

ACCT 5395-115, CRN , CURRENT TOPICS IN ACCOUNTING

Summer 2018 rev. 06.05.2018

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dara Marie Marshall, Ph.D

Office: 323S Founders Hall

Phone: 254.519.5437

Email: dara.marshall@tamuct.edu – *prefer Canvas "Inbox"*.

Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00pm – 5:30pm.

Wednesdays 3:00pm – 5:00 pm

Mode of instruction and course access:

Per SAP.11.99.99.D0.02 Program and Course Delivery Modes

This course meets face-to-face, (with supplemental materials made available online).

This course uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System

[<http://tamuct.instructure.com>]

Student-instructor interaction:

I will answer my phone during office hours and will respond to emails within 36 hours.

911 Cellular:

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description: This course explores selected topics of new or current interest in financial accounting and as such changes topics and learning objectives over time. This semester explores data analytics as it applies to accounting situations.

Course Objective: To be able to provide structure and analysis to unstructured problems with data.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students will:

- Understand and define the objective of the relevant stakeholders
- Understand the business context and the problem if one does, or could, exist
- Develop an expectation of what one expects to see before analyzing data, if appropriate
- Recognize that questions are iterative and answers may lead to more questions, and that judgment is needed to determine if deeper analysis is warranted
- Understand data characteristics and their relevance
- Understand the flow of data in accounting information systems
- Capture and Manipulate data
 - Use basic database software such as Access
 - Use querying techniques including querying language such as SQL
 - Manipulate data in MS Excel
- Perform ratio, trend, comparison, forecasting, cluster, correlation, regression, inferential statistics, and descriptive statistics to data using tools such as MS Excel, Tableau, and maybe R, SAS, and SPSS
- Interpret results of data analysis (and data visualizations) appropriately, based on questions and expectations formed
- Summarize results of data analysis in a manner conducive to and compelling for stakeholders
- Apply appropriate data visualization design techniques using tools such as MS Excel, Tableau, and maybe R, SAS, and SPSS

(Objectives based on skills covered in the Ernst & Young Foundation Academic Resource Center – Data Analytics Curriculum)

Competency Goals Statements (certification or standards): none

Required Reading and Textbook(s): all cases and data will be provided on Canvas

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements: (include point values for each- not just a percentage)

- This course will have in-class writing assignments for each case
- There will be at least one memo assignment for each case
- For those taking the comprehensive exam in conjunction with this case you will be assigned a case to present on. In addition, your memo for that case will also be evaluated as part of your comprehensive exam
- Grading points for each assignment and total points will be posted in canvas (TBA)

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Grades are determined by total points (TBA in Canvas)

Posting of Grades

- All common assignment grades will be posted on Canvas. Individual grades for comprehensive exams will be discussed via email.
- Memo grades should be posted at most 2 weeks after due.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar

- Each week we will explore a new case
- Cases and Dates will be updated in Canvas

Important University Dates:

June 2018

Mon, 4th	Class begins (1st 5 week, 10 week and 8 week)
Mon, 4th	ADD/DROP/LATE REGISTRATION BEGINS (10-week, 8-week, & 1st 5-week sessions) (\$25 fee assessed for late registrants)
Mon, 11th	Last day to drop 8-week classes with no record
Fri, 22nd	Last day to drop a 1st 5-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W
Fri, 29th	Deadline for submission of final committee-edited theses with committee approval signatures to Office of Graduate Studies
Fri, 29th	Last day to drop a 8-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W

July 2018

Wed, 4th	Independence Day
Fri, 6th	Deadline to Submit Graduation Application for Ceremony Participation
Thu, 12th	Last day to drop 2nd 5-week classes with no record
Fri, 13th	Student End of Course Survey Open (8-Week Classes)
23rd-27th	Finals Week - Summer 8 week session
Fri, 27th	Last day to withdraw from the University (8 weeks session students)
Fri, 27th	8 week classes end
Fri, 27th	Deadline for submission of final committee-edited theses with committee approval signatures to Office of Graduate Studies
Sun, 29th	Student End of Course Survey Close (8-Week Classes)
Mon, 30th	Grades due from faculty by 3pm (8 week classes)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

This course will use MS Excel, MS Access, and Tableau. A free license (key) will be provided for the semester for Tableau:

- [Download the latest version of Tableau Desktop here](#)
 - <https://www.tableau.com/tft/activation>
- Click on the link above and select Get Started. On the form, enter your school email address for Business E-mail and enter the name of your school for Organization.
- Activate with your product key: TCZM-B996-00F0-E6CE-021F
- Already have a copy of Tableau Desktop installed? Update your license in the application: Help menu -> Manage Product Keys

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>].

Username: Your MyCT username (xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)

Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy.

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](#) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

Academic Accommodations.

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit the [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title

IX Coordinator.

Tutoring.

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center: Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-4pm Monday-Thursday during the summer with online hours available Monday-Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) at [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

University Library.

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and

82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS:

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES.

If you cannot make class and thus cannot complete an in-class assignment; there will be no make-ups. I will drop the lowest two in class assignments.

If you do not turn in a memo by the due date I will accept late work. I may mark the work down for tardiness.

Copyright Notice.

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s).

Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.