Policy

Learning requires practice, mistakes, and the chance to revise your understanding. This course allows selective assignment redos to support mastery of core research-design skills.

What Can Be Resubmitted?

Any Weekly Design Rep or Portfolio Entries (1–4) — one revision allowed per entry. Final presentations and the Final Research Design Proposal cannot be redone.

What Makes an Assignment Eligible for Redo?

To request a redo, all of the following must be true:

1. Your original score was 2 (Developing) or 1 (Beginning). Scores of 3 or 4 are not eligible for revision.
2. You submitted the assignment on time. Late work is not eligible for redo (unless documented circumstances apply).
3. You must have a complete Reading Notes Upload or in-class participation assignment for that week. This serves as proof of effort and engagement. If your notes or in-class artifact for that week are missing or incomplete, you forfeit the redo.

What is the Redo Process?

1. Submit a Redo Request through via email within 7 days of receiving your graded work.
2. Your instructor will reopen the assignment for revisions and provide targeted feedback.
3. Submit your revised work within one week of the request being approved.

Grading of Redos

The redo grade replaces the original grade entirely. The maximum score you may earn on a redo is 3 (Meets Expectations). This ensures that revisions are used for *mastery and growth*, not for unlimited point-chasing, while still giving you a clear path to success.



IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357). If you don't hear back within 48 hours, contact them again. They have many requests during the first part of the semester, so you may need to follow up with them.

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

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

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

	Appointments available	Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed
MONDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
TUESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
WEDNESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
THURSDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
FRIDAY	8 am – 5 pm	11 am – 4 pm

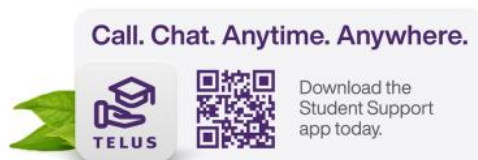
Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the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



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

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. *Crisis support is available 24/7/365 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 or through the TELUS student support App.*

The TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including 24/7/365 support for in the moment distress, crisis support, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.



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

Jaguar Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center (WLDCC): The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills,



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

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a [CARE report](#) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources. A food pantry is available on campus; click [here](#) for hours and contact information.

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

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the wide variety of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided 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 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 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. Young Jaguars can support parenting students with daycare if students meet this criteria: (1) must be enrolled in classes at Texas A&M-San Antonio in the current semester, (2) must be Pell eligible or a single parent, (3) child(ren) must be aged 3 to 12-years-old, and (4) child(ren) must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. For more information, please contact Young Jaguars at youngjaguars@tamusa.edu or call (210) 784-2636.

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

Students' Rights

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

Important Spring 2026 Dates:

Dates	Event
January 13	Tuition & Fee Payments deadline
January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. – No Classes
January 20	First day of class
February 4	Census date
February 23-March 6	Midterm grading period
March 9-March 14	Spring Break
April 3	Study Day – No classes
April 17	Last day to drop with an automatic “W”
May 1	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
May 4	Last day of classes
May 5	Study Day – No classes
May 6-May 12	Final exams
May 19	Commencement

The complete [academic calendar](#) is available online

Course Expectations of AI Use

No use of generative AI is permitted in this course. CRIM 3370 assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio’s standards of academic integrity.

Just a few notes:

Weeks begin on Monday; most assignments are due Sunday by 11:59 PM.

Communication Availability Notices

Please update your calendars with the following dates where instructor response times will be delayed (48–72 hours).

- **Jan 28 – Jan 30 (Week 2):** Dr. Fenimore is traveling for personal reasons.
- **Mar 3 – Mar 7 (Week 7):** Dr. Fenimore presenting at a research conference.
- **Apr 9 – Apr 12 (Week 11):** Dr. Fenimore traveling for personal reasons.

Weekly Schedule (Subject to minor adjustments as needed)

Week	Topic	Readings*	Assignments Due
1 (1/19 – 1/25)	Orientation Researchable Questions	Ch. 1 & Ch. 2	Post-Class Reflection Design Rep 1
2 (1/26 – 2/1)	Variables & Operationalization	Ch. 4	Design Reps 2–3
3 (2/2 – 2/8)	Method Choice & Sampling Intro	Ch. 5	Design Rep 4 Portfolio Entry 1 Reading Notes Begin
4 (2/9 – 2/15)	Surveys & Experiments	Ch. 6 & Ch. 7	Design Rep 5–6
5 (2/16 – 2/22)	Qualitative/Field Methods & Content Analysis	Ch. 8	Design Rep 7 Portfolio Entry 2
6 (2/23 – 3/1)	Measurement Validity & Sampling Deep Dive	Ch. 4	Design Rep 8–9
7 (3/2 – 3/8)	Mixed Methods & Ethics/IRB	Ch. 3 & Ch. 11	Design Rep 10–11
8 (3/9 – 3/15)	Spring Break		No Class
9 (3/16 – 3/22)	TBD		Design Rep 12 Post-Class Reflection
10 (3/23 – 3/29)	Program Evaluation & Stakeholder Communication	Ch. 10	Portfolio Entry 3 Design Rep 13
11 (3/30 – 4/5)	External Validity & Measurement Equity		Design Rep 14–15
12 (4/6 – 4/12)	Data Management & Writing a Methods Section	Ch. 12	Design Rep 16–17



Week	Topic	Readings*	Assignments Due
13 (4/13 – 4/19)	Final Proposal Scoping & Portfolio Build Day		Portfolio Entry 4
14 (4/20 – 4/26)	Policy Relevance & Redo/Catch-Up Week		Optional Revisions
15 (4/27 – 5/3)	Presentation Practice & Final Proposal Polishing		Presentation Draft
16 (5/4)	Final Presentations & Submission		Final Proposal + Lightning Talk + Reflection

* Additional readings 5/be added if needed.