

MFT 5302 - 110 Advanced Marriage and Family Therapy Theory Fall 2023 Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Course Dates, Modality, and Location:

Course Dates: Wednesdays 6:00 pm - 8:45 pm, Aug 28, 2023 - Dec 15, 2023

Location: WH 313

Modality: This course is a hybrid course and will use the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com]. Please refer to the class calendar for specific dates/times that course meets. It will be conducted primarily as a seminar and will include experiential components. For this learning process to be successful, students are expected to participate fully by reading assigned materials, attending class, and participating in class exercises and discussions in class meetings, as well as within the Canvas environment.

Instructor and Contact Information:

Instructor: Hao-Min Chen, Ph.D.

Office: WH 318 J

Email: hmchen@tamuct.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday. Please email me for an appointment.

Student-Instructor Interaction: I will be available to meet to discuss and resolve class-related issues during my office hours. Please send an email so we can schedule an appointment during my office hours or other times that we both are available. I will also check and reply to emails on a regular basis. Remember that there is only 1 of me and many of you, so please allow at least 1- 2 business days for a response.

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:
 - iPhone/iPad: [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
 - Android Phone / Tablet [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezo

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neapp]

- 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

An overview of the contemporary and postmodern therapeutic directions in the field of marriage and family therapy. This course also includes an in-depth examination of the Core Competencies for MFTs. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the theories and how they are applied to individuals, couples, and family systems, as well as practice theoretical concepts and interventions in roleplay scenarios.

Intended Student Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes – This course will address the following MFT program's **Student Learning Outcomes**:

Students will demonstrate knowledge and appropriate application of classical and postmodern MFT theories. (SLO-5)

Ethics

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner at all times, and follow AAMFT codes of ethics.

COAMFTE Developmental Competency Components

This course will address the following components to help ensure students obtain the knowledge and skill to become effective and ethical marriage and family therapists:

- Knowledge of the MFT profession
- Practice of relational/systemic therapy as a qualified behavioral/mental health provide.r
- Commitment to ethical practice through ethical codes of the MFT profession and pertinent regulatory bodies.
- Awareness, knowledge, and skill to responsibly serve diverse communities.

Required Reading

Readings and multimedia materials in this course include diverse perspectives and social identities including those of marginalized groups in an effort to provide a more comprehensive understanding of theory models and their application to underserved populations.

Gehart, D. R. (2024). Mastering competencies in family therapy: A practical approach to theory and clinical case documentation (4th ed.). Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9780357764565

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- Gehart, D. R. & Tuttle, A. R. (2003). *Theory-based treatment planning for marriage and family therapists*. Brooks/Cole. ISBN: 0534536166
- Nichols, M. & Davis, S.(2020). *The essentials of family therapy (7th ed.)*. Pearson. ISBN:9780135168097.
- Available on Canvas through the library:
- Mann, B. & Schwartz, R. (2002). Internal systems therapy. In F. Kaslow (Ed.), *Comprehensive handbook of psychotherapy: Integrative/eclectic* (pp. 455-474). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons Inc.
- Liddle, H. A. (2009). Multidimensional family therapy: A science based treatment system for adolescent drug abuse. In J. Bray & M. Stanton (Eds.), *The Wiley Blackwell handbook of family psychology* (pp. 300-313). MA: Blackwell Publishing.
- Robbins, M. S. & Szapocznik, J. (2000, April). Brief strategic family therapy. OJJDP: Juvenile Justice Bulletin. U.S. Department of Justice.
- Cullin, J. (2005). The Ethics of Paradox: Cybernetic and Postmodern Perspectives on Non-Direct Interventions in Therapy. *Australia and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy*. Vol. 26, No. 3, pp. 138-146.
- Hare-Mustin, R. T. (1978). A feminist approach to family therapy. *Family Process*, 17, 181-194. (foundational feminist family therapy text)
- Luborsky L., Rosenthal R., Diguer L., Andrusyna T.P., Berman J.S., Levitt J.T., Seligman D.A. & Krause E.D. (2002). The Dodo bird verdict is alive and well mostly. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 2002, 9, 1: 2-12.
- Ramey, H. L., & Grubb, S. (2009). Modernism, postmodernism and (evidence based) practice. *Contemporary Family Therapy, 31,* 75-86. doi: 10.1007/s10591-009-9086-6

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements

All writing submitted to the instructor should be a final draft, free of spelling, grammatical, stylistic, and typographical errors. Students are encouraged to allow ample time for writing, keeping in mind the frequency of computer glitches. Late assignments will not be accepted. Extension of assignments will only be given for legitimate reasons, as the ones listed under excused absences. See 9.0 Absence and Grading of this syllabus for more details.

Attending group and individual supervision is ethical and crucial for beginning therapists. More than *one <u>unexcused absence</u>* from classes will result in failing this course. If you experience any difficulty attending the class, please talk to the instructor as soon as possible.

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Assignments:

Class Participation (12 points): Students should attend classes and engage in multiple discussions and role-plays throughout the semester to practice using key concepts, theories, and techniques. Again, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner at all times.

Theory "Cheat Sheet" (15 points) & Interactive Exercise (15 points): Each student is required to create an approximately 45-minute PowerPoint presentation that consists of two parts: Theory "Cheat Sheet" and Interactive Exercise. A Theory "Cheat Sheet" should include important components of the theory selected. The Interactive Exercise may be a role-play, a YouTube or movie clip followed by a discussion, a demonstration of a technique, an experiential exercise, or a creative way of understanding a concept from your readings/theory signed up for. Must follow APA format.

Scoring Rubric	Satisfactory	Partially Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1. Clarity: Delivers presentation in a clear/student-friendly manner; includes a PowerPoint presentation and uploads the slides.	10	9-2	1-0
2. <i>Precise Content</i> : Provides an effective summary of the arguments (described in the theory/article) and a fair critique.	9	8-2	1-0
3. <i>Engagement</i> : Engages with classmates during the presentation (e.g., leading the discussion, responding to questions, creativity, etc.).	6	5-2	1-0
4. <i>Professionalism</i> : Has good control of time, behaves professionally, employs APA style correctly, etc.	5	4-2	1-0

Online Discussion (7x4 points= 28 points): Each student is required to upload a post (100 words or more) as a response to the required reading(s) of the designated classes. Please see the class calendar for the dates you need to post. Every post has to relate to class materials or professional concepts and include APA citation(s). This is due by the end of the class time that day. Late posts will receive *zero* points.

Discussion Board Rules

This is a space for us to share our ideas, engage in dialogues, and learn from each other. Below are the criteria for the discussion post, the criteria for the content of

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the discussion post, and the rules about etiquette.

Criteria for discussion post: The response post should be at least 100 words and is due by the end of the class time that day.

Criteria for content: The content of the discussion board should be your own ideas supported by information from the text, assigned readings, PowerPoints, or other scholarly references you find. Your post should not entirely consist of quotes from an outside source, regurgitation of someone else's ideas, or personal stories.

For example:

Big Bird (2012) stated that sexual violence was not an issue in developed countries. I disagree with that statement. I intern at a domestic violence shelter for my practicum and hear about the violence that occurs in this area. Even though Elmo (2013) stated that violence against women is lower in countries that have more liberties for women, violence against women in developed countries is still an epidemic. Since most victims of sexual violence know their perpetrator (Kermit, 2007) and most perpetrators are male (Dora 2013), I believe that we should develop preventative programs in middle and high school about sexual violence.

Discussion Board Etiquette:

- Refrain from inappropriate language and personal attacks.
- Review your comments before you post for spelling and grammatical errors and to make sure it's what you really want to say.
- Do not make sexist, racist, homophobic, or victim-blaming comments at all.
- Disagree with ideas, but do not make personal attacks.
- Be open to being challenged or confronted on your ideas or prejudices.
- Challenge others with the intent of facilitating growth. Do not demean or embarrass others.
- A majority of your reply should not be quotes from the initial post.

Scoring Rubric	Satisfactory	Partially Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Post has to relate to class materials or professional concepts of the assigned readings of the week.	2	1	0
Meets all the requirements described above and includes APA citation(s).	2	1	0

Final Exam (30 points): Details will be announced in class.

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Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion Assignment

<u>Overview of Grading:</u>		
Class Participation	12 points	
Theory Cheat Sheet	15 points	
Interactive Exercise	15 points	
Discussion Boards	28 points	
Final Exam	30 points	
Total Points	100 points	

Grade Breakdown:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>	
A	90-100	
В	80-89	
C	70-79	
D	60-69	
F	59 or below	

If students have any concerns or difficulties completing the class tasks/assignments, please talk with the Professor at least *two weeks* before each deadline so that she can provide individualized assistance or discuss alternative assignments.

Posting of Grades

All student grades will be posted on the Gradebook. Students should monitor their grade status.

Tentative Course Outline and Calendar: Please see the attached/Canvas posting.

Important University Dates:

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

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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, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browsers. Canvas will run on Windows, Mac, Linus, iOS, android, or any other device with a modern web browser. 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/] by clicking on the "TAMUCT Online Canvas" tile. You will then log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help tab, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can search the support articles or use the Email, Call, or Chat buttons at the bottom of the support pop-up to contact the Canvas Help Desk.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

Texas A&M University-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 requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

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.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Warrior Center for Student Success

The Warrior Center for Student Success is a comprehensive academic support department at A&M-Central Texas, dedicated to fostering an environment of excellence and empowerment among its student body. The center offers a wide range of programs and services to ensure every student reaches their full potential, and is a haven for students seeking guidance, resources, and a strong support network to excel in their educational journey.

ADA Access and Accommodations: Texas A&M University-Central Texas ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities by providing appropriate accommodations and support services. If you believe you have a physical, learning or socioemotional disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please visit <u>Access and Inclusion</u> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html] for more details or contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential.

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Success Coaching and Peer Mentoring: Our experienced Success Coaches work one-on-one with students to develop personalized action plans, set academic goals, and build effective study strategies, time management skills, and resilience. Our Peer Mentors provide a valuable support system, offering guidance, encouragement, and a relatable perspective to help students navigate their academic and personal challenges. For more details call 254-501-5836 or 254-501-5928 or visit Academic Support [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html]. Click the link to schedule a session (virtual or in-person) with a success coach bit.ly/3q7uB50 or visit WH, 111.

Testing Services: We offer a secure and comfortable environment for students and members of the community to take courses and distance learning exams, as well as placement tests and professional certification exams. Our Testing Service also offers resources and support referrals for testing related challenges (test anxiety, learning disabilities, etc.) and supports all approved ADA accommodations. Call (254) 519-5830 or visit the <u>Testing</u>
Center [https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/].

Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction Services: Our team of qualified Tutors and Supplemental Instructors assist students in various non-writing subjects, promoting academic comprehension and enhancing learning outcomes. Click the link to schedule a tutoring session with a TAMUCT tutor (virtual or in-person) or view tutor availability bit.ly/43Q6wNz. You may also chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for a variety of subjects through our partnership with Tutor.com, an online tutoring platform that is free to all TAMUCT students. To learn more please visit Tutoring Services [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring] or call (254) 501-5836 or visit the Tutoring Hub in Warrior Hall, 111.

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 Student Conduct Office. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the <u>student conduct process</u>, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may <u>submit a referral</u>, [https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas].

Drop Policy

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

[https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eisprod.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 Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must

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be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Records and Admissions 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 Records and Admissions 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.

Pregnant and/or Parenting Students Rights and Accommodations

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of <u>Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights</u>, the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs, (254) 501-5909, can assist students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting by provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodations. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible through the <u>Pregnancy & Parenting webpage</u>

[https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. For more information, please visit <u>Student Affairs</u> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. If you would like to read more about these <u>requirements and guidelines</u> online, please visit the website

[http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

<u>Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972</u> specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions [https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.html]. Students experiencing any form of discrimination due to any of these conditions are encouraged to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator, 254.519.5716, <u>titleix@tamuct.edu</u>, Founders Hall 317B, or the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 254.501.5909, Warrior Hall 105.

Title IX Rights and Reporting Responsibilities

Texas A&M University-Central Texas is committed to creating a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you or another student has experienced any form of gender discrimination or sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and/or sex-based stalking, help and support are available. Our university strongly encourages all members of our campus community to report incidents and seek support for gender discrimination and sexual misconduct through the Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the Title IX webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html]. Please be aware that that under Title IX, Texas Senate Bill 212, and System Regulation 08.01.01, [https://policies.tamus.edu/08-01-01.pdf] all university employees are mandated reporters and are required to disclose information about suspected or alleged violations as listed above and defined in System Regulation 08.01.01. If the Title IX Office receives information about an incident, they will reach out to offer information about resources, rights, and procedural options as a member of the campus community. Although I have an obligation to report, you will, in most cases, control how your case will be handled. When working with the Title IX Office you will have access to resources and accommodations but also have the opportunity to express if you wish to move forward with an investigation. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the options available to you as a student. Community members are not required to respond to this outreach.

If you or another student wishes to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the <u>Student Wellness & Counseling Center</u>,

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[https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html], 254.501.5955, or swacc@tamuct.edu, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or swacc@tamuct.edu, located in founder Hall Room 317D.

University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 1,203,947 eBooks and 134,750 journals, in addition to the 96,879 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]. 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 workspaces, 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 <u>Library website</u> [https://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416 and online, 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 face-to-face hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday in Warrior Hall 416. Online tutoring is available Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 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.

OTHER POLICY STATEMENTS

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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 <u>referral</u> online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the <u>Behavioral Intervention Team</u> 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.

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES

Absences and Grading

As mentioned earlier, attending class is crucial for student therapists. <u>Unexcused</u> absence from class will result in failing this course. Examples of excused absences can include injury or illness that is too severe or contagious, illness of a dependent family member, religious holiday, etc. Please see https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/ for details. Students are responsible to notify the instructor about their (expected or unexpected) absence as soon as possible.

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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