



**CIS 5382-110, CRN 80525, Research Methods
Fall 2019**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

Dates: August 26, 2019-December 13, 2019

Location: Founders Hall, Room 308

“Some” Saturdays 1:00-5:00pm:

Class Meeting Dates : Sep 7 & 21; Oct 5 & 26; Nov 16; Dec 7

Modality: Hybrid course, meeting Face-to-Face on above dates, some online assignments, and all materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

This is a Hybrid course with some Face-to-Face and some online components. We will be using the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System (Canvas) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] extensively. It will be our primary resource for the class information. You will use the Canvas username and password communicated to you separately to logon to this system. The course syllabus, schedule, supplemental readings, class announcements, power point slides, learning modules, homework assignments, exams and other course related documents will be posted on Canvas. Each student is responsible for the posted material, and should check Canvas at least daily for updates. The course outline in this syllabus shows the basic schedule for the semester.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Randy Brown

Office: FH 323-J

Phone: 254-519-5462

Email: rwbrown@tamuct.edu (Use for non-course related communications)

For course related communications, please use Canvas “Inbox”

COBA Department Main Phone Number: (254) 519-5437

COBA Department Main Email: cobainfo@tamuct.edu

COBA Department Main Fax#: (254) 501-5825

Office Hours

Location	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
FH 323J	By Appt	11:00am-1:00pm, & by appointment	10:00am-12:00pm, & by appointment	11:00am-1:00pm, & by appointment	By Appt
Virtual	By Appt	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appointment	By Appt

Student-instructor interaction

Please send all **course** related correspondence through Canvas “Inbox”. Please use TAMUCT email only when Canvas is not available (or for non-course related correspondence). I check email several times a day during the week and at least once during the weekends. I will attempt to respond within 24 hours Mon-Thurs and within 48 hours on Fri through Sun. Please do not hesitate to stop by my office during the scheduled office hours or contact me via phone, Canvas Inbox, or TAMUCT email, if there are any personal problems or challenges that are hindering your regular progress in the course.

WARRIOR SHIELD

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

Warrior Shield 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 Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description

This course examines timely topics related to computer based systems. The course develops research skills, problem-solving skills, applies the scientific method refines presentation skills, and promotes team involvement. The course operates in a distributed team environment using the Internet as its communication vehicle.

Course Objective

To develop an understanding of research and what is used to conduct research

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Understand research methodologies, philosophy and science
2. Understand and know how to review a scientific paper
3. Understand methods for designing research
4. Think abstractly to apply scientific research to a real world problem
5. Learn in depth about a research method
6. Practice presentation skills to an audience about a scientific tool

Competency Goals Statements (certification or standards)

Graduates should demonstrate ability to:

1. Write effectively on technical and non-technical subjects in computer information systems.
2. Use skills and abilities to research and evaluate current and emerging trends and technologies in order to build effective organizational solutions.

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

Note: A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook (in this or other formats) may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

1. Book 1:
 - a. Business Research Methods, 12th Ed.
 - b. Authors: Schindler
 - c. ISBN: 9781259918933

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Reading Assignments:** All assigned chapters will be used as the basis for class and/or blackboard discussions. Study the assigned readings before each class.
2. **Attendance/Participation Policy:** Class attendance is required. The policy as officially stated by the University will be enforced. Students are expected to make arrangements with the instructor before missing a series of classes due to job requirements. Students are responsible for any material missed during an absence. In all cases, the responsibility remains with the students to meet/obtain all course requirements/changes. If you are not present the class period your presentation is scheduled, the presentation grade is zero. Regular course progress is expected. It is each student's responsibility to review the blackboard and syllabus for the latest information, assignments and examinations.
NOTE: Attendance will be taken each class period. Attendance/Participation will count as 10% (100 Points) of your total grade. NOTE: Blackboard Discussion questions will count toward participation.
3. **Term Paper:** Each Student will be required to write a Research Paper, which will consist of a complete manuscript with introduction (a research question/motivation), literature review (a discussion of the importance of the issue and a review of the relevant literature), method section, results or analysis strategy section, discussion section, and a complete list of references. If you do an excellent job on the paper, you will have a viable research project that may be suitable for conference submission. Your paper for this class must be unique and differ substantial from any papers you have completed or are working on for other classes. In the required paper, students will select and explore a current topic/trend in Strategic Information Systems for a specific (student selected) industry.

It will consist of at least five (This is Minimal! A really good paper will have twice that or more!) double spaced pages (not including title page, table of contents, bibliography, appendixes, etc.) in length with 1" margins formatted in APA style, using 11 (Arial) or 12

(Times Roman or Calibri) point font. This is a professional paper – do not use informal language. Do not over quote your references, instead summarize what they say in your own words, and provide reference to the article. **Every claim you make** in the paper should have **a peer-reviewed academic reference**. **Wikipedia is NOT academic and should not be used** unless it is unavoidable. The paper must be submitted in MS Word format (.rtf, .doc, .docx). There will be three preliminary deliverables, a presentation, and a final paper. There are also two discussion parts. All parts of the paper will have varying points, but the total for all parts will be 500 points (50% of your grade). See calendar/Canvas for deadline details.

4. Exams: There will be two exams (a mid-term and a final) worth 20% (200 points) of your total grade each. The Mid-Term will cover chapters 1-9 and the Final will cover 10-17 (i.e. not comprehensive)

5. Late Submissions: Homework Assignments will be considered late if submitted after the due date/time. A late penalty of 5% per DAY (max of 20% deduction per week) will be applied. That means that **NO** submissions will be accepted if submitted more than 5 weeks after the due date. In addition, discussions **MUST** be completed within the week during which the discussion is assigned (i.e. **late discussions will NOT be allowed**). **Late tests will NOT be accepted!**

NOTE: **NO** work will be accepted after 12/13/2019.

6. Other Notes about assignments:

Most (ALL) assignments will be submitted via Canvas.

6.1 All assignments are due at the beginning of the next class day after being assigned.

6.2 If there are multiple parts, submit all parts in a **SINGLE** zip file. I would suggest you create a folder for each assignment, then you can zip that entire folder at once.

6.3 Make sure all parts are labelled in a logical manner that makes it easy for me to figure out which part of the assignment is which.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Assignment	Points	Percent	My Grade
Term Paper	400	40%	
Term Paper Presentation	100	10%	
Exams (2)	400	20%	
Attendance/Participation	100	10%	
Total	1000	100%	

Percentage	Points	Grade
90.0-100%	900-1000	A
80.0-89.9%	800-899	B
70.0-79.9%	700-799	C
60.0-69.9%	600-699	D
0-59.9%	0-599	F

Posting of Grades

All student grades will be posted on the Canvas Grade book and students should monitor their grading status through this tool. Grades for weekly assignments, discussions, quizzes and exams *should* be posted (no guarantees) within 7 days following the due date.

Canvas Grade Book has weighted columns for each of the groups of assignments (Mid-Term, Final, Project, and Homework) as well as a weighted column for the entire course. These columns put 0's for all incomplete assignments, so they all start at 0% and go up as you submit assignments. So, at any given time, you can see what your grade would be if you did no additional work.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar

Week	Date	Class Type	Topic	Deliverables
1	8/31/2019	Online	Labor Day , But look at syllabus and do introduction	
2	9/7/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 1-3 (as far as we get...)	Syllabus Acknowledgement Introduction Discussion
3	9/14/2019	Online	Discussion 1	
4	9/21/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 4-6 (as far as we get...)	Term Paper: Proposal
5	9/28/2019	Online	Discussion 2	
6	10/5/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 7-9 (as far as we get...)	Term Paper: Outline
7	10/12/2019	Online	Discussion 3	
8	10/19/2019	Online	Mid-Term (Covers Ch 1-9)	
9	10/26/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 10-12 (as far as we get...)	Term Paper: Plagiarism Discussion
10	11/2/2019	Online	Discussion 4	
11	11/9/2019	Online	Discussion 5	
12	11/16/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 13-15 (as far as we get...)	Term Paper: Rough Draft
13	11/23/2019	Online	Discussion 6	
14	11/30/2019	Online	ThanksGiving	
15	12/7/2019	F2F (1-5)	Chapters 16-17	Paper Presentations
16	12/13/2019	Online	NOTE: This is Friday!	Final Exam, Term Paper: Final

Important University Dates

Rather than just copy all the dates from the University web site, please go to:

http://catalog.tamuct.edu/undergraduate_catalog/general-

[information/academic20calendars20and20final20exam20schedule](#) for the dates. Those graduating should pay particular attention to the graduation deadlines!

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

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>]. You will need RELIABLE access to an Internet capable computer. Your Canvas login credentials should be:

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

Password: Your MyCT password

If you choose to use your own computer, make sure it has the same capabilities and software that are in use in the classroom.

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/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email 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) [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.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

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 Office 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 Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

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 [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [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, 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 Associate Dean in 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. Tutor.com tutoring **will not offer writing support** beginning August 1, 2019, but will continue to offer other tutoring support.

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 online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

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 UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-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/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

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].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, who are exhibiting behaviors that pose a threat to safety, or individuals causing a significant disruption to our community, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. You can complete the [referral](#) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES

1. Instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus during the course of the semester for the benefit of the students.
2. Instructor reserves the right to supplement the material presented in the text with additional material that may benefit the students by either providing additional information or a different point of view.
3. Instructor expects that the students will act in a curious and professional manner in all interactions with other students and the instructor.
4. Instructor reserves the right to modify grading rubrics. Changes to grading rubrics are only made to current and/or future assignments.
5. Any changes made will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.

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.

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