

**Course number, Course CRN, COURSE TITLE**  
***MFT 5309-110, Diverse Families***

**Fall 2022**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

**COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

*August 22, 2022 to December 09, 2022*

*Warrior Hall 315, Tuesdays, 6:00pm to 8:45pm*

*This is a web-enhanced course, which means assignments will be completed via Canvas and there will be some asynchronous learning.*

*This course uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com/].*

**INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Instructor: Dr. Amuna, LPC, CSDD, BC-TMH**

**Phone: 254.501.5938**

**Email:** Preferred email method is via Canvas inbox, via our virtual classroom

**Office Hours**

*Office hours will be available from 5:00pm to 5:45pm on Tuesday's by appointment only.*

*Please email me via Canvas inbox to schedule an appointment.*

**Student-instructor interaction**

*I will be available to discuss and resolve class-related issues upon notification by email.*

*I check emails on a fairly regular basis, and should get to most emails within 48 hours on business days.*

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

**SAFEZONE.** SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
  - [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
  - [Android Phone / Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp)  
[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp]

2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

**For updates on COVID information**, please monitor the University website  
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Course Overview and description**

*This course provides an overview of the impact of diversity, power, and privilege as related to culture, class, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, and religion in families and the influence of context on couple and family treatment. Assessment will focus on treatment and effectively helping multi-stressed families*

*The course consists of short lectures, group discussions, guest lectures, and student presentations. Since it is a small class, regular attendance is considered a pre-requisite, in order to assure a consistent learning process. Students are expected to read all assigned readings prior to each class, to actively participate in class, and to take responsibility for initiating class discussions. Your learning experience is greatly enhanced if you are actively involved in class discussion, and you will be more prepared professionally if you're engaged in the course. You are graduate students and I will treat you as professionals, and thus I expect you to act as such. This includes coming to every class on time, completing all the readings, and completing any assignments that may be due to the very best of your abilities.*

*Attendance is important. Depending on circumstances such as observance of a religious holiday, University related activities, illness, and family matters, absences may occur but should not be a regular practice.*

### **Course Objective or Goal**

Course Learning Outcomes: This course targets the MFT program's Student Learning Outcomes:

(SLO-3)-Assess how contextual issues affect individual lives and relational dynamics

(SLO-6)- Develop collaborative relationships with other mental health professionals and agencies within the local community

(SLO-7) -Demonstrate knowledge

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

*It targets these SLO's through the following Course Learning Outcomes:*

*Articulate how family life cycle transitions relate to marital and family problems.*

*(SLO-3). Demonstrate awareness of current research on developmental concepts.*

*(SLO-7). Demonstrate awareness for various family developmental patterns.*

*(SLO-6)*

## Required Reading and Textbook(s)

- McGoldrick, M., & Hardy, K. V. (Eds.). (2019). Re-visioning family therapy: Race, culture, and gender in clinical practice (3rd Ed.). New York: Guilford Press. ISBN: 978-1462531936
- Current Edition of the APA Manual
- Additional reading material will be discussed during the course

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### A. In Class Articles & Canvas Responses

In no less than 300 words provide your feedback to the prompt provided in Canvas, relating to an article discussed in class. You will not be allowed to respond to the prompt online if you DID NOT ATTEND class that day. Articles will be provided sporadically as a gauge of class attendance.

### B. Cultural Self-Portrait Paper & Presentation (100 points)

In a 3 to 5-page paper discuss who you are and where you come from? Students will generate a narrative and creative cultural portrait of themselves. Please use your own knowledge (discovered self-awareness and reflection of your own cultural identity and beliefs), talk with your immediate and extended family members, your partner, call your grandmother's neighbor of 30 years to get their perspective of your family's culture; do some research about your heritage! You are required to include racial and ethnic identity as a part of culture, however you are not limited to only exploring "family" culture related to biological family. This assignment fully recognizes that family can be chosen and encourages exploration of how the spectrum of different types of family has made you who you are today. The following questions may help guide your cultural self-portrait:

- Who am I as a cultural being? What is my cultural profile?
- How have the different dimensions of diversity influenced who I am as a person?
- How does my culture influence my relationships?
- How do I think that my cultural background and attitudes will help me in working with culturally diverse clients? 3
- How do I think that my cultural background and attitudes will hinder me in working with culturally diverse clients?

The Cultural Self-Portrait narrative should integrate personal examples and reflections. Please note that while you are welcome to make connections to issues of power and privilege, the purpose of this paper is focus on your cultural identity.

You are also required to submit and present a 5 slide PowerPoint presentation regarding the content of your paper. Be sure to include an APA current edition title page, abstract, and

reference page which does not count towards your 3 to 5-page count nor your 5 slide PowerPoint count.

Grade Breakdown:

- 10 points for Paper Outline
- 15 points for Presentation (10 minutes)
- 25 points for PowerPoint
- 50 points for Paper

## **B. Historical Oppression Paper & Presentation (100 points)**

### **Instructions:**

To understand where some of the differences in power and privilege, and inherent social injustices come from, I want each of you to research and present on an example of historical oppression or trauma within a specific cultural group that is different from your own cultural group, in a 3 to 5-page paper. You will give a presentation that outlines the historical oppression or trauma the group experienced, the potential effects on the cultural group, and discuss any implications this should have for clinical treatment of the population. The presentation will include a case example, will engage the class in discussion or reflection of the material through discussion questions or an experiential activity, and will provide resources to the class for those who may be interested in exposing themselves to issues the cultural group faces beyond the classroom. You'll give a 10 minute presentation to the class.

You are also required to submit and present a 5 slide PowerPoint presentation regarding the content of your paper. Be sure to include an APA current edition title page, abstract, and reference page which does not count towards your 3 to 5-page count nor your 5 slide PowerPoint count.

Grade Breakdown:

- 10 points for Paper Outline
- 15 points for Presentation (10 minutes)
- 25 points for PowerPoint
- 50 points for Paper

**C. Quizzes-** Students will have four (4) quizzes that consist of 20 multiple-choice questions covering material relative to the current weeks' material. They are worth a total of 25 points each.

**D. Final Exam-** The final exam consists of 50 multiple-choice/true false questions covering material from the entire semester. It is worth 100 points.

## Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

In Class Articles & Canvas Responses	100 points	
Cultural Self-Portrait Paper & Presentation	100 points	
Historical Oppression Paper & Presentation	100 points	
Quizzes	100 points	
Final Exam	100 points	Total: 500 points

**A: 460-500 points**

**B: 420-459 points**

**C: There are no C's in graduate school**

## Posting of Grades

Grades will not be rounded up and extra credit options are not available in this course. All grades will be posted via Canvas gradebook approximately 7 to 10 business days after an assignment has been turned in.

## Grading Policies

Due to the nature of this graduate level course, all late work will earn an automatic grade of zero.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

### Complete Course Calendar

*Course Calendar will be available in CANVAS and updated as needed.*

### Important University Dates

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

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

### 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.**

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.

### **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.*

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## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES**

### **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 Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity 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>]

### **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), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

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

## Drop Policy

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

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%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.

## Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, 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>]. 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 virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing [WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu](mailto:WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu).

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](#) [<https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT>] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111

Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote 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 Library & Archives**

The University Library & Archives 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. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. 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]

### **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. 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 WCOonline [<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, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## **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>].

### **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/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.

### **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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