

Texas A&M University San Antonio
College of Business
BUAD 1301 903 Business Principles Spring 2026

Instructor Contact Information

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- Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00 am- 2:00 PM, Wednesdays 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM and by appointment

General Course Information

- Class Days/Time: Tuesdays 9:30 – 10:45 AM
- Classroom: BLH 266
- Prerequisites: none

Course Description

A survey of the functional areas of business. Major topics include: the economic, legal, social and global environment in which modern businesses operate; social responsibilities of business; forms of business ownership; functions and responsibilities of managers; and fundamental concepts of marketing, accounting, finance, information management, and labor relations and human resource management.

Student Learning Outcomes

After completing BUAD 1301, the student will be able to:

- Correctly define and use a variety of business-related terms.
- Conduct basic research on business topics using the Internet and other resources and clearly communicate the results of that research in written form.
- Describe the key elements of the business environment.
- Identify the major stakeholders in a business enterprise.
- Describe the advantages and disadvantages of the four major forms of business ownership.
- Discuss how securities markets meet the needs of both businesses and investors
- Explain the significance of accounting for the internal and external stakeholders of a company.
- Describe the way a firm can finance its operations.
- Describe the key elements involved in marketing a company's goods and services.
- Explain the role of operations management in producing and distributing a company's goods and services.
- Describe the basic functions performed by managers.

Required Materials

- Understanding Business: The Core, Third Edition, by Nickels/McHugh/McHugh ISBN: The Connect Code is required to complete assignments/quizzes & exams. It comes with an eBook and if you decide, you want a loose-leaf copy of the book you can get one for \$25 with the Connect Code.
- Blackboard: Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. You will have SmartBook (readings+integrated quizzes), written assignments, PowerPoint slides, recorded Zoom chapter lectures, and other

supplementary materials in Connect. Check announcements, emails, and class communications through Blackboard and Connect daily.

- 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 Expectations for coursework: You are expected to spend 4-8 hours per week for 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.

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

- Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages (e-mail) systems in Blackboard on a regular basis.
- Students should keep current with all course assignments, quizzes, and examinations.
- Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor either in class, online, off-line or during office hours.
- 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.
- Students should remember that online and hybrid courses assume greater responsibility and independent learning skills by the student for their own learning outcomes.

Course Format and Instructional Methods:

This is a blended course, where significant portions of the course will take place both in a traditional face-to-face classroom and also online via Blackboard. Within the course Blackboard site you will access the learning materials and syllabus; submit assignments; take quizzes. Refer to the course calendar/schedule and assignment instructions for information on where and when to submit your work.

Classroom Protocol

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:

- It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
- Student must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes. Keep copies of all computer files and e-mails.
- Talking while the instructor is lecturing is disruptive and discourteous.
- For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor, before the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
- 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 and reference the course name and number. The instructor will reply to a student e-mail messages by the end of the next business day.
- All assignment submissions must be uploaded by the due date.

Course Requirements

The final course grade will be based on your performance on the quizzes, exams, assignments and class participation. Within each category, items will be equally weighted. Your course grade will be calculated by weighting each category as follows:

- 5% Connect Orientation Assignments (3 assignments)
- 25% Smartbook Assignments (14 assignments)
- 20% Chapter Quizzes (14 assignments)
- 10% Connect Chapter Assignments (14 assignments)
- 10% Manager Hotseat Cases (11 assignments)
- 15% Reflection papers (3)
- 10% Final Exam (1)
- 5% Participation/Attendance

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: Above 90% \Rightarrow A; 80 – 89% \Rightarrow B; 70 – 79% \Rightarrow C; 60 – 69% \Rightarrow D; Below 60% \Rightarrow F.

Makeup and late assignment/quiz/exam policy

As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions will not be offered or accepted for any missed assignments/exams/quizzes. Late submissions or make-ups may be accepted/administered only in extraordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a documented emergency. Where feasible, you must provide documentation either before or within two business days of the missed assignment/quiz/exam.

Course requirement details

Connect Orientation Assignments

There are three orientation assignments in McGraw Hill Connect. You access these through blackboard. These are due before the second class meeting—please see your blackboard calendar for specific due dates. These will be graded as a percentage correct and then the average of the 3 scores will account for 5% of your total course grade.

Smartbook Assignments

These are completed through McGraw Hill Connect (accessed through blackboard). Each week you have one smartbook assignment due. These will take you through the assigned chapter and will have interactive components to strengthen your learning. You are allowed to drop or miss one smartbook assignment. Your highest 13 smartbook assignments will be averaged and account for 25% of your grade.

Chapter Quizzes

You have a McGraw Hill Connect quiz (access through blackboard) for each chapter. These are open book, but you must complete them independently. You may take each quiz an unlimited number of times before the weekly deadline, only your highest score will count. You are allowed to drop or miss one quiz. Your highest 13 quizzes will be averaged and account for 20% of your grade

Connect Chapter Assignments

You have a McGraw Hill Connect assignment for each chapter (access through blackboard). You may attempt each assignment an unlimited number of times before the deadline—only your highest score will count. You are allowed to drop or miss one Connect Chapter Assignment. Your highest 13 assignments will be averages to account for 10% of your final course grade.

Manager Hotseat Cases

You have 11 Managers Hotseat Cases on McGraw Hill Connect (access through Blackboard).Please see your blackboard calendar for specific due dates. Again, you have an unlimited number of attempts before the due

date, only your highest score will count. You are allowed to drop or miss one Hotseat case. The remaining 10 will be averaged to account for 10% of your grade.

Reflection papers

You will have three reflection papers, each worth 5% of your final grade. These will be announced in class and through blackboard at least 2 weeks before the due date. You must complete these reflection papers independently. Papers will be submitted through blackboard, and will account for a total of 15% of your course grade. The College requirement listed below will fulfill part of these requirements and will be discussed in more detail in class.

The College of Business has scheduled a series of activities designed to enrich your undergraduate learning experience. A detailed schedule of the activities, including dates and times, will be provided.

Participation in one activity is a **mandatory** component of this course and contributes to 10% of your overall grade.

Failure to meet the participation requirement without documentation may result in a reduction of your grade for the course. Please contact your instructor immediately if you anticipate challenges with fulfilling this requirement so accommodations can be discussed.

Final Exam

We will have a closed notes final exam in this course. The exam will cover material from the entire semester. A study guide will be provided 2 weeks before the exam. This exam must be completed independently, and is worth 10% of your total course grade.

Participation/attendance

Attendance will be taken at every in-person class session. The instructor will provide name tents for each student to place at their desk during class. Students are responsible for getting their name tent from the instructor at the start of each session, and must return it to the instructor at the end of class. This process will be used to document attendance: if a student forgets to return their name tent they will not get credit for attending that session. You are allowed one unexcused absence during the semester. If you are ill, please email your instructor before class. Any additional absences will reduce your score. Attendance makes up 5% of your total course grade.

Course 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. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and through blackboard.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Week 1	20-Jan	Class Introduction and Orientation, Chapter 1: Exploring the Business Environment and Economics
Week 2	27-Jan	Chapter 2-Doing Business in Global Markets
Week 3	3-Feb	Chapter 3- Demanding Ethical and Socially Responsible Behavior-
Week 4	10-Feb	Chapter 4: How to Form a Business
Week 5	17-Feb	Chapter 5- Entrepreneurship and Starting a Small Business
Week 6	24-Feb	Chapter 6- Management and Leadership
Week 7	3-Mar	Chapter 7: Structuring Organizations for Today's Challenges
Week 8	10-Mar	Spring Break—no classes
Week 9	17-Mar	Chapter 8: Production and Operations Management
Week 10	24-Mar	Chapter 9: Motivating Employees
Week 11	31-Mar	Chapter 10: Human Resource Management: Finding and Keeping the Best Employees
Week 12	7-Apr	Chapter 11: Marketing: Helping Buyers Buy
Week 13	14-Apr	Chapter 12: Managing the Marketing Mix: Product, Price, Place, and Promotion
Week 14	21-Apr	Chapter 13: Using Technology to Manage Information
Week 15	28-Apr	Chapter 14: Understanding Accounting and Financial Information Lecture
Final	12-May, Noon	Comprehensive

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.

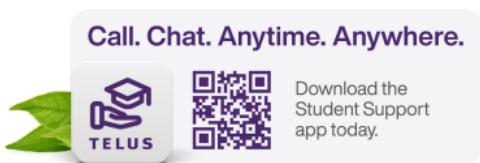
While tutoring hours may change based on tutor schedules and availability, the current tutoring hours for MATH in the ALC are as follows:

	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

Generative AI Policy

Option 3 – Broader Use of Generative AI Permitted Within Guidelines

Use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including ChatGPT, is permitted in this course for students who wish to use them. To adhere to our scholarly values, students must cite any AI-generated material that informed their work (this includes in-text citations and/or use of quotations, and in your reference list). Using an AI tool to generate content without proper attribution qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.