

COMM 2305-001, News Editing

Spring 2026
Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Department of Sociology and Communication

MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION

3:30-4:45 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Room 321 of the Central Academic Building

INSTRUCTOR

Teresa Talerico, clinical assistant professor of communication

Phone: 210-784-2810 **Office:** Room 319B of CAB **Email:** Please use ttalerico@tamusa.edu. Don't contact me in Blackboard messages. **Office hours:** 2-3 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-noon Wednesday or by appointment.

Description: Editing and layout processes, with emphasis on accuracy, fairness and AP Style.

Required textbooks, tools and resources:

- Free digital textbook, available through our University Library: "[Contemporary Editing](#)," Cecilia Friend, *et al.*, Routledge. ISBN: 978-0415892810
- [Free Associated Press \(AP\) Stylebook](#) offered by the University Library. If you want a print edition, you can buy one for \$34.95 at the following link. Please get the **57th edition**: <https://www.apstylebook.com/>
- The cost is \$29.95 for a new subscription for the semester to Newsroom 101, online quizzes for spelling, grammar and word usage.

Objectives

This course will introduce copy-editing skills including copy reading and editing, news judgment, headline writing, photo editing and design. Specific course goals include:

- To instill fastidiousness in the use of language, grammar and AP Style
- To nurture sound news judgment
 - To help you identify and improve writing that is disorganized, unclear, inaccurate, libelous, a threat to privacy or in poor taste
- To impart strong headline writing skills

EVALUATION

- Homework and Class Exercises —35%
- “Read for ...” Editing Steps—15%
- Online Discussions — 10%
- Quizzes — 10%
- Newsroom 101 — 15%
- Final exam — 15%

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORIES

Homework and Class Exercises: Students will complete assignments based on our textbook, class lectures and other materials.

Quizzes: Quizzes will cover chapter readings, class lectures and AP Style handouts. They are due on the Sunday after class.

Discussions: These will cover the AP Style handouts. Your post and a response to a classmate are due on the next Wednesday.

Newsroom 101: Students must buy a subscription for \$29.95. This is a self-paced online program to improve spelling, grammar and word usage. (We will not use the AP Style or punctuation sections.) **You cannot make up missing Newsroom 101 assignments.** You **must** meet the weekly deadlines for Newsroom 101. I will not go back and grade late submissions. I have assigned 10-16 quizzes a week. They take anywhere from five to 15 minutes each.

Final Exam: The final will review what we have learned throughout the semester.

COURSE POLICIES

GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE / ChatGPT

Just don't. Writing, analytical and critical thinking skills are the backbone of our communication courses. All writing assignments must be prepared by students in their own words. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Look at it this way: You are learning to be a professional communicator. Writing is the bedrock of this profession, whether it's a news article, photo caption, radio spot, press release, narrative of a TV story or film script. If you can't write, why should an employer hire you when they can just use ChatGPT? Therefore, submissions generated by ChatGPT or other AI composition software are not permitted in my courses. I reserve the right to ask to see evidence of your original drafts, rewrites, etc.

I also will incorporate, where appropriate, personal reflections into your non-story assignments, such as asking you to relate your own personal experience to a particular topic.

COMM 2305 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.

ATTENDANCE AND ETIQUETTE

Show up to our class meetings on time and stay the whole period. Punctuality and attendance are crucial in journalism. Those arriving more than 20 minutes late are counted absent. Those who leave early are counted absent.

I will allow four absences for any reason. I drop your letter grade by 2 percent for each additional absence. I will award 2 points to your total grade at the end of the semester for perfect attendance. That means attending every class meeting, arriving on time and staying for the entire class period.

Read this course syllabus closely. You and the instructor must follow it as a legal contract. Knowing its contents will greatly enhance your likelihood of success. If you have questions or need help, contact me by email or in person. Follow assignment directions to the letter.

Journalism is a deadline-driven business. Meeting deadlines is extremely important. I deduct 10 points a day for late assignments.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

To receive credit, assignments **MUST** be submitted in Blackboard. Grades consider adherence to AP Style, content, word usage, mechanics and spelling. Proofread your work with care. Students should maintain copies of all assignments submitted. **Do not submit PDFs. Do not submit text entries.** I prefer Word or Google docs.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Students should read and follow the Student Rights and Responsibilities and Student Code of Conduct available [here](#). I will follow all procedures outlined in the code. Don't plagiarize. Your work shows your character. Make it your own. The instructor does not allow students to:

- use cell phones/personal electronics for non-academic use in class.
- work on anything other than class material during course time.

TENTATIVE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Assignments and quizzes are due the Sunday after our Wednesday class, unless otherwise indicated. • Discussion posts and Newsroom 101 are due a week after our Wednesday class.
- The four "Read" for exercises will be done in class and are typically due the Friday of that week.
- You will have either a quiz **OR** a discussion post on AP Style due each week.

WEEK 1: Jan. 19, 21

DAY 1: Our class did not meet on Monday, Jan. 19 because of the MLK holiday.

DAY 2: Course Overview. Chapter 1/Fundamentals: The Editor Within and pages 277-286 of Chapter 12.

HOMEWORK:

- Quiz 1, based on Chapter 1 and pages 277-286 of Chapter 12
- Read Chapter 3/Skills and Tools: The Editor in the Newsroom.

WEEK 2: Jan. 26, 28

DAY 1: Review copy-editing symbols. I will help you start the "Olympics" exercise in class, and then you will finish it on your own as a homework assignment.

DAY 2: Chapter 3 PowerPoint. Work on Discussion 1: A is for Adviser.

HOMEWORK:

- Olympics exercise, due Sunday
- Discussion 1: A is for adviser, due Wednesday of next week.
- Newsroom 101 Pretests Parts 1-6, due Wednesday of next week. Receive pass/fail credit. Pretest password: This is a test. Make sure to type the spaces and period. The pretests are not timed. They should take a total of 20-30 minutes to complete.
- Read Chapter 2/News Judgment: The Editor's Attitude.
- Buy your Newsroom 101 subscription — you need a new one for this semester — by Feb. 2.

WEEK 3: Feb. 2, 4

Day 1: Chapter 2 News Values

*Newsroom 101 Pretests and Discussion 1: A is for adviser are due Wednesday night.

Day 2: In-Class: Read for Understanding Edit

Homework:

- In-Class Read for Understanding due Friday.
- Chapter 2 assignment due Sunday
- Discussion: B is for bachelor's due Wednesday of next week.
- Newsroom 101 Parts of Speech (13 quizzes), due Wednesday of next week.
- Read pages 75-89 (stop before "Transitive and intransitive verbs) of Chapter 4/Grammar: The Mechanics of Language.

WEEK 4: Feb. 9, 11

This week we dive into grammar and Chapter 4.

Day 1: "Affect vs. effect." Chapter 4: Parts of Speech through Pronouns/Multiple Antecedents. Newswriting Tips 2 Refresher for Editors.

*Newsroom 101 Parts of Speech and Discussion B is for bachelor's due Wednesday night.

Day 2: Chapter 4: Pronouns/Gender Bias through Active vs. Passive.

Homework:

- Quiz 2: C is for composition titles, due Sunday
- Chapter 4/Part 1 Assignment, due Sunday
- Newsroom 101 Phrases and Clauses, Sentence Problems & Sentence Types, Nouns (4 lessons and 12 quizzes), due Wednesday of next week
- Read pages 89-105 of Chapter 4

WEEK 5: Feb. 16, 18

We continue our trek through Chapter 4!

Day 1: Timeliness vs. Timelessness. Chapter 4: Verb Tenses through Periods/Semicolons

*Newsroom 101 due Wednesday night: Grammar/Phrases and Clauses, Sentence Problems and Sentence Types, Nouns

Day 2: Chapter 4: Commas through Parentheses.

Homework:

- Chapter 4: Part 2 Assignment, due Sunday
- Discussion post and response: D is for Dr Pepper, due Wednesday of next week
- Newsroom 101 Verbs, Subject-Verb Agreement (1 lesson and 15 quizzes), due Wednesday of next week
- Read Chapter 5/Good Writing: Strong and Graceful Prose for next week.

WEEK 6: Feb. 23, 25

Are your sentences flabby and long-winded? Trim the fat! Learn to tighten up sentences by zapping redundancies. It's all about Chapter 5/Focus on Good Writing: Strong and Graceful Prose.

Day 1: Compose/comprise and check in/check out. Discuss Chapter 5.

*Newsroom 101 Verbs, Subject-Verb Agreement and Discussion D is for Dr Pepper due Wednesday night

Day 2: Start Chapter 5 homework.

Homework:

- Quiz 3: E is for evergreen, due Sunday
- Chapter 5 homework, due Sunday
- Read Chapter 6/Focus on Headlines: Precision, Power and Poetry for Monday's class.
- Newsroom 101 Irregular Verbs, Lay/Lie, Active/Passive, Verbs All (2 lessons and 16 quizzes), due Wednesday of next week

WEEK 7: March 2, 4

Students to learn about headline writing: That could be the headline for this week's class meetings. We will learn about writing headlines that readers can't resist.

DAY 1: Discuss Chapter 6: Headlines

DAY 2: "Read for Organization and Focus" Edit

*Newsroom 101: Irregular Verbs is due tonight.

HOMEWORK

- Read For Organization and Focus
- Chapter 6 assignment
- Read Chapter 7/News Close to Home
- Newsroom 101 Pronouns (9 lessons and 4 quizzes)
- Discussion post and response: F is for fact-checking

SPRING BREAK: MARCH 9-14

WEEK 8: March 16, 18

Day 1: Chapter 4 Practice and Quiz

*Newsroom 101 Pronouns and "F is for fact-checking" discussion due Wednesday night

Day 2: Discuss Chapter 7. Take the AP and Mesquite Style quiz in Kahoot.

Homework:

- Quiz 4: G is for graf, due Sunday
- Chapter 7 Assignment, due Sunday
- Read Chapter 9/Making a Long Story Short: Editing for Brevity and Clarity
- Newsroom 101 Who/Whom, Etc. due Wednesday of next week.

WEEK 9: March 23, 25

"To make a long story short..." How do you help writers cut to the chase? Get to the point? Capture readers whose attention spans are shrinking? We will work on those strategies this week.

Day 1: Chapter 9.

*Newsroom 101: Whom/Whom, etc. is due Wed. night.

Day 2: Look at Porter story.

Homework:

- Chapter 9 assignment: Corazon, due Sunday
- Read Chapter 11/No Safety in Numbers: Checking Them Twice
- Discussion post and response: H is for homicide, due Wednesday of next week.
- *Newsroom 101 "Word Usage Units 1-3" is due Wednesday of next week.

WEEK 10: March 30, April 1

This is the "math" chapter of News Editing. Yes, it's painful but a necessary evil. Numbers, statistics and percentages are crucial elements of news stories. We will get through this together.

Day 1: Discuss Chapter 11: No Safety in Numbers. Newsroom 101 Word Usage Units 1-3 and Discussion H is for homicide due Wednesday night.

Day 2: In-Class Graded Exercise: Read for Accuracy.

Homework:

- Read for Accuracy, due Friday
- Chapter 11 assignment, due Sunday
- Quiz 5: I is for Inc., due Sunday
- Read pages 286-295 of Chapter 12/Doing Justice: Ethical and Legal Issues
- *Newsroom 101 Word Usage 4-5 is due Wednesday of next week.

WEEK 11: April 6, 8

This week we will focus on ethics. Editors need to consider ethics just as much as reporters. We will review SPJ's Code of Ethics and discuss how editors must make ethical decisions in the newsroom.

Day 1: Discuss community news internships. Discuss Chapter 12 and review homework.

*Newsroom 101 Word Usage 4-5 is due Wednesday night.

Day 2: TK.

Homework:

- Chapter 12 Ethics assignment, due Sunday
- Read Chapter 14: Showing the Story: Editing Data Visualizations
- *Newsroom 101: The Correct Expression, Dropped Word Endings, Redundancy (12 quizzes), due Wednesday of next week.
- J is for Johns Hopkins discussion, due Wednesday of next week.

WEEK 12: April 13, 15

Day 1: Discuss Chapter 14 and infographic assignment.

*Newsroom 101: The Correct Expression, Dropped Word Endings, Redundancy and Discussion J is for Johns Hopkins due Wednesday night.

Day 2: Possessives

Homework:

- Infographic Assignment, due Tuesday
- Quiz 6: K is for K-pop, due Sunday
- Read Chapter 15/Designing Pages.
- *Newsroom 101: Confusable Words is due Wed of next week.

WEEK 13: April 20, 22

Day 1: Designing a News Page

*Newsroom 101: Confusable Words is due Wed night.

Day 2: TK

Homework:

- Design a News Page assignment due Sunday
- Newsroom 101 Spelling A through M (16), due Wednesday of next week.
- Discussion post and response: L is for legislative titles, due Wednesday of next week.

WEEK 14: April 27, 29

Day 1: Read for Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation and Style

*Newsroom 101 Spelling A-M and Discussion: L is for legislative titles due Wed night.

Day 2: Graded In-Class exercise: ABCs of AP Style.

Homework:

- Read for SGPS due Friday
- ABCs of AP Style due Sunday
- Newsroom 101: Spelling N through Z due Wed of next week
- Next week we will review for the final exam and do a class exercise to prepare.
- The final exam will open in Blackboard at 11:59 p.m. TK You will have until 11:59 p.m. TK to complete it.

WEEK 15: May 4

Day 1: Review for final exam: Editing Practice

*Newsroom 101 Spelling N-Z due Wednesday night

Day 2: No class.

- Newsroom 101 Posttests due Wednesday of next week. Password: Do your best.

WEEK 16: FINALS WEEK

Important Dates

Jan. 19	MLK Day. No classes.
Jan. 27	Last day to register
Feb. 4	Census Date
March 9-14	Spring Break
April 17	Last day to drop with an automatic W
May 1	Last day to withdraw from university
May 4	Last day of classes
May 5	Study Day. No Classes
May 6-12	Final exams
May 15	Grades due by noon
May 18	Grades available in JagWire

Course Material, Academic Freedom and Students' Rights

The materials and activities in this class were developed based on my subject matter expertise as a journalist with more than 20 years of experience reporting for newspapers, writing for magazines and editing in both media. They align with norms and best practices in the discipline you are learning.

As the Student Handbook states, "students will be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views in any course of study and to withhold judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled."

As an instructor, I will respect the rights outlined in the handbook, including "respect for personal feelings; freedom from indignity of any type, freedom from control by any person except as may be in accord with Texas A&M University-San Antonio, and conditions allowing them to make the best use of their time and talents toward the objectives which brought them to this University." I ask that you respect the rights of your classmates to learn and have a positive experience in this class.

I ask that you respect academic freedom, which presumes that "teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject."

If you have a problem with materials in this course, please contact me for an explanation of why these materials are disciplinarily legitimate and to discuss strategies for completing the work in a manner that is acceptable to you and that meets course objectives. I ask that you do so before or after class and not disrupt the learning experiences of others if you have objections.

The complete academic calendar is available online:

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

Texas A&M University San Antonio 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 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 accommodation 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:

Day of the Week	Appointments Available	Walk-in Tutoring (no appointment needed)
Monday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Wednesday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	11:00 AM – 4:00 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 include 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 the Jag E Alert System website. You can access more information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan on our website. Download the SafeZoneApp 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, 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.

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 real time with a tutor can schedule an **Online Appointment**. Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an **e-Tutoring appointment**. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on the [Writing Center's 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. The [General's Store is a food pantry](#) that is available on campus as well.

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 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, based on 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. 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 reasonable accommodation for pregnant students as it would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that is 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 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.

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 and Fee Payments deadline
January 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No Classes
January 20	First Day of Class
February 4	Census Date
March 6-23	Midterm grading period
March 9-14	Spring Break
April 3	Study Day – No classes
April 17	Last day to drop with an automatic withdrawal

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 6-12	Final Exams
May 19	Commencement

The complete [Academic Calendar](#) is available on our website.