# Department of Social Sciences Spring 2022 Research Methods CRIJ 4316-120, 11837

Online

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"Behind every uncomfortable syllabus clause lies an even more uncomfortable teaching

experience." – @AcademicSay (April 22, 2016)

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

#### **SPRING 2022 RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN**

For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Spring 2022 Return to Campus Plan [https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/]

#### 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

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

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course is an introduction to the remarkable world of methods of criminological and criminal justice research, with an emphasis on understanding research ethics, research design, and methods of data collection.

# **Course Objectives**

- 1) Students will become acquainted with the wonders of research in Criminal Justice.
- 2) Students will learn the ethical considerations in conducting research.
- 3) Students will learn how to read research articles.
- 4) Students will learn how to conduct a literature search and write a literature review.
- 5) Students will learn how to design a research study, including:
  - a) Develop a research question and hypotheses
  - b) Operationalize and conceptualize variables
  - c) Select a sample and design a sampling plan
  - d) Design a method for data collection
  - e) Determine the implications of their proposed research study
- 6) Students will learn how to improve their writing skills.

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.

In this course, students will have homework assignments with short answer questions, in which they will apply course content and a literature review. Students have the option to revise and resubmit these assignments. Additionally, students will complete an annotated bibliography which requires at least one revision.

# **REQUIRED TEXT**

Withrow, B. L. (2016). *Research Methods in Crime and Justice* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0-415-88443-3

Additional readings will be provided on Canvas under Modules.

#### RECOMMENDED READING

- American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.
- Osmond A. (2016) *Academic Writing and Grammar for Students* (2nd ed.).

  Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1473919365.
- Ridley, D. (2012). *The Literature Review: A Step-by-Step Guide for Students* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1446201435.
- Shon, P. C. H. (2016). *How to Read Journal Articles in the Social Sciences: A Very Practical Guide for Students* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1473918795.

#### **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.

# <u>Netiquette</u>

All students must abide by the following core rules of netiquette (excerpted from Shea, 1994¹) 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 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

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

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. 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].

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

**Note**: If you submit papers or sections from a paper from another class or previous semester, that counts as a violation of academic integrity.

# **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.

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

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.

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 24 hours, Monday through Friday. 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.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

#### **Grading Policies**

The assignments in this course have flexible deadlines (see the course schedule). As such, there are no late penalties. You are not required to meet these flexible

deadlines, though it is in your best interest to do so. **However, all** assignments must be submitted via the appropriate Canvas link by the end of the semester: May 13 at 11:59p.

# Reading Assignments

The reading assignments are selected chapters from the required textbook and other sources (which are on Canvas under Modules/Week #). 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. You should complete the reading assignments no later than the week listed on the Class Schedule. PowerPoints will be provided on each topic as well. These will be posted under the appropriate week on Canvas (for example: Modules/Week 2/Literature Review.pptx). I suggest that you reread the chapters/articles and PowerPoints throughout the semester.

# Homework Assignments

Homework assignments are designed to help you apply the concepts you learn in the course. The weekly assignments will have flexible due dates. The assignment(s) are all available under Canvas/Assignments. I recommend you complete them by Sunday at 11:59p for the week they are posted. I also placed a link to each assignment under the appropriate week, e.g., Modules/Week 2/Homework 2. Remember: if you need more time, you may submit it later without a late penalty. It is in your best interest to submit it by the flexible 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 assignments is May 13 at 11:59p.** 

## <u>Literature Review (100 points)</u>

A narrative literature review is a summary of the research on a specific topic. It is synthesis of carefully selected research to present the overall picture of a topic. For this project, students will write a literature review on the topic: family involvement in juvenile diversion programs. The literature review is not intended to be an exhaustive review of the research available on the topic. But it should be thorough enough to provide a clear, fully formed overview of the topic. The literature review must include at least five peer-reviewed, original research journal articles (not student-run journals). You may include the articles provided in class. The overall point distribution will be as follows:

Literature Review Elements	Point Distribution
Content	70 points
Writing Mechanics/Quality	20 points
Formatting (Including APA 7 <sup>th</sup> )	10 points

The Final Literature Review is due Friday, May 13 via Canvas by 11:59p. The submission link is under Modules/ Literature Review. I will not accept papers via email, course message, or in hardcopy. Papers submitted via these proscribed methods will need to be resubmitted via the assignment submission link by the final deadline.

I will start grading literature review submissions **no sooner** than April 4 at 12a. Anyone who wants to be able to resubmit their literature review for a regrade may do so any time after I start grading them. If you want to revise and resubmit your literature review for a regrade, use the same assignment submission link. You will need to type a detailed explanation of the changes you made on your graded rubric (in the sections labeled "R&R Comments"). Upload your graded rubric with your revision comments and your revised literature review through the assignment submission link.

The latest you can submit the literature review and receive detailed feedback for revision is April 24 at 11:59p.

Final literature review submissions will not be accepted after May 13 at 11:59p. *No exceptions.* 

# Annotated Bibliography (80 points)

An annotated bibliography provides a summary of research articles on a topic. For this assignment, you will read two assigned peer-reviewed journal articles related to the Literature Review. Once you read the articles, you will summarize them succinctly in one page each (each page is called an annotation). Each annotation (which includes the reference in APA style, rationale, and summary) will be submitted separately. You will not need to include a cover page, reference page, or abstract. However, after receiving a grade you will need to revise and resubmit each annotation at least once. The latest you can submit an annotation and receive detailed feedback for revision is April 24 at 11:59p. The overall points for each annotation will be distributed as follows:

Annotated Bibliography Elements	Point Distribution
Content	10 points
Writing Mechanics/Quality	5 points
Formatting (Including APA 7 <sup>th</sup> )	5 points

These are not draft submissions. They should be polished and finalized. You should proofread and edit them repeatedly prior to submission – not just for typos and spelling errors. Only final versions will be graded. If you submit a draft or incomplete version of these assignments, I will not grade it and you will have to resubmit it no later than May 13 at 11:59p.

When you submit your revision: Use the revision submission link and include a detailed explanation of the changes you made on your graded rubric (in the sections labeled "R&R Comments"). Upload your graded rubric with your revision comments and your revised annotation through the revision submission link (e.g. Assignments/Annotated Bibliography/Annotation – Dakof – Revision). A resubmission does not guarantee a higher grade or perfect score. Also, a resubmission will not replace your first grade. Resubmissions will not be graded if detailed revision comments are not included. You may resubmit as many times as you want to replace the *revise and resubmit* grade.

Annotations will not be accepted in hardcopy, email, or course message. Any submission via any of the proscribed methods must be submitted via the Canvas submission link. The final submission date is May 13 at 11:59p, but I suggest you submit by the recommended submission dates.

#### **GRADING**

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

Your grade will be calculated as a weighted average:

Assignments	Number of Points	Percentage of Grade
Homework Assignments	~300 points	35%
Final Literature Review	100 points	40%
Annotated Bibliography	40 points	25%
	Total: ~440 points	

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

A. 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 (**Note:** Reaction essays are not summaries). This submission is worth up to *five* points and must be submitted as Word document (.doc or .docx). The points will be applied to homework portion of your grade. 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 and submissions that are summaries will not be graded. Extra credit submissions will be accepted no later than Friday, May 13 at 11:59p.

B. Evaluate Blasko & Hiller's study using the evaluation question included in Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo's Appendix. Write your evaluation in one to two pages based on your answers. Exclude criterion that are not applicable. Since you have limited space, you will have to be selective in which criterion you address in your evaluation. Be sure to describe how the criterion apply to the study. Do not just answer yes or no for each one. This assignment is worth up to *five* points which will be applied to the homework section of your grade. 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 and submissions that are summaries will not be graded. Extra credit submissions will be accepted no later than Friday, May 13 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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# **Course Schedule**

Week	Dates	Торіс	Reading Due
Week 1 01/18-01/23	Intro to Research	Withrow – Ch. 1 and 7	
		Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 1	
Week 2	01/24-01/30	Literature Review	Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 4-5
Week 3 01/31-02/06	01/21 02/06	The December Durance	Withrow – Ch. 2
	The Research Process	Bush 1985	
Wook 4	02/07 02/12	Ethics in Research	Withrow – Ch. 3
Week 4 02/07-02/13	02/07-02/13		Stogner et al,. 2013
Wool, F	02/14 02/20	Variables, Research Questions, and Hypotheses	Withrow – Ch. 7
Week 5 02/14-02/20	02/14-02/20		NeMoyer et al., 2020
Week 6 02/21-02/27			Withrow – Ch. 5
	Relationships	Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 5	
			AB-Dakof due 02/27 at 11:59p
Week 7	02/28-03/06	Measurement	Withrow – Ch. 6
Week 8 03/07-03/13		Sampling	Withrow – Ch. 8
	03/07-03/13		Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Chs. 6-7
			Grigorenko et al., 2015
Week 9	03/14-03/20	Spring Break	
Week 10 0	03/21-03/27	Experimental Designs	Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 8
	03/21-03/2/	Quasi-experimental Designs	AB-Mikytuck due 03/27 at 11:59p
Week 11 03/28-04/03			Withrow – Ch. 10
	Survey Research	Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 9	
		Lutze 1998	
Week 12 04/04-04	04/04 04/10	Non-Reactive Research	Withrow – Ch. 11
	04/04-04/10		Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 15
Week 13	04/11-04/17	Evaluative Research	Withrow – Ch. 12
week 13   04,	07/11-07/1/		Loeb et al 2015

Week 14	04/18-04/24	Qualitative Research	Withrow – Ch. 13 Pyrczak & Tcherni-Buzzeo – Ch. 11
Week 15	04/25-05/01	Reporting Results	
Week 16	05/02-05/08	Review and Catch Up	
Week 17	05/09-05/13	Final Literature Review due 05/13 at 11:59p	

# 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 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:
- o iPhone/iPad: [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
- o Android Phone / Tablet [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

## **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=eaed95 b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-

46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2 FSubmit%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, both virtually and inperson. 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.

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.

#### THE 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 Spring 2022 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 WCOnline [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 WCOnline [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. Schedule an appointment here [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].

## 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]. 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 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].

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.

# **IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES**

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