# PSYC 5198 120 PSYCHOLOGY THESIS (80713)

## Fall 2023

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

## **COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

This course is a 100% online course and uses the <u>TAMUCT Canvas Learning Management System</u> [https://tamuct.instructure.com]. The course is offered in the Fall 2023 16-week semester, and the course date range spans August 28 through December 15, 2023 (inclusive). All course deadlines are based on the time zone of the physical location of the university, which is in the Central Standard Time (CST) zone, but Central Daylight Time (CDT) is observed in the summer.

### INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Instructor:

Dr. Andria F. Schwegler

## Office:

online via MS Teams, book an <u>appointment</u> (https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/Examplecalendar@tamuct.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/)

#### **Email:**

Preferred email is through Canvas "Inbox" for course-related information. If correspondence is not related to the course, <u>contact the professor via TAMUCT email</u> (schwegler@tamuct.edu).

## **Office Hours:**

The professor is available to meet with students via video teleconference using MS Teams from their preferred study location. Students should follow the link above to schedule a meeting. Appointments times are very flexible, and regular meetings are highly encouraged.

#### **Student-Instructor Interaction:**

The professor will logon to the course in Canvas every weekday (Monday through Friday) and will reply to email within two business days.

Students are expected to logon to the course in Canvas daily to review announcements and resources or to message the professor with updates on their work.

The professor will provide feedback on assignments by marking grading rubrics and/or posting comments as needed in the Submission box or on attached documents. Students should review and apply all feedback on subsequent assignments.

Students should schedule an appointment to talk as needed.

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

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]
  - 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

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

#### **COURSE INFORMATION**

## **Course Overview and Description**

Independent research course in which a student proposes and completes an original, quantitative research project in conjunction with three graduate faculty members who serve on the thesis committee. Scheduled when the student is ready to begin thesis. No credit awarded until proposal and thesis are approved, respectively. Six hours of thesis credit is required. Prerequisites:

PSYC 5300 and PSYC 5301 and successful completion of 12 additional credit hours in the degree plan, and permission of the Chair of the thesis committee or Department Chair.

## **Course Objective**

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to use systematic research methods and appropriate tools of inquiry to thoroughly investigate a psychological problem or issue. Students must follow the *Thesis Manual* provided by the Graduate School.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Course objectives and content will be addressed through the creation of an original research project that will be completed in two phases (i.e., proposal and thesis). The student, under the guidance of a faculty advisor, will utilize sound research methods for the social sciences. In this course, students will:

- 1. Demonstrate comprehension and application of fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories. Students will identify and summarize relevant psychological theories and research in a content area of specialization to contextualize the thesis proposal and final thesis project.
- 2. Demonstrate application of factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends). Students will compute and present appropriate statistical techniques given the data collected in

- the project such as measures of central tendency and variability, correlation coefficients, regression, analysis of variance, and/or chi-square. Students will demonstrate their ability to compute and present appropriate descriptive and inferential statistical analysis of data on the final thesis project.
- 3. Analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view. Students will read and summarize in writing the development of research on the variables of interest, read multiple research studies on the variables targeted in the thesis and integrate the information in writing to support the position, acknowledge in writing relevant research information that contradicts or is otherwise inconsistent with the arguments in the thesis, write a justification for the proposed thesis research that is based on limitations, shortcomings, and/or gaps in existing research, and write research hypotheses that are directly supported by existing empirical research.
- 4. Synthesize academic content from the program to improve thinking, problem solving, and decision making. Students will develop and design a novel project supported by existing empirical research to address problems, issues, or gaps in knowledge. Students will integrate research results with existing research and theory in the content area of specialization to draw conclusions support by data gathered during the thesis project.
- 5. Demonstrate skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing. Students will utilize appropriate APA style to write summaries of existing research articles and base the justification for the thesis proposal on existing research, write a proposal for the thesis research and revise it based on committee feedback, and write a final report of the thesis research and revise it based on committee feedback.
- 6. Demonstrate specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field. The student will:
  - a. craft, in conjunction with a faculty mentor, an original research idea.
  - b. research information related to the thesis project using online tools including the TAMUCT library's databases.
  - c. summarize existing peer-reviewed research on the topic and note where more information is needed.
  - d. write an original research proposal in APA style and defend it during an oral presentation to the thesis committee.
  - e. submit defended research plans through the Institutional Review Board process (for human subjects).
  - f. engage in data collection according to the approved plan and in a manner consistent with training on federal requirements.
  - g. use statistical computing software (e.g., SPSS) to analyze quantitative data collected through research and interpret it.
  - h. propose directions for future research.
  - i. write the final thesis to conform to the guidelines stated in the TAMUCT *Thesis Manual* and defend it during an oral presentation to the thesis committee and interested others.

## Required Reading, Textbook(s), and Software

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author. (ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1)

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (2018). Human Subjects Research. <u>Training to Protect Human Subjects</u> (https://www.citiprogram.org/)

- Gravetter, F. J., & Wallnau, L. B. (2017). Statistics for the behavioral sciences (10<sup>th</sup> ed.) Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. (ISBN: 978-1305504912) **OR** comparable textbook from PSYC 5300
- Green, S. B., & Salkind, N. J. (2017). *Using SPSS for Windows and Macintosh: Analyzing and Understanding the Data* (8<sup>th</sup> ed). Boston: Pearson. (ISBN: 978-0-134319889) **OR** comparable textbook from PSYC 5300
- Mitchell, M. L., & Jolley, J. M. (Eds.) Research Design Explained (7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2009/2012 **OR** Stangor, C. (2015). *Research Methods for the Behavioral Sciences* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Stamford, CT: Cengage. (ISBN: 978-1-285-07702-4) **OR** comparable textbook from PSYC 5301
- Texas A&M University Central Texas, Institutional Review Board (2018). *Institutional Review Board (IRB) Guidelines and Procedures <u>Handbook</u>

  (https://www.tamuct.edu/research/docs/tamuct-irb-handbook.pdf)*
- Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Graduate School (n.d.). Thesis Manual.
- Texas A&M University-Central Texas, Department of Counseling and Psychology Master of Science in Applied Psychology Program (2023). *Procedures for Preparing a Thesis.*
- IBM Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) Standard GradPack. This computing software is needed for Semester 2 and is available for students to use on University computers free of charge. Alternatively, students can rent a subscription to SPSS for their personal computers. Students can purchase a 6-month or a 12-month lease for the program via one of many online vendors. The STANDARD GradPack is recommended instead of the BASE GradPack. See the <a href="IBM website">IBM website</a> for a description of the product and a list of vendors (http://www-03.ibm.com/software/products/en/spss-stats-gradpack).

Students are required to read peer-reviewed journal articles related to the variables under examination in their research. Journal articles may be accessed through the online TAMUCT library site either as a direct download or via Interlibrary Loan.

A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

# **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students will complete this course through independent research with days and times for meetings with the professor scheduled on a regular basis throughout the semester. All components of the research project will be submitted according to the course calendar. The following assignments are required for successful completion of the course.

Semester 1

Article Summaries –Rubric in Thesis course.

\*Final Written Proposal –Rubric in Thesis course.

Oral Proposal Defense –Rubric in Thesis course.

IRB Submission - Pass/Fail

Semester 2

Data Collection – Pass/Fail

Submission of Raw Data and Statistical Analysis Output to Thesis Chair – Pass/Fail

\*Final Written Thesis –Rubric in Thesis course.

Oral Thesis Defense –Rubric in Thesis course.

Thesis Submission to the Graduate School – Pass/Fail

All assignments must be written in a student's own words. No credit will be awarded for quoted, plagiarized, or Al generated material on any assignment. Quoting or paraphrasing that closely mirrors the source (textbook or other reference material) will receive no credit even if properly cited. Students must write original sentences conveying the information they have learned to the reader (i.e., paraphrasing) and properly cite the source of the information to receive credit for writing. Creating one's own written explanations for concepts facilitates encoding in the brain. As such, a human will be reading and responding to all student communications, so it is expected that a human will be writing all assignments. The use of chatbots to write assignments for students will be considered a violation of academic honesty. Students are encouraged to use chatbots and other online tools to learn information to extend their understanding of content beyond the textbook, but students should not use chatbots to write information for course assignments for them. Online tools should be used to learn, not circumvent learning.

All assignments should be written in proper APA style. Students must follow the APA style guidelines provided in the *Publication Manual* and use online <u>style resources</u> provided by the American Psychological Association (www.apastyle.org). For final thesis formatting, the TAMUCT *Thesis Manual* takes precedence over APA style.

## **Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion**

All requirements for the Semester 1 or Semester 2 Thesis courses must be completed successfully before the student can be awarded credit for the Thesis courses. Until all assignments for each semester are completed successfully, students will be assigned an IP grade for the course(s) if they are making satisfactory progress toward project completion or a U grade if they are not making satisfactory progress toward project completion. Students are required to remain enrolled in a Thesis course until all assignments are completed, and no guarantee is implied that the thesis can be completed in two semesters though students should work diligently to meet this expectation. A final grade of S will be awarded for 3 credit hours of PSYC 5198 when the proposal is completed and successfully defended, and a final grade of S will be awarded for the remaining thesis hours when the final thesis is completed and successfully defended. Six hours of S grades in thesis coursework reflecting completion of the entire thesis project are required.

Rubrics for all assignments are located in the thesis course in the learning management system. Awarding final credit for the thesis courses will be based on a pass/fail grading system in accordance with the policies and set forth by the Graduate School.

## **Posting of Grades**

All feedback will be sent via the class Inbox after the assignment is received. The professor will read, provide comments, and record grades within 5 business days of receiving the assignment. The student should not hesitate to ask the professor about any grade or concern.

<sup>\*</sup>Submitted for plagiarism review with revision prior to submission to the thesis committee.

#### **COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR**

## **Complete Course Calendar**

During the first semester of thesis coursework as students create the thesis proposal, students should complete each task below.

- 1. Thesis concept paper submitted to potential committee members by week 2.
- 2. Thesis committee selected by week 3.
- 3. Initial draft of thesis proposal including thesis statement, literature review, and method section submitted to committee by week 6.
- 4. Thesis proposal revisions based on feedback from Chair and committee members is ongoing.
- 5. Final proposal submitted to committee that includes the thesis statement, literature review, method section, and statistical analysis plan by week 12.
- 6. Oral and written proposal defense with committee by week 13.
- 7. Revised final thesis proposal submitted to committee by week 14.
- 8. Proposal Approval Form submitted to Department Chair by week 15.
- 9. IRB Protocol Form and Appendices submitted to IRB by week 16.

During the second semester of thesis coursework as students complete the final thesis project, students should complete each task below.

- 1. Research materials (e.g., online survey, handouts) created while awaiting IRB approval during weeks 1 through 4. NOTE: A minimum of 4 weeks must be provided for IRB review of Exempt projects. If students propose an Expedited project, a minimum of 6 weeks must be provided for IRB review. If students propose a project that requires full board review, a minimum of 8 weeks for IRB review must be provided. Students should not expect to complete a project that requires full board review by the IRB in only two semesters. Additional semesters of coursework using the variable credit hour option for thesis courses should be considered. Plan accordingly.
- 2. Data collection, analysis, and discussion with implications submitted to committee by week 7.
- 3. Initial draft of completed thesis project manuscript submitted to committee by week 8.
- 4. Thesis revisions based on feedback from Chair and committee members is ongoing.
- 5. Final thesis project manuscript (all APA style sections with full statistical analysis) submitted to committee by week 9 or 3 weeks prior to the Graduate School deadline, whichever comes first.
- 6. Oral and written final thesis defense meeting with committee by week 10 or 2 weeks prior to the Graduate School deadline, whichever comes first. The defense must be scheduled two weeks in advance.
- 7. Revised final thesis manuscript submitted to committee by week 11 or 1 week prior to the Graduate School deadline, whichever comes first.
- 8. Final thesis manuscript and Thesis Approval Form forwarded to the Graduate School by week 12 or by the Graduate School deadline, whichever comes first.
- 9. Thesis materials prepared for publication in conjunction with the Thesis Office by the deadline set by the Graduate School.
- 10. Required copies of thesis and all support materials submitted to respective offices by the deadline set by the Graduate School.

## **Important University Dates**

Students should determine dates for deadlines using the <u>Academic Calendar</u> on the university webpage (https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html).

The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If revisions are necessary, the professor will make every effort to provide as much advanced notice as possible.

#### **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 also requires 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: <a href="mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu">helpdesk@tamu.edu</a> 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 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 <a href="https://gruB50">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 Center</u> [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://status.ncbi.nlm/43Q6wNz">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.

### **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].

[http://wwwz.eu.gov/about/offices/fist/ocf/docs/pregnancy.purj.

<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 Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, <a href="mailto:titleix@tamuct.edu">titleix@tamuct.edu</a>, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the <a href="mailto:Title IX webpage">Title IX webpage</a> [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 <a href="Student Wellness & Counseling Center">Student Wellness & Counseling Center</a>, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html], 254.501.5955, or <a href="swacc@tamuct.edu">swacc@tamuct.edu</a>, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or <a href="ssa@tamuct.edu">ssa@tamuct.edu</a>, 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="McOnline"><u>WCOnline</u></a> [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at <a href="mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu">bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu</a> 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.

#### 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**

# **Student Created Content**

All content submitted to the course for credit must be the student's own creation. Students must write or paraphrase and properly cite all content submitted. No credit will be awarded for plagiarized or quoted material even if it is appropriately cited (i.e., students cannot receive credit for submitting content that someone else wrote). Students should paraphrase all information and provide the appropriate citations.

### APA Style

All text and citations submitted for course credit must follow the guidelines of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7<sup>th</sup> ed.)*. The final thesis manuscript submitted to the Graduate

School must conform to the page formatting guidelines in the *Thesis Manual*.

## **Late Work**

No late work will be accepted. No make-up work is offered in the course. If students are late meeting the deadlines set by the Graduate School, students must enroll in another semester of PSYC 5198 Psychology Thesis.

## **Copyright Information**

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