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# MFT 5393 Marriage and Family Therapy Clinical Practicum Fall 2023 Texas A&M University – Central Texas

## Course Dates, Modality, and Location:

Course Dates: Tuesdays 10:30am, Aug 28, 2023 - Dec 15, 2023

Location: In-Person

Modality: This course is a practice-oriented, hybrid course. Supplemental materials are made available online using the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [https://tamuct.instructure.com]. Please refer to

class calendar for specific dates/times.

### **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 to schedule 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.

**Class Decorum:** It is intended that the class environment will be conducive to increasing your knowledge about the topic and promoting self-discovery and personal growth. In order for that to occur, it is expected that every student be respectful of the thoughts, emotions, and behaviors of others in this course.

# Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas: SAFEZONE.

**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 <u>SafeZone</u> 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 <u>iPhone/iPad</u>: [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
  - o <u>Android Phone / Tablet</u>

[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/]

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### **COURSE INFORMATION**

## 1.0 Course Overview and Description & Course Objective

This course is for the students to gain experience in marriage and family therapy by providing therapy services in the on-campus clinic or approved practicum sites while under class supervision of the Marriage and Family Therapy faculty. Students should demonstrate appropriate levels of competency, assessed through direct supervision, video supervision, as well as case conference, maintaining appropriate documentation of clinical work, and meeting clinical hours requirement as described in the departmental handbook. Prerequisite(s): MFT 5301, MFT 5307, MFT 5383, MFT 5391, and MFT 5392.

### 2.0 Intended Student Outcomes

Students will:

Assess the influence of their social location and personal experiences on the conceptualization and intervention of cases. (SLO-1)

Demonstrate systemic therapeutic techniques in practice. (SLO-3)

Demonstrate systemic practice consistent with the AAMFT Code of Ethics (SLO-4)

Demonstrate knowledge and appropriate application of classical and postmodern MFT theories. (SLO-5)

## **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 provider
- Commitment to ethical practice through ethical codes of the MFT profession and pertinent regulatory bodies
- Awareness, knowledge and skill to responsibly serve diverse communities

#### 3.0 Ethics

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner at all times. They are expected to maintain confidentiality of all information related to clients, as well as all information related to cases presented in practicum/internship classes. This is the student's responsibility regardless of procedures in place at the site. Students are responsible to know and follow legal and ethical confidentiality practices of the field placement site, as well as applicable codes of ethics. Knowledge of HIPAA and/or FERPA is expected. In addition, students shall not use any client identifying information in any practicum/internship documentation, including tapes. Students shall secure tapes and other client information that may be necessary for class in a way that is secure, legal, and ethical. Tapes, transcripts, case studies, or other client information used for class shall be destroyed in an appropriate manner (i.e., shredding) as soon as they have been evaluated unless it is the policy of the site to maintain and secure all tapes. Any questions regarding confidentiality must be discussed with the university instructor as well as the site supervisor.

Committing an ethical violation during practicum/internship would have academic consequences. At minimum, the supervisor's evaluation (which includes an ethics component) will reflect the ethical violation(s). Depending on the severity of the violation, the student's response to becoming aware of the violation, and other circumstances, an ethical breach could potentially result in failure of the course.

All students must have appropriate liability insurance for the duration of their practicum experience or their hours will not be counted

## 4.0 Required Reading

The purpose of this course is for gaining clinical experience; students should already have sufficient knowledge on theory and technique to begin practice. As such, there are no required textbooks for this course. Following texts are

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recommended, not required. The professor may also instruct students to read additional materials on topics relevant to cases they are treating for the purpose of better client care.

Readings and materials in this course reflect diverse perspectives and social identities, including those of marginalized groups in an effort to provide a more comprehensive understanding of couple and family therapy and their application to underserved populations.

## Recommended texts:

American Psychiatric Association. (2022). *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, Text Revision (DSM-5-TR)*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association.

Gehart, D. R., & Tuttle, A. R. (2003). *Theory-based treatment planning for marriage and family therapists: Integrating theory and practice*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole-Thomson Learning.

#### More information about DSM-5-TR:

 $\frac{\text{https://psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/dsm\#:}\sim:\text{text=Diagnostic\%20and\%20Statistical\%20Manual\%20of,(DSM-02D5\%2DTR)\&\text{text=The\%20Diagnostic\%20and\%20Statistical\%20Manual,than\%20200\%20subject\%20matter\%20experts.}$ 

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

## 5.0 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 to 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. *Unexcused absence* 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.

#### **Assignments:**

- **Clinical Goals and Self Evaluation** The form is posted on Canvas. Please complete it and submit on Canvas by **9/12**. Grade of this assignment: Pass/Fail. (SLOs1,3,4,5).
- 5.2 Case Presentation Each student should sign up for 2 formal presentations (with written handouts) and 2 informal presentations (written handouts optional) at the first day of class. Each presentation should include information about one of your current cases to the practicum group. The case presentation format should follow the class handout posted on Canvas. This assignment is intended for the student to learn how to analyze and summarize current clinical cases from their practicum site. The student is also expected to identify current needs/issues and present it orally for peer consultation and feedback. The instructions for this assignment are below.

Client identifying information such as full names should NOT be used in this assignment. For example, use initial or fake name instead. The written portion should contain: Genogram, relevant demographic information, assessment/diagnostic evaluation, individual, couple, or family strengths, theoretical model(s) applied to case and course of treatment, and assistance needed. The written portion should be available during your presentation. See class handout for required format. All students in the class are expected to actively participate in the discussion with questions, comments, observations, and suggestions. Your written handout is due by 12pm the day before

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**<u>your presentation.</u>** Upload your written handout to **<u>Canvas assignment</u>** by this deadline. Grade of this assignment: Pass/Fail. (SLOs1,3,4.5)

- **Required Paperwork** Students are required to complete clinical hour logs each week and obtain faculty and clinical supervisor's signatures. Students must complete all paperwork required by the program and department. Failure to complete required paperwork on a timely manner is unethical. Grade of this assignment: Pass/Fail. (SLOs1,3,4,5)
- **Supervisor Evaluation** The faculty supervisor will meet with students for individual or group supervision and will sign their hour logs. Both faculty and site supervisors are required to submit a TAMUCT supervisor evaluation for the student at the end of the practicum experience. Semester grade of this practicum class will depend on the faculty supervisor's evaluation. (SLOs1,3,4,5)
- **Liability Insurance** All students must have appropriate liability insurance. Practicing without liability insurance is grounds for failing the course and dismal from the program. Grade of this assignment: Pass/Fail. (SLO 4)

## 6.0 Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

This class is designated as a pass/fail course. In order to receive a pass of this course, students have to receive pass of ALL assignments described above.

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. In general, students receive oral or written feedback on their assignments within 1 month of their submission.

#### **Posting of Grades**

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

- 7.0 Tentative Course Outline and Calendar: Please see attached/Canvas posting.
- 8.0 Important University Dates: Please see <a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html</a>

## 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.

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## **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 socio-emotional 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.

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 <a href="Mexicoaching-support">Academic Support</a> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html]. Click the link to schedule a session (virtual or in-person) with a success coach <a href="mailto:bit.ly/3q7uB50">bit.ly/3q7uB50</a> 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 <a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring">bit.ly/43Q6wNz</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring">Tutoring Services</a> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring] or call (254) 501-5836 or visit the Tutoring Hub in Warrior Hall, 111.

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## **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://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 Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must 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 <a href="Title-IX">Title-IX</a> and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, 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 <a href="Pregnancy & Parenting webpage">Pregnancy & Parenting webpage</a> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. For more information, please visit <a href="Student Affairs">Student Affairs</a> [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. If you would like to read more about these <a href="requirements and guidelines">requirements and guidelines</a> 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, <a href="mailto:titleix@tamuct.edu">titleix@tamuct.edu</a>, 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

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Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, <u>titleix@tamuct.edu</u>, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the <u>Title IX webpage</u> [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Please be aware that that under <u>Title IX</u>, <u>Texas Senate Bill 212</u>, and <u>System Regulation 08.01.01</u>, [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>, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html], 254.501.5955, or <u>swacc@tamuct.edu</u>, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or <u>ssa@tamuct.edu</u>, 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 <a href="WCOnline">WCOnline</a> [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at

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<u>bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu</u> 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

#### 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 <a href="Title IX webpage">Title IX webpage</a> [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

#### 9.0 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 <a href="https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/">https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/</a> for details. Students are responsible to notify the instructor about their (expected or unexpected) absence as soon as possible.

### 10.0 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.

Copyright. (YEAR) by (FACULTY NAME) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, (FACULTY COLLEGE); 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549; 254-(FACULTY COLLEGE PHONE); Fax 254-(FACULTY COLLEGE FAX); (FACULTY EMAIL)

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