



**ACCT 5370 – 115 Auditing Seminar (10315)  
Spring 2023**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

**COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

**Course Dates:** Jan 17, 2023 – Mar 10, 2023

**Mode of instruction and course access:** This is a 100% online course, with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

**INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Ran Li, PhD, CPA, CGMA

**Office:** Founder's Hall room 323E

**Phone: Office** (254)519-5793

**Cell** (315)262-6416

**Email:** [ran.li@tamuct.edu](mailto:ran.li@tamuct.edu)

**Office Hours:** Office hours are after each class and by appointment only. Virtual appointments are workable through Microsoft appointment.

**Student-instructor interaction**

I am accessible through Canvas Inbox, which I check several times a day during the week and usually once a day on weekends. I will attempt to respond within 24 hours during the week and within 36 hours during the weekend. You may use my TAMUCT email for course-related matters. In the subject line of your email provide the course information “ACCT 5370 - 115”. If your concern needs immediate attention, text me. Remember, practice good communication skills (spelling and grammar).

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

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

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

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

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

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
  - o [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [<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 [website](#)  
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Course Overview and description**

ACCT 5370. Auditing Seminar. 3 credits.

Analyze current issues and research in auditing, attestation, and financial disclosures.

### **Course Objective or Goal**

Increase the student's factual knowledge about financial auditing such as terminology, classifications, methods, and trends including auditing standards by both the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB).

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Student learning outcomes are made explicit at the module/unit level in Canvas.

### **Required Reading and Textbook(s)**

1. Auditing and Assurance Services: A Systematic Approach. Eleventh Edition. New York: Irwin-McGraw-Hill, Inc. ISBN 9780077732509



2. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition American Psychological Association Softcover, ISBN-13 978-1433805615



## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements: (include point values for each- not just a percentage)

There will be a variety of graded and non-graded activities throughout the semester. Each activity will assess your command of the material as well as your understanding of the course goals and concepts. Activities are assigned and completed during the class period unless otherwise noted and cannot be turned in later or if classes are missed.

**Article Reviews** (Your review should have seven sections/weeks) – Select one article per week from the weekly articles provided. The completed article review should answer all of the following questions in detail. The submission works would be posted in weekly module for peer-review.

1. **Background:** Who wrote the manuscript? Identify the authority/Sourcing using APA formatting.
2. **Purpose:** What is the purpose, objective or intent of the research
3. **Methodology:** What research methods were used (e.g., primary historical material, case studies, narratives, statistics, etc.)
4. **Findings:** Summarize the findings in your own words.
5. **Conclusion:** What are the research's arguments and conclusions?
6. **Limitation/contribution:** provide the contribution and/or limitation from the article.
7. **Summary:**
  - a. Does the research ultimately contribute in any significant way to your understanding of the subject, why or why not?
  - b. What are the three or four significant points gained from the review of this research?
  - c. Provide one or two future research questions related to this research topic

**Article Research Paper** – the research project objective is to provide the participants with experience in audit research.

### Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Students earn their course grades by completing scheduled assignments; no extra credit assignments are given.

Course Element	Percent of Course Grade
Weekly Article Review	60%
Audit Research Paper	40%
<b>Total</b>	100%

<b>Grade Equivalents</b>	
<b>Percent of Grade</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
90.0 - 100%	A
80.0 - 89.9%	B
70.0 - 79.9%	C
60.0 - 69.9%	D
59.9% or less	F

### **Posting of Grades**

Grades will be posted on the Canvas Grade book (turn-around time for grades to be posted is 7 days). I rely on the definition of grading marks provided by Texas A & M University-Central Texas Catalog to provide a classification of grades. “The grade of “A” is given for outstanding achievement to a relatively small number of excellent scholars. The grade of “B” represents good achievement. The grade of “C” is given for average achievement and the grade of “D” for poor but passing work. The grade of “F” denotes failure and is given for unsatisfactory work.”

### **Grading Policies**

See “INSTRUCTOR’S POLICIES” at the later session of the syllabus.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Week	Date (Mon)	Topic	Topic
1	1/17	Professional Skepticism	Review and content
2	1/23	AICPA ASEC mapping document	***Stillwell & Elliott, "A Model for Expanding the Attest Function," <i>Journal of Accountancy</i> , May 1985: 66-78
3	1/30	Audit Quality	***Jaime Schmidt and Michael S. Wilkings (2013) Bringing Darkness to Light: The Influence of Auditor Quality and Audit Committee Expertise on the Timeliness of Financial Statement Restatement Disclosures. <i>Auditing: A Journal of Practice &amp; Theory</i> . February 2013. Vol.32. No. 1, pp. 221-244. *** John Daniel Eshleman and Peng Guo (2014). Do Big 4 Auditors Provide Higher Audit Quality After Controlling for the Endogenous Choice of Auditor? <i>Auditing: A Journal of Practice &amp; Theory in-Progress</i>
4	2/6	PCAOB Inspections	***Daniel Aobdia(2015) The validity of Publicly Available Measures of Audit Quality. Evidence from PCAOB Inspection data, SSRN-id2629305 *** Albert L. Nagy (2014). PCAOB Quality Control Inspection Reports and Auditor Reputation. <i>Auditing: A Journal of Practice &amp; Theory</i> . August 2014. Vol.33. No.3. pp.87-104.
5	2/13	Continuous Audit	*** Bruce I. Davidson, Naman K. Desai, and Gregory J. Gerard (2013). The Effect of Contiguous Auditing on the Relationship between Internal Audit Sourcing and the External Auditor's Reliance on the Internal Audit Function. <i>Journal of Information Systems</i> . Spring 2013, Vol. 27. No. 1. pp. 41-59 *** Vasarhelyi, M.A., Alles, M. And Williams, K.T. (2010). Continuous Assurance for the Now Economy. A Thought Leadership Paper for the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. Queensland, Australia: Institute of Chartered Accountants.
6	2/20	Behavioral/Judgment Issues	***Griffith, E.E., Hammersley, J.S., Kadous, K. & Young, D. (2015). Auditor Mindsets and Audits of Complex Estimates. <i>Journal of Accounting Research</i> . 53(1), 49-77. ***Lombardi, D. and H.L. Brown-Liburd (2018). Using an Expert System to Debias the Dilution Effect in Auditor Judgment. Working paper, Villanova University.
7	2/27	Analytic Methods in Audit	***Applebaum, D., Kogan, A., and Vasarhelyi, M.A. Analytical Procedures in External Auditing: A Comprehensive Literatures Survey and Framework for External Audit Analytics. ***Glover, S.M., Prawitt, D.F., & Drake, M.S. (2014). Between a Rock and a Hard Place: A Path Forward for Using Substantive Analytical Procedures in Auditing Large P&L Accounts: Commentary and Analysis. <i>Auditing: A Journal of Practice &amp; Theory</i> . 34(3). 161-179.
8	3/6	Research Project Due	

## Important University Dates

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

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

### Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

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

### Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

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

### Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*

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## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

### Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

### **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](#), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

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

### **Drop Policy**

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

[https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](#) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](#) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex

and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

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

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

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Library & Archives**

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 631,525 eBooks and 75,149 journals, in addition to the 97,443 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) [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 work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

### **University Writing Center**

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC)



at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## **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 [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

### **Behavioral Intervention**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) 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.

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## **INSTRUCTOR POLICIES**

Professional-level writing and communication are critical skills in the business world. This standard should be displayed in all assignments for this class. All communications, both to the professor and student colleagues should be kept professional, including Discussion Board postings and email correspondence. For written assignments, all work should be proofread, free of grammatical errors, include proper citations, and be by American Psychological Association (APA) standards.

**NOTE #1:** Requests for *Incomplete Grades*: Incompletes will only be given in emergency or other extreme circumstances. The professor must approve any request for an incomplete grade in this course before the last week of classes. Where possible, requests should be submitted in written form and must include an address and telephone number where you may be contacted throughout the following semester. For a request for an incomplete grade to be considered, at least two-thirds of the coursework has to be completed. Finally, approval of an incomplete is up to the department chair.

**NOTE #2:** Questions concerning one's grade on a particular task (e.g., test, project) should be resolved within one week after receiving the graded material. There will not be reviewing of previously graded material at the end of the semester.

**NOTE #3:** Late Submissions/Resubmissions: Students have a period of 7 days each week to complete and submit the weekly assignments. Make sure to plan your time wisely and avoid last-minute submissions since no late assignments will be accepted. All assignments must be turned in by the due date unless an extension has been granted. Extensions on assignments will be considered only if they are requested at least 48 hours before the due date of the assignment under question. After the fact, extensions will not be granted. If you are sick and you know you will not be able to take a test or submit an assignment on the set due date, make sure to contact me at least 48 hours in advance.

**NOTE #4:** Changes to Syllabus: A syllabus serves as an instructional and study planning document for both faculty and students. Although every effort will be taken to complete the semester according to the syllabus it may become necessary to make specific changes to facilitate the academic environment better. In such an event, changes will be notified via an announcement in the course. Changes may be made within the last two weeks of the semester only in exceptional circumstances.

### **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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