

Texas A&M University Central Texas
PSYC 3409-110, 80962, Writing in Psychology
Fall 2021

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

August 23, 2021-December 10, 2021

Warrior Hall 305 Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30-10:45am-*This course meets face-to-face with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].*

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Stephanie Weigel, Ph.D.

Office: Warrior Hall 318 P

Phone: 254.307.0622

Email: sweigel@tamuct.edu

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 12:30-2:00pm; Tuesday 11:00am-4:00pm. Please email to schedule an appointment or make arrangements for a phone call/video conference.

Student-instructor interaction

Learning is best supported by interaction. It is important that you feel comfortable asking questions and communicating during class discussions. This will help support your learning and that of your fellow students. Some questions are best saved for outside of the classroom. The best way to contact me for these discussions is via email. We can set up an appointment if needed during my scheduled office hours. I will check my campus email daily on weekdays and do my best to respond within 48 hours.

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.

Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan. For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description

(WI) Examine advanced technical communication in psychology. Study and use the current edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association for formal research reports, literature reviews, grant proposals, and professional articles. Learn to write professional psychological reports. Prerequisite(s): PSYC 2301, ENGL 1301, and ENGL 1302, or permission of Departmental Chair.

Student Learning Outcomes

LO 1. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course. Students will demonstrate knowledge of relevant publication formats and rules of the American Psychological Association, effectively use various formats for writing papers in psychology, demonstrate knowledge about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it through APA Quizzes and written assignments.

LO 2. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally and in writing. Students will clearly describe and discuss psychological research studies and their own understanding of those studies by developing a Literature Review, Essay and participating in discussions.

LO 3. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions and solving problems. Students will utilize library and online resources to find scholarly work regarding a variety of psychology topics to complete an Essay, Article Analyses, Literature Review and discussions.

LO 4. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view. Students will critically analyze psychological research study articles for written assignments including Article Analysis, Essay, and Literature Review. Students will provide peer reviews to enhance their own critical thinking and writing skills as well as those of peers.

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

American Psychological Association. (2019). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. (ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1) Mitchell, M. L., Jolley, J. M., & O'Shea, R. P. (2013). Writing for psychology (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Cengage/Wadsworth. (ISBN: 978-1-111-84063-1)

Writing Instructive Course: This is a Writing Instructive (WI) course so writing will be an integral part of my instruction and our interactions. Writing will also be a fundamental way that I measure student mastery of course content. WI means that you will have several opportunities to work on improving your writing skills.

For this course you will complete separate steps of the writing process for each project and receive instructor feedback to be incorporated in the subsequent drafts of the project.

Students will also provide peer review feedback to other students to improve their own writing as well as that of their peers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Online Discussions: 280 points (14 X 20 points each), SLO 2, 3. Each week the instructor will provide a prompt or discussion topic based upon the week's topic. Students will provide their response to the discussion prompt in the Canvas Discussions area. The student's original response is worth up to 10 points. In addition to the response, students are expected to respond to at least 2 peers as well (up to 10 points). In order to receive full credit, the original post and peer response must show knowledge of the readings as well as application to the student's life, career, experiences or perspective. In other words, the response must go beyond summarizing the textbook or provided resources.

Quizzes: 100 points (5 quizzes X 20 points each), SLO 1. Students will complete 5 quizzes covering plagiarism, APA formatting, and writing style. The quizzes will be presented online through Canvas.

Essay: 50 points, SLO 1, 2, 3, 4. Students will develop an essay addressing a current topic related to psychology. The essay will be evaluated on APA style, quality and use of resources, and critical thinking. A detailed rubric for this assignment is provided in Canvas.

Peer Review of Essay: 20 points, SLO 4. In addition to completing the essay described above, each student will provide feedback for a peer's essay. The feedback will be evaluated on the application of rubric, critical thinking, and quality of suggestions for improvement.

Article Analyses: 80 points (4 X 20 points each), SLO 3, 4. Students will summarize an article related to their research topic using the provided Article Analysis Form. On the form, students will identify the purpose, hypothesis, key findings, and limitations of the study.

Literature Review: 220 points total, SLO 1, 2, 3, 4. Students will develop a formal APA style literature review by completing several steps. Detailed rubrics for each step are provided in Canvas. The rubrics will be used to evaluate APA style, use of sources, quality of sources, writing style, and critical thinking.

Reference list (20 points) to include at least 10 empirical professional sources related to the chosen topic presented in APA style.

First Draft (30 points) to include purpose, summary of information from multiple sources in APA style.

Peer Review of Draft (20 points) including feedback on APA style, suggestions for organization and clarity.

Final Draft (150 points) will be evaluated on APA style, thoroughness of review, quality of sources, writing style, organization, application of prior feedback, and professional point of view.

Grant Application: 100 points total, SLO 1, 2. Students will develop a grant proposal including: Proposal List (30 points). Students will create a list of grants related to a chosen topic. The list will be evaluated on application to the topic and feasibility.

Draft (40 points). Students will submit a rough draft of a proposal for an assigned grant.

Final Grant Proposal (100). The final proposal should incorporate prior feedback and will be evaluated on professionalism and meeting the grant standards.

Clinical Notes (40 points), SLO 1, 2. Students will use professional note taking formats to report on observed behaviors. Notes will be evaluated on thoroughness, professional perspective and appropriate use of format.

Psychosocial Report (40 points), SLO 1, 2. Students will develop a psychosocial report for a hypothetical client based on information provided by the instructor. The report will be evaluated on thoroughness, professional perspective and appropriate use of format.

Research Experience Requirement: Students in selected psychology courses (PSYC 3307, PSYC 3409, PSYC 3312, PSYC 3430, PSYC 4320) are required to engage in research experience activities as part of the course. The research experience activity involves writing summaries of peer reviewed research articles that are related to the course content. Faculty will identify which articles can be reviewed for their course, and article reviews can be submitted directly to the faculty for evaluation.

If students choose not to write article summaries, they can complete an alternative research experience by participating in research studies directly related to psychology to gain this experience.

Sign Up for Alternative Research Experience: To receive credit for this alternate research experience activity, students must create an account in SONA. The [university SONA account](https://tamuct.sona-systems.com) is where students will sign up to participate in research projects (<https://tamuct.sona-systems.com>). Students should view the introductory [tutorial video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OnT2ZU6QQ) before using SONA (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OnT2ZU6QQ>) and be sure to use their university email when signing up. Students who have problems signing up for SONA or have questions should contact the professor of the course.

Credits: Students are required to complete 3 research experience credits in this course. Credit is allotted as follows:

- 1 credit for each summary of a peer-reviewed, research article OR
1 credit for each hour (60 minutes) of research participation (in-person or online)
- 1/2 credit for each 1/2 hour (30 minutes) of research participation (in-person or online)

Students can use a combination of article summaries and alternative research assignments to earn their credits. There is no guarantee that there will be sufficient research participation opportunities for students to earn 100% of their credits from this alternative research experience.

Students who drop a class after having earned research experience credit cannot apply any accumulated credit from that class towards future semesters without the documented approval of the department chair; however, credits in SONA can be transferred from one course to another in the same semester. Credits from previous semesters are not permitted to be transferred for current semester use.

Penalties: Any student who has not earned all required research credits prior to the end of the semester

will be penalized 1 letter grade on the final course grade. For 16-week courses the deadline is 12pm (noon) on 12/10/21.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Summary of Course points:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Quizzes | 100 |
| Weekly Discussions | 280 |
| Essay | 50 |
| Peer Review of Essay | 20 |
| Article Analyses | 80 |
| Lit. Reveiw References | 20 |
| Lit. Review Draft | 30 |
| Peer Review of Lit Rev. | 20 |
| Final Lit. Review | 150 |
| List of Grants | 30 |
| Grant Proposal Draft | 40 |
| Final Grant Proposal | 100 |
| Clinical Notes | 40 |
| <u>Psychosocial Report</u> | <u>40</u> |
| Total Points Possible | 1000 |

Final grades will be based upon the percentage of total points earned:

**A 90%-100% (900 and up) B 80%-89% (800-899) C 70%-79% (700-799)
D 60%-69% (600-699) F 59% or less (599 points and below)**

Posting of Grades

All grades for the course will be posted in the Canvas Grade book. Grades for assignments and exams will be posted within 1 week of the due date or sooner. Feedback regarding the score will be provided as well, but I encourage you to ask questions about any grade or feedback for clarification.

Grading Policies

****Late Work Policy****

In order to make the most of the learning opportunities in the course it is very important for you to stay current with the readings and assignments. However, if you are unable to complete an assignment on time, please still complete and submit the assignment. Assignments will automatically receive a 10% point deduction if submitted after the due date. Assignments submitted later than 1 week after the original due date will not be accepted.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

| Week | Topics & Assigned Readings (Complete before class) | Assignments or Activities |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Week 1 August 23-29 | Types of Writing in Psychology | Review syllabus and materials in Modules |
| | | Lab: Writing Center Resources |
| Week 2 August 30-Sept 5 | Doing Research; Mitchell Chapter 2, 4; APA manual Ch 1; assigned resources | Topic Due; Plagiarism Quiz; Online Discussion |
| | | Lab: Plagiarism Quiz |
| Week 3 Sept 6-12 | Writing with style; Mitchell Ch 5 & 6, APA Manual Ch 2, | APA style quiz #1; Article Analysis Online Discussion; Submit rough draft of essay |
| | | Lab: Quiz |
| Week 4 Sept 13-19 | Writing with a purpose, avoid bias; Mitchell Ch 2 & 5 | Online Discussion, Peer Review of Essay Paper Due |
| | | Lab: peer review |
| Week 5 Sept 20-26 | Starting the literature review for a proposal; Mitchell Ch 3 | Online Discussion, Essay Due; |
| | | Lab: Library information literacy |
| Week 6 Sept 27- Oct 3 | Writing with style continued; APA Manual Ch 4, 5, 6 | Online Discussion, APA style quiz #2; Article Analysis |
| | | Lab: Quiz |
| Week 7 Oct 4-10 | Organizing the literature review for a proposal | Online Discussion; Reference list due; Article Analysis Due |
| | | Lab: |
| Week 8 Oct 11-17 | Other sections of a research report | Online Discussion, Article Analysis; Draft of Lit review due |
| | | Lab: |
| Week 9 Oct 18-24 | Getting and using feedback to improve writing; Putting it all together; Mitchell Ch 7 | Peer Review of Lit review due Online Discussion |
| | | Lab: peer review |
| Week 10 Oct 25-31 | Grant Resources; assigned resources | Final Draft of Lit review due; APA style quiz #3 |
| | | Lab: Quiz |
| Week 11 Nov 1-7 | Writing a grant; assigned resources | Online Discussion; List of possible grants due |
| | | Lab: grant examples |
| Week 12 Nov 8-14 | Psychological Reports; assigned resources | Online Discussion; Grant draft |
| | | Lab: psych report examples |
| Week 13 | Psychological Reports; assigned resources | Online Discussion; SOAP notes; Peer review of grant due |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Nov 15-21 | | |
| | | Lab: peer review |
| Week 14 Nov 22-28 (Thanksgiving) | Clinical writing | Final Grant draft due; Online Discussion |
| | | Lab |
| Week 15 Nov 29-Dec 5 | Roles & professional points of view | Psychosocial Report Due; Online Discussion |
| | | Lab |
| Week 16 Dec 6-8 | CLASS ENDS 12/8 | APA style quiz #4; Research Requirement Due |

Important University Dates

Check this link for important university dates from the current Academic Calendar such as drop/withdrawal dates <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

Technology Requirements

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.**

Login 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

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 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.

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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. 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].

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](#) 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/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.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, 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. 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.

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.

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Fall 2021 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour

as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

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 making an appointment via WOnline at <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, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <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, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

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 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams 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 Wellness and 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) [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](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/bit]. 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.

OTHER POLICIES

If you have concerns about copyright protection of your syllabus or course materials, consider adding the following notice

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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