



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

MGMT 3323.600, **Employment Law**, SPRING 2026, CRN: 202620
Department of Management and Marketing, College of Business
Course Syllabus

Class Modality:	Online - Asynchronous (Attendance Not Required)
Class Meeting Time and Place:	ONLINE - ASYNCHRONOUS
Class Duration:	01/20/2026 - 5/12/2026 (16 weeks)
Instructor:	Dr. Ernesto Escobedo Office: REMOTE Cell: 210-269-8178 Text/Calls are welcome. E-Mail: eescobedo1@tamusa.edu Student emails will receive a reply within two business days.
Course Website:	https://tamusa.blackboard.com/
Office Hours:	Text/Cell 210-269-8178

Catalog Course Description: This course examines the set of legal requirements that govern the U.S. workplace. Students will study the substance of employment and labor law and its implications for human resource practice as applied in the employment life cycle. Area of study include, but are not limited to, legal issues affecting the employment process, employee development, compensation & benefits, performance management, and occupational health & safety. The course will also examine the legal framework that govern the relationship with unions and management/labor engagement in collective bargaining.

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to give you a basic understanding of the laws and regulations which govern the workplace. The course will provide you a basic understanding of how the legal system works, help you appreciate the implications of employment law on business, and give you the ability to identify issues which require legal expertise. You will also gain an understanding of employment policy issues and an ability to analyze the impact of policy decisions on human resource strategy.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302.

Student Learning Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students will be able

to:

- 1) Define the concept of employment-at-will and list and apply the exceptions to the employment-at-will doctrine.
- 2) Describe what privacy rights employees have in the workplace and what rights employers have to monitor their employees' computers, phones, and other electronic devices.
- 3) Explain the policy and processes of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- 4) Define the benefits of unemployment compensation.
- 5) Explain the workers' compensation process.
- 6) Describe what protections are offered by ERISA.
- 7) List who is protected by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.
- 8) Differentiate between disparate impact and intentional discrimination.
- 9) Apply the defenses to discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.
- 10) Explain how cases proceed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.
- 11) Identify gender discrimination and apply appropriate response.
- 12) Outline the rights employees have under the FMLA.
- 13) Explain an employer's liability for sexual harassment in the workplace.
- 14) Identify discrimination based on religion, the burden of proof required, and pertinent defenses.
- 15) Identify discrimination based on national origin, the burden of proof required, and pertinent defenses.
- 16) Discuss who is a qualified individual with a disability and what reasonable accommodations are actually reasonable under the ADA as well as defenses and processes.

Required Materials:

Walsh, David E., 2019. Employment Law for Human Resource Practice, 6e. Cengage.

Blackboard: Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. You will have slides and other supplementary materials on Blackboard.

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

1. Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages (e-mail) systems in Blackboard on a regular basis.
2. Students should keep current on class recordings, if not attending the live class (either in person or online).
3. Students should keep current with all course assignments, quizzes, and examinations.
4. If the course uses remote proctoring for exams, ensure that students schedule their exam early in the semester.
5. Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor either online or off-line
6. Students should remember they are responsible for their own learning outcomes.
7. For online courses, students should keep current on class recordings, if not attending the live class (either in person or online).
8. For online asynchronous courses, there will be no online class sessions. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.
9. For online synchronous courses, there will be online class sessions as indicated. Students are expected to attend the online session at the given time. If a student is unable to attend a session, instructor will make the recording of the session available for the student to view. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.

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

<u>Assessments</u>	<u>Contribution to Final Grade</u>	<u>Maximum Point Value</u>
Discussion Questions	35%	35
Team Project	25%	25
Mid-Term Exam	20%	20
Final Exam	20%	20
Total	100%	Total 100 Points

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.

Discussion Questions

- Post a minimum of three posts per discussion topic - one initial response and two replies to your classmates.
- Post on a minimum of three different days. For example, Monday, Thursday, and Friday.

- Provide an initial post that responds to the discussion topic question(s) by Wednesday at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- **Team Project**
 - Students will be assigned into small groups for a semester project. Instructions and supporting materials will be posted under the Blackboard Course content link.
- **Examinations**
 - There will be a mandatory mid-term exam and a mandatory final exam (as per university schedule). Being absent / non-submission of an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam and may result in a fail grade in the course. The exams will consist of conceptual multiple-choice questions, problem solving questions, and/or short essay questions. The exam materials will come from lecture notes, the text, and class discussions. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class.

Make up and Late Assignment/exam/quiz 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 extra-ordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation either before or within a few days of the missed assignment/quiz/exam.

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

1. Attendance may be taken by an appropriate method by the instructor.
2. It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
3. Student must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes and provide it to the instructor, if necessary. Keep own copies of all computer files and emails till final grade is received.
4. Talking while the instructor is lecturing is extremely disruptive and discourteous to the instructor and other students.
5. Using computers or phones (except for a valid urgent need) during class for a purpose not related to class is disruptive. All cell phones and gadgets should be turned off.
6. 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.
7. All communications will be via e-mail communications to the Texas A&M University e-mail account, and students are expected to use their school provided email account. The instructor will reply to a student e-mail messages and voice messages within 2 business days (Monday-Friday).

8. All assignment submissions must be uploaded as instructed by the due date and time. Submission window may close or marked late, even if late by one second.

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary actions.

Class Attendance and Participation: A vital part of every student's education is regular attendance of class meetings (for face-to-face/hybrid classes/online synchronous classes) or regular review of class materials posted by the instructor for asynchronous classes. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work, and frequent or persistent absences may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material and most students find at least some parts of it difficult. Class participation is highly encouraged as it makes the class more interesting and enhances the learning experience. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions, participate in class discussions and problem solving, and visit/contact the instructor during office hours in case of questions or concerns. Good attendance and participation will be rewarded when final grades are assigned.

The course is intensive and challenging, and you are expected to master the materials presented in class. The structure of the class makes your individual study and preparation outside of class extremely important and may vary considerably based on student background. However, a **minimum** of two hours of work outside the class is expected for every one-hour of class period per week. Reading the assigned chapter(s) and having some familiarity with them before class will be very useful for understanding lectures.

SPRING 2026 Class Schedule

Week	Date		Chapters/Content
Week	1/20	1/25	Syllabus, Course Overview
Week	1/26	2/1	EEOC
Week	2/2	2/8	Overview of Employment Law
Week	2/9	2/15	The Employment Relationship

Week	2/16	2/22	Employment Discrimination
Week	2/23	3/1	Recruitment MIDTERM EXAM
Week	3/2	3/8	Background Checks, References, and V Employment Eligibility
Week	3/16	3/22	Employment Tests
Week	3/23	3/29	Hiring and Promotion Decisions
Week 10	3/30	4/5	Harassment
Week 11	4/6	4/12	Reasonable Accommodation
Week 12	4/13	4/19	Work–Life Conflicts and Other Diversity
Week 13	4/20	4/26	Wages, Hours, and Pay Equity
Week 14	4/27	5/3	Wages, Hours, and Pay Equity TEAM PAPER DUE
Week 15	5/4	5/6	Unions and Collective Bargaining Terminating Employees
Week 16	5/7	5/10	Final Exam

PLEASE NOTE:

***MGMT 3323** 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.*

AACSB Assessment:

The College of Business received AACSB accreditation in Spring 2023. As part of that ongoing process, students will be assessed on program level outcomes based on course outcomes from various courses. The materials from this course may be used for assessing such program level outcomes, and hence students must follow the necessary rigor to ensure mastery and retention of the above course outcomes.

NOTE: Please utilize the services offered by the Jaguar Writing Center (details below). They will be especially helpful with the written communication requirements for this course. Have a good draft ready **well in advance of due dates for paper submission** so that you can make revisions on suggestions by the Writing Center staff prior to uploading in BlackBoard.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

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

physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that

the student will not or has not begun attendance. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend by the census date will have their financial aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester, a Care report will be submitted, and you will possibly be dropped from the class. Your financial aid may have to be recalculated and a portion of your federal aid may have to be returned to the DoE.

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/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

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

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

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-

punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

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

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

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for

excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu ; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

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

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

Students' Rights

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

Students' Responsibilities

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

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or disability. Conduct that infringes on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated. Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student-rights-and-responsibilities/documents/Student-Handbook-2022-23.pdf>) or visit the resources available in the OSRR website (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-integrity.html>).

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

MGMT 3323 (Instructor: Dr. Ernesto Escobedo) 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.

Important Dates:

The complete academic calendar is available online:

<https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/current-year/spring-2026.html>