
May Minimester: May 20*-May 31st, 2019

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Robert Zinko
Email: Robert.Zinko@tamuct.edu

Instructor: Dr. Anne Sluhan
Email: Asluhan@tamuct.edu

Instructor-Students Correspondence

We are readily accessible through the Canvas email function in the course web site. I check messages often and will get back to you within 24 hours during the week and within 36 hours on the weekend.

Mode of Instruction and Course Access

This is a face-to-face course that also uses the TAMUCT Canvas Learning Management System, which can be accessed at https://tamuct.instructure.com. Face to face sessions are required both pre and post a required study abroad trip to Australia.

For information on how to access Canvas, please refer to section “Technology Requirements and Support” in this syllabus. You will access course materials, assignments, activities, quizzes, and resource links via the Course website. There are prerequisites to this course such as solid knowledge of APA style, familiarity with the use of PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, the Internet, and attaching documents.

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 911 Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alertmanagement] 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.

*Note there are required activities prior to official start of May minimester, see Course Schedule
COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description
Study basic international business concepts, cultural literacy, and discipline specific content applied to practical experiences and activities in a visited foreign country. A study abroad at the student’s expense is required. Student may complete a maximum of six hours of COBA sponsored study abroad toward degree completion. Prerequisite(s): Admission into a COBA graduate program and permission of instructor. Field experiences fee $75.

An examination of both the U.S. and Australian wine industries from a cultural standpoint will be undertaken. Students will first meet with and tour US, then Australian wine industries, meeting with industry executives. Additionally, students will spend time immersed in the Australian culture in order to get a better understanding of the context of the Australian wine industry.

Note: Wine tasting at all vineyards visited is optional. Those choosing to participate in wine tasting must be 21 in the U.S. and 18 in Australia.

Learning Objectives
This course is designed to facilitate students learning of the fundamentals of international business strategies and cross-cultural management. Throughout the course, students are expected to develop a sense of ease to manage business in a multicultural environment. The in-country study focuses on the wine industry of Australia, as well as other aspects of culture.

Learning Outcomes
Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Reflect upon and explain major differences between Australian and American culture, applying the concepts learned in class.
2. Demonstrate cross cultural competence to interact with people from different cultures.
3. Identify and analyze different cultural forces that influence Australia and U.S. businesses.
4. Formulate an effective strategy for integrating cultural differences in the successful operation of an American or Australian wine business.

Required Reading
See “Wine info” document

Learning Activities
1) Expectations Document. Doing online research, the students will write a document stating their expectations of Australian culture. What do they see as the likely large differences? How will they handle these differences? For example, once an Australian feel comfortable enough with an American, they will ask about controversial topics like guns (where the Australian perspective is very different). Additionally, it might surprise students to know that Texans often have a separate reputation above that of Americans in many parts of the world (Australia being
no exception). This paper is expected to be professionally written and references and citations follow APA format. The document will be approximately 2-3 pages.

3) Research outline: Students are expected to research the wine industry BEFORE speaking to the US and Australian wine executives. The executives are there to fill in any missing blanks on your research. The outline should include at least 8 legitimate sources for your research. As such, the research outline should present a general idea as to the topic your review paper will present. The document will be approximately 3 to 4 pages.

4) Reflection journal: Upon return students are required to write journal entries that share their experiences of the trip and whether their pre-trip expectations are accurate and not accurate and their reactions to the experiences they are gaining. Students are expected to address some of the items brought up in their expectations document, that was written before the trip. Although no citations are required (i.e., unless presenting information that needs to be cited), this paper is expected to be professionally written. The document will be approximately 2 to 3 pages.

5) Review paper. After students have had an opportunity to tour both industries (i.e., US and Australia) and also had exposure to the Australian culture, they are to construct a two-part analysis paper. The first section looks for similarities and differences in both, applying cross cultural theory as to why those industry differences (or similarities) might exist. The second looks at the differences between the industry in the two countries. Finally, the students are to present any opinions or thoughts they may have on the two industries. This is a formal piece of writing, that will include citations (students are able to cite the conversations with the wine industry experts as they are legitimate sources of information). The paper should be 8-10 pages.

In doing so, the students are to focus on a specific area. Possible topics are listed below:

- Relationship between employees and management
- Marketing of the wine (to include competitors)
- Perception of the world wine market by the local industry
- Perception of the product of wine in the national culture
- View of the environment (e.g., how the industry treats resources)

These topics are by no means exhaustive. Students may pick a different subject (to be approved by the instructor).

In the last part of the paper, the student is presented with typical issues that managers face all over the world, that of merging corporate cultures. Focusing on the topic they chose in the first part of the paper; the students are to present a plan for how an Australian winery and a US winery might be combined. In doing so, the student will focus on the problems that might arise in the area of focus and how they would address these issues.
Grading Criteria and Conversion

There are 400 grading points available in this class, assigned as follows:

- Expectations Document: 80 points
- Research outline: 100 points
- Reflection journal: 80 points
- Review paper: 140 points
- Total Points Possible: 400 Points

Grading Policy

Minimum points required for a specific course grade are noted on the table below. Minimum points required for a specific course grade will NOT be revised for any reason. NO extra credit will be offered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
<th>Minimum Points Required</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% X 600</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80% X 600</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% X 600</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% X 600</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>50% X 600</td>
<td>359 &amp; below</td>
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Late Submission

Late submissions will be penalized at 10% per day, unless you or a family member in your immediate care experiences a medical emergency. You must communicate this information at the soonest available time PRIOR to or on the day of the deadline; the request for deadline extension must be accompanied with a doctor or hospital note as back-up.

Posting of Grades

All student grades will be posted in the Canvas Grade Book and students should monitor their grading status through this tool.
COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TAMU - CT</td>
<td>Trip orientation and overview of cross cultural theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 13May</td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Pre-trip module released - Overview of cross cultural theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 18May</td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Online cross-cultural quiz due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Expectations document due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Central Texas</td>
<td>Meet with Texas wine industry expert(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 19May</td>
<td>Austin Airport</td>
<td>Fly out to Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 May (Monday)</td>
<td>Sydney/Newcastle</td>
<td>Arrive in Sydney Australia – 6 a.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Train to Newcastle / check into Hotel – 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Oakdale Petting Zoo – afternoon, photo op</td>
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<td>Welcome Dinner at Honeysuckle</td>
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<td>21 May (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>Late start (14 hr. jet lag)</td>
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<td>Meet with wine industry executives and professors</td>
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<td>Darby Street dinner</td>
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<td>22 May (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Hunter Valley</td>
<td>All-day Hunter Valley vineyards tour</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Beaumont Street dinner</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reflection Journal one due</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 May (Thursday)</td>
<td>Newcastle/Sydney</td>
<td>Train to Sydney</td>
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<td>Opera house tour</td>
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<td>China town</td>
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<td>24 May (Friday)</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>New South Wales Museum / Botanic Garden</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Late lunch at Sydney Tower</td>
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<td>Evening Rocks Tour</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reflection journal two due</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 May (Saturday)</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 May (Sunday)</td>
<td>Sydney Airport</td>
<td>Fly out</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arrive in Texas (same day, due to time change)</td>
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<td>29 May (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Central Texas</td>
<td>Vineyard tour and debrief</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 May (Thursday)</td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Expectations revisited document review due</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reflection Journal three due</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 May (Friday)</td>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>Review Report due</td>
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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

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](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 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 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, 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 WCONline 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].