

Department of Social Sciences

Fall 2020

CJ Statistics

CRIJ 4315-110, 80227

Online

Mondays & Wednesdays from 2:30p-3:45p

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**Office Phone Number:** 254-519-5436

“Behind every uncomfortable syllabus clause lies an even more uncomfortable teaching experience.” – @AcademicSay (April 22, 2016)

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### **ACADEMIC ACCOMODATIONS**

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 Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

### **STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has adopted a policy on the Disruption of University Activities (Policy # 10.4.13), which can be accessed in the Student Code of Conduct through the following link:

<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>

### **COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES**

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted policies and practices to minimize virus transmission. All members of the university community are expected to adhere to these measures to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. Students

must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses, course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.) and co-curricular programs:

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction. Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.
- Face Coverings— Face coverings must be worn inside of buildings and within 50 feet of building entrances on the A&M-Central Texas Campus. This includes lobbies, restrooms, hallways, elevators, classrooms, laboratories, conference rooms, break rooms, non-private office spaces, and other shared spaces. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not maintained. The university will evaluate exceptions to this requirement on a case by case basis. Students can request an exception through the Office of Access and Inclusion in Student Affairs.
  - If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the Office of Student Conduct. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day's class remotely for all students.
- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in the course and course-related activities.
- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- The university will notify students in the event that the COVID-19 situation necessitates changes to the course schedule or modality.

**\*\*\* Disclaimer: Syllabus may be revised later if needed \*\*\***

## **COURSE GOALS AND METHODS**

This class is an introduction to the magical world of statistical concepts and techniques that can assist one in evaluating research findings and conducting research. The techniques will include measures of central tendency, variability, and significance, and hypothesis testing using t-tests and ANOVA. Students will learn how to manipulate, analyze, and interpret data using SPSS.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Understand the prevalence of and need for statistics
- 2) Understand how statistical analysis can be used to objectively investigate practical issues in criminal justice
- 3) Learn how to use statistical software to analyze data
- 4) Understand the fundamentals of data entry and processing
- 5) Know how to calculate and interpret descriptive statistics
- 6) Understand the logic behind samples, probability, and hypothesis testing
- 7) Understand how to conduct hypothesis testing using statistical analyses

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

Gau, J. M. (2018). *Statistics for criminology and criminal justice* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781506391786

Additional readings may be provided on Canvas.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### Respect

This course will be fully online and you are encouraged to participate. All students learn in a variety of ways and at varying paces. I expect everyone to treat one another with respect and help cultivate an environment in which everyone feels free to ask and answer questions respectfully.

### Netiquette

All students must abide by the following core rules of netiquette (excerpted from Shea, 1994<sup>1</sup>) for the duration of the course on discussion boards and email.

Rule 1: Remember the human - Do unto others as you'd have others do unto you. Imagine how you'd feel if you were in the other person's shoes. Stand up

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<sup>1</sup> Shea, V. (1994). Core Rules of Netiquette. In *Netiquette*, (pp. 32-46). Vancouver: Albion Books.

for yourself, but try not to hurt people's feelings.

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online - Standards of behavior may be different in some areas of cyberspace, but they are not lower than in real life.

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace - When you enter a domain of cyberspace that's new to you, take a look around. Spend a while listening to the chat or reading the archives. Get a sense of how the people who are already there act. Then go ahead and participate.

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth - ...don't expect instant responses to all your questions, and don't assume that all readers will agree with -- or care about -- your passionate arguments.

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online - As in the world at large, most people who communicate online just want to be liked. Networks -- particularly discussion groups -- let you reach out to people you'd otherwise never meet. And none of them can see you. You won't be judged by the color of your skin, eyes, or hair, your weight, your age, or your clothing.

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge - Don't be afraid to share what you know.

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control - ...Netiquette does forbid the perpetuation of flame wars -- series of angry letters, most of them from two or three people directed toward each other, that can dominate the tone and destroy the camaraderie of a discussion group. It's unfair to the other members of the group.

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power - Some people in cyberspace have more power than others...Knowing more than others, or having more power than they do, does not give you the right to take advantage of them.

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes - ... when someone makes a mistake -- whether it's a spelling error or a spelling flame, a stupid question or an unnecessarily long answer -- be kind about it. If it's a minor error, you may not need to say anything. Even if you feel strongly about it, think twice before reacting. Having good manners yourself doesn't give you license to correct everyone else. If you do decide to inform someone of a mistake, point it out politely, and preferably by private email rather than in public. Give people the benefit of the doubt; assume they just don't know any better. And never be

arrogant or self-righteous about it. Just as it's a law of nature that spelling flames always contain spelling errors, notes pointing out Netiquette violations are often examples of poor Netiquette.

### 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, working with others in an unauthorized manner, 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 referred 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>].

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)].

**Violations in academic integrity will result in score of zero on the assignment for which it is suspected. Any suspected violations of academic integrity will also be reported to TAMUCT's Office of Student Conduct:**

<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT AND SUPPORT**

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Log on 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.

### Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### 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](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

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

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

## **COURSE COMMUNICATION**

Course announcements will be posted to the Announcements page on Canvas.

I will send correspondence to your Canvas Inbox. Make sure you have access to and regularly check it. I recommend you adjust your Canvas Settings so you receive a notification when I post an announcement, you receive a course message, etc.

OMG, emails should be professional LMBO. When u send a msg, dont write n text talk!! Proofread ur email b4 u send it n dont use emojis :) Include a subject line, a formal salutation, your name and the course you're in, the reason for your email, a formal sign-off with your name, and address me as Professor or Dr. For more information, please go to Modules/Additional Resources/General Resources/How to Email Your Professor.

Do not send Canvas messages/emails about things stated in the syllabus/guidelines or where things are located on Canvas *unless* you are requesting clarification or additional information.

## **STUDENT-PROFESSOR INTERACTION**

Students may speak with me via Canvas Inbox or by appointment. I will answer (most) messages within 72 hours. Students who would like to speak to me via WebEx must make an appointment. For appointments the student and I must confirm the date and time via Canvas Inbox. There is a link for WebEx available on Canvas.

## **PARTICIPATION POLICIES**

Participation will not count towards your grade. However, it is in your best interest to regularly check Canvas and complete all the assignments. If you do not your grade is likely to suffer. Participation will aid in understanding in the material, which can ultimately improve your grade. If you have a question, I strongly suggest you email me or make an appointment to speak with me.

### WebEx Meetings

We are scheduled to meet for class on Mondays & Wednesdays from 2:30-3:45p. This will be an opportunity for students to ask questions and review the content. I highly recommend you complete the reading an assignments and study the powerpoints before class time. The meetings will be recorded and posted to Canvas. If you are unable to join, you will be able to watch the recordings.

## **ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS**

### Reading Assignments

The reading assignments are taken from the required textbook. It is important to have the textbook when class begins so you can keep up with the assigned readings. I recommend you purchase the book as soon as possible so you are adequately prepared for class. Reading assignments should be completed by the date listed on the Class Schedule. I also suggest you review the chapters after class.

### Homework

The homework assignments will be online through Canvas. Homework assignments are designed to help students apply the concepts they learn in the reading and in class. You may work in groups to complete these assignments, but each student must submit their own assignment to receive credit. The homework will have a flexible due date. I posted them each under the appropriate week (Modules/Week #), and I recommend you submit them by Sunday at 11:59p (of the assigned week). However, if you need more time, I will allow you to submit it later without a late penalty. It is in your best interest to submit it by the Sunday due date, as this will

allow more time for me to grade it and provide you feedback you can use to study. The latest I will accept the homework is December 11 at 11:59p. I will not start grading the submissions until after their due date. **Note:** While the final deadline for homework assignments is the end of the semester, I highly recommend you complete them before Exam 1 so you can use them to study. As noted below, Exam 1 will only be available for a week.

### Exams

There will be two exams covering the course content. The Learning Objectives posted each week will aid students in studying for the exams. **The exams will be available for one week each.** The format will be multiple-choice, fill in the blank, and short answer. You will have 2.5 hours to complete each exam.

If you have to miss an exam due to an employment or military obligation, you must provide me with official documentation showing the date(s) of the scheduling conflict by the end of the previous week (Sunday at 11:59p). When you provide the documentation, make sure you clearly state that you want to make up the exam. I will not accept notification provided to me via another student. You will have one week from the exam period to make it up. If you do not make up the exam within one week from the exam period, you will receive a zero. Exams must be taken early if the make-up will occur more than a week after the exam date.

Advanced notice is not required for medical emergencies (e.g. Covid-19); however, you must contact me within one week from the exam period. You will also have one week from your approval date to complete the make-up exam. **Note: Exams are not group activities and may not be taken together. Students suspected of working together on the exams will receive a zero on the exam and be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for violating academic integrity.**

### **GRADING**

Grades will be posted on Canvas within approximately one week. Students will be notified if it will take longer to post the grades.

Your final grade will be weighted as follows:

	<b>Number of points</b>	<b>Weight of Category</b>
Homework	~435 points	40%
Exam 1	100 points	25%
Exam 2	100 points	35%
	<b>Total: 635 points</b>	

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

Write a one- to two- page reaction essay on one city covered in the documentary, *The Prison in Twelve Landscapes*. Your reaction essay must include specific references to the documentary. This submission is worth up to 5 points and must be submitted as Word document (.doc or .docx). You may turn in two essays (each essay covering a different city), for a total of 10 extra credit points. **Essays submitted in a previous/different class will not be accepted. If plagiarism is detected, you will not receive points and I will report you to the Office of Student Conduct.**

Formatting includes: Double-spaced, left aligned paragraph format (do not include bullet points or numbered lists), 12-point font, Times New Roman, 1" margins, 0.5" first line indentation, and black font. Your first paragraph should start on the first line of the essay (no title, headers, etc.). Also include a cover page with just your name, the date, and title of your essay. Failure to follow the formatting guidelines will result in a 2-point penalty.

Off-topic submissions will not be graded. Submissions that are summaries or are primarily summaries will not be graded. Extra credit submissions will be accepted no later than Friday, December 11 at 11:59p.

### **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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5436; Fax 254-519-5781; liana.taylor@tamuct.edu.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>
Week 1	08/24-08/30	Introduction to Statistics	Chs. 1-2
Week 2	08/31-09/06	Organizing data	Ch. 3
Week 3	09/07-09/13	Measures of Central Tendency	Ch. 4
Week 4	09/14-09/20	Measures of Variability	Ch. 5
Week 5	09/21-09/27	The Normal Curve Z scores	Ch. 6
Week 6	09/28-10/04	Samples & Populations	Ch. 7
Week 7	10/05-10/11	Review Week	
Week 8	10/12-10/18	Exam 1 (Intro – Samples & Populations) due by 10/18 at 11:59p <b>This is a firm deadline.</b>	
Week 9	10/19-10/25	Estimation Procedures	Ch. 8
Week 10	10/26-11/01	Hypothesis Testing	Ch. 9
Week 11	11/02-11/08	T-Tests	Ch. 11

Week 12	11/09-11/15	T-Tests	Ch. 11
Week 13	11/16-11/22	ANOVA	Ch. 12
Week 14	11/23-11/29	ANOVA	Ch. 12
Week 15	11/30-12/06	Review Week	
Week 16	12/07-12/11	Exam 2 (Estimation Procedures – ANOVA) due 12/11 by 11:59p <b>This is a firm deadline.</b>	

## **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>] 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.

## **DROP POLICY**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty 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. Once you submit the completed 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.

## **TUTORING**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing [studentsuccess@tamuct.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@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 except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **THE UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER**

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Fall 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering 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. 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. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. 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 making an appointment via WOnline [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto: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>].

**For Fall 2020, all reference service will be conducted virtually. Please go to our Library website [<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>] to access our virtual reference help and our current hours.**

### **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>]. 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.

### **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/compliance/titleix.html>].

## **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, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online [[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=2](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.

## **IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES**

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>