



PSY 339- Forensic Psychology

MW 12:30p-1:45p Commerce- McDowell 258

R 4:30p-7:10p McKinney – CHEC TBA

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2014

Instructor: Natalie Saladino

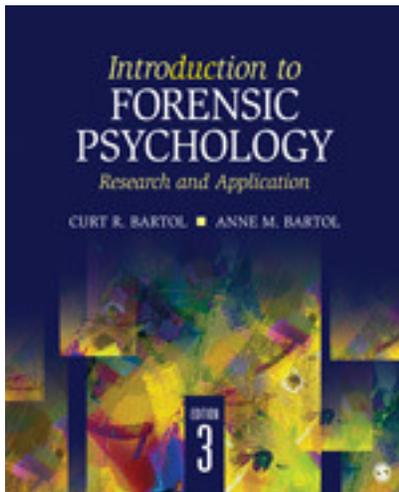
Office: Binnion Room 225

Office hours: W 2PM-5PM(by appointment only)

Email: nsaladino@leomail.tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required



Bartol, C.R. & Bartol, A.M. (2011). *Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Research and Application* (3rd Ed.). Sage Publications, Inc. ISBN: 978-1412991759

- Supplemental Material (optional): American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 9781433805622.

****You will need to bring a laptop with wi-fi capabilities to each class for in class assignments****

Optional

Other materials/reading as assigned will be posted in DocSharing in eCollege.

Requirement for Course Research Participation:

A goal of this class is to help you familiarize yourself with research methods. One manner to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at TAMU-C, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments).

More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus (Appendices). Please refer to this before emailing the instructor for any/all research questions. The appendices will answer most relevant FAQs. There are various appendices depending on campus. Please, make sure to pay attention to the heading for either Commerce students or CHEC students. Please, refer to the campus location for which you are currently registered for the semester for information.

Students must complete a total of 4 experiment credits. Show up to your experiments 10 minutes early in order to be on time to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. It will be noted that if you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit.*

Credits to earn:

Commerce students are required to complete 3 studies in- person and the remaining online. CHEC students are required to complete at least 2 studies in person unless they are not located at CHEC campus for in-person. Therefore, all 4 studies must be completed via online unless you decide to travel to Commerce campus to receive in-person credit. The choice to travel is yours to make. Taking an in-person study is very beneficial and will increase your awareness of what TAMU-C students and faculty are currently researching.

Once you have reached ALL 4 credits, you will be required to submit an electronic copy of credits received for current semester (fall 2014) for PSY 339 to the appropriate dropbox labeled research participation in eCollege. Your research participation is stored in your own personal sona-system under the heading - research credits. Once you click on research credit received, it will display a listing of all/any research you have participated in at TAMU-C. Make sure to save this in a format (.doc – or .pdf).

If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an A in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either

through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a B.

Course Description

In 2001, the American Psychological Association (APA) officially recognized Forensic Psychology as being a viable concentration as a specialty field for psychologists. APA has favored the narrow definition of forensic psychology as “the application and practice of psychology in the legal system, particularly in courts.” The main areas in the legal system where a person can find a forensic psychologist, according to authors of the course text include: Police/Law enforcement, criminal and delinquent behavior/psychology, victimology and victim services, courtrooms, and in correctional facilities and/or prisons.

This course will cover a broad spectrum of the various areas that involve law and psychology. This course will focus on some interrogation techniques. This course will also briefly discuss behavior. The course will depict visual aids that may be graphic (gore, gruesome) in nature to demonstrate various crimes (i.e., rape, homicide, mutilation, and so forth) that a forensic psychologist/psychiatrist would encounter with their job function.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Understand and identify the operational application of forensic psychology
2. Better understand the various functions of the legal system and psychology
3. Increase awareness of behavioral patterns that are criminalistics
4. Explain the origins and reasons behind forensic psychology
5. Discuss the dimensions of forensic psychology and related fields.
6. Better understand one’s self and abilities to use skills to be an effective listener and observer of behavior

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This course will provide a variety of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course. You will work toward achieving these outcomes through discussions/comments, papers, assignments, and tests. Below is an explanation of each course requirement including due date, assignment instructions, and other requirements.

GRADING

In Class Projects/Assignments will be completed in class with varying points/values and will occur randomly. Put name and section number on all items.

Homework will be assigned throughout this course with each assignment varying in points/values. Be sure to turn ALL assignments in on time. Put name and section number on all items.

Pre-test/Post-test is required to measure your knowledge of the subject. You will take one quiz (pre-test) to measure knowledge and you will take one quiz (post-test) to measure knowledge. This is required. But there is no point value, however, if you fail to meet this requirement either by not completing the pre-test/post-test or not completing both test(s) a penalty of 2 - points will be deducted from your overall grade at the end of the semester.

Chapter Tests may consist of true/false, multiple-choice, short answer, fill-in-the-blank, or other question formats as indicated by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to secure all necessary testing items (i.e. scantrons, bluebooks, etc.) and bring them to the exam.

***Notice: tests may include questions that come from the text book, lectures, power points, videos and other lessons.**

Individual Projects: This assignment will involve actively interviewing 6 individuals. You will be required to interview 6 strangers to better understand the idea of forensic psychology. These interviews will establish a good foundation as a student who is interested in the field. It will do one of two things: (1) help you gain skills to becoming a forensic psychologist or (2) clearly confirm that forensic psychology may not be for you. The individual should be someone that the student does not know (i.e., stranger). In addition, the 6 individuals should be of varying ages (see below). **Do not interview a family member, spouse, child, or close friend.**

A rubric for grading the project will be provided. The quality and quantity of your work will be evaluated. During class, the instructor will provide you with several examples and in class practice sessions prior to the beginning of this assignment.

Interview requirements for ages:

Interview two subjects between ages: 3 – 18 (elementary school aged to high school aged)

Interview two subjects between ages: 19 – 30

Interview two subjects between ages: 31 – 100

Interview format:

- 1) Establish background information about subject
- 2) Observations
- 3) Mental status exam
- 4) Final overall evaluations and recommendations (if any)

Grading segments to project:

1. Outline(s)
2. rough draft(s)
3. Final project

**There are three parts to this assignment with three values per interview, they are as follows:*

Outline (x6) 30 (bullet point format, topic sentence, $\frac{3}{4}$ a page in length)

Rough Draft/Paper (x6) 50 (at least two pages)

Final Draft/Paper (x1) 400

Turn in procedure for all three parts

- **Hand 1 copy in person (typed) and submit 1 copy into a dropbox (assigned box)**
- **Final project- turn in the week before finals and submit an electronic copy to drop box**
- **Must be APA formatted. Must be typed to receive credit. Handwritten work will not be graded!**

Project Deadlines:

Week of September 29 – October 5

Objective for month September and October: Interviewed at least two individuals or more.

Due: 2 Outlines will be due the week of September 29 – October 3 (set 1)

Due: 2 Rough drafts will be due by October 5 (set 1)

Week of October 13 – 19

Objective for month October: (1) complete 4 rough drafts of interviews and outlines, (2) interview remaining 4 individuals

Due: 2 outlines will be due the week of October 13 - 17 (set 2)

Due: 2 Rough drafts will be due by October 19 (set 2)

Week of October 27 – November 2

Objective for month of November: (1) complete remaining rough drafts of interviews, (2) finish interviewing, (3) start working on final reports for each individual

Due: 2 outlines will be due week of October 27 – 31 (set 3)

Due: 2 rough drafts will be due by November 2 (set 3)

*****Final project due week of November 17 – 21****

You must hand me in one in class and submit a paper copy via dropbox

Organize final project as follows:

- A. 1 inch Binder with divider tabs per each interview
- B. Table of content: subject name, page #, and age of subject
- C. Arrange the order of interviews as follows:
 - I. First two interviews: Least favorable to you
 - II. Next two interviews: Moderately favorable to you
 - III. Last two interviews: Most favorable to you
- D. Types, 12 point font, APA style

Final project grade weights:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Organization of binder: | 50 points |
| Interviews: 2 least favorable: | 50 points (25 points each) |
| 2 Moderately favorable | 100 points (50 points each) |
| 2 Most favorable | 200 points (100 points each) |

PLEASE NOTE: Meeting the minimum requirements for class assignments and term project does not automatically constitute an “A”. “A” work goes above and beyond the stated requirements with exceptional content.

Quizzes

Personality Quiz: This will be treated as pass/fail. You complete the assignment completely and submit it properly you will receive full points. **Total value= 10 points**

Communication Quiz: This will be treated as pass/fail. You complete the assignment completely and submit it properly you will receive full points. **Total value= 25 points**

Scavenger Hunt Quiz: This assignment will help you navigate through the syllabi and research questions. This assignment will help answer the FAQs. Located in Week 1- Quiz.

Total value= 30 points

Assignment

Overcoming Barriers: Grading Rubric will be located in Doc Sharing. A downloadable format will be available in Doc Sharing. Completion of Personality quiz is needed to be successful in understanding this assignment. **Total value= 40 points**

Reason and Emotion: Grading Rubric will be located in Doc Sharing. A downloadable format will be available in Doc Sharing. **Total value= 25 points**

Interview a classmate: This will be treated as pass/fail. You complete the assignment completely and submit it properly you will receive full points. **Total value= 25 points**

Solve a crime: This will be treated as pass/fail. You complete the assignment completely and submit it properly you will receive full points. **Total value= 30 points**

Exam

Exam: The exams will cover all relevant information presented in class. Some questions will come from lectures or in-class assignments, homework, and any other related information presented to the class. The exams will be worth *100 points*. No makeup exams allowed, so plan accordingly. Check schedule to see the date of exam, depending on campus the date may vary.

- | | | |
|------|--------|---|
| I. | Exam 1 | Online, open book allowed (located on eCollege) |
| II. | Exam 2 | In-person, closed book |
| III. | Exam 3 | In-person, closed book |

Grading Rubrics

ALL grading rubrics are located on eCollege Doc Sharing labeled Grading Rubrics. Review these items prior to turning in final copy of items to ensure you meet the criteria.

GRADES

A = 90 –100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79 %

D = 60 – 69%

F = 59 and below

*** If you have an overall grade point of an “A” by December 5th you may be exempt from finals and receive an A for the course. All research credits must have been achieved as well, per requirement. ***

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements for the Epic Web Client are:
 - Any current Flash-compliant browser (e.g., Internet Explorer 7 or Firefox 3.0)
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- A sound card and speakers or headphones
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date
- Most home computers purchased within the last 3-4 years meet or surpass these requirements.
- You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - Adobe Reader
 - Adobe Flash Player
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2003, XP, 2007 or Open Office. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Course Navigation

Many aspects of this course, including presentations, assignments, readings, and exams will be completed / turned in through eCollege. Your grades will also be available in eCollege.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

My primary form of communication with the class will be through Email and Announcements. Any changes to the syllabus or other important information critical to the class will be disseminated to students in this way via your official University Email address available to me through MyLeo and in Announcements. It will be your responsibility to check your University Email and Announcements regularly.

Students who Email me outside of regular office hours can expect a reply within 72 hours M-F. Students who Email me during holidays or over the weekend should expect a reply by the end of the next regularly scheduled business day or within a reasonable amount of time.

eCollege Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the '*Help*' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. how to submit to dropbox, and how to post to discussions, etc.)

Policy for Reporting Problems with eCollege

Should students encounter eCollege-based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at
2. helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
3. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
4. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should Email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number
5. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the help desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the eCollege tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the eCollege platform. **ONLY** eCollege-based problems are legitimate.

Internet Access

An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

Academic Honesty

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including (but not limited to) receiving a failing grade on the assignment, the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. In **ALL** instances, incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Department Head. Please be aware that academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

Cheating is defined as:

- Copying another's test or assignment
- Communication with another during an exam or assignment (i.e. written, oral or otherwise)
- Giving or seeking aid from another when not permitted by the instructor
- Possessing or using unauthorized materials during the test
- Buying, using, stealing, transporting, or soliciting a test, draft of a test, or answer key

Plagiarism is defined as:

- Using someone else's work in your assignment without appropriate acknowledgement
- Making slight variations in the language and then failing to give credit to the source

Collusion is defined as:

- Collaborating with another, without authorization, when preparing an assignment
If you have any questions regarding academic dishonesty, ask. Otherwise, I will assume that you have full knowledge of the academic dishonesty policy and agree to the conditions as set forth in this syllabus.

Cell Phones

If you need to make a call or you receive a call, please step into the hallway away from the door. Set the phone ringtone to vibrate or silent or turn it off. The class does not need to be interrupted. If you work in a profession where readiness to your phone is part of your job functions, please let me know. Other reasons, please advise me. Respect the right that after repeated measures, students who abuse this cell phone right will be asked to leave class for that day. Any quizzes or work during after subsequent removal will not be allowed to be made up.

E-Cigarettes/ Vapors/ Chewing/ all related Tobacco products

Per University new* policy rules these items (e-cig/vapor/chewing tobacco/cigarettes/any tobacco product) are restricted from use inside the university building. Any student seen using such items will be removed from class and not allowed to return for the remainder of that class nor make up any items missed in the absence (i.e., in-class assignments). If you must use these items, please find the designated smoking area to do so.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class and actively participate. Failing to attend class regularly will most likely affect your overall final grade. Refer to University handbook for requirements.

Attendance is reflected upon the student's readiness and preparedness for coursework. Under such University obligations, as an instructor I may have to **DROP** a student for lack of attendance or if such a student requests per the deadlines set by University.

APA Citation Format Policy

It is very important that you learn how to cite properly. In some ways, citations are more important than the actual text of your paper/assignment. Therefore, you should take this task seriously and devote some time to understanding how to cite properly. If you take the time to understand this process up front, it will save you a significant amount of time in the long run (not to mention significant deductions in points).

In the social and behavioral sciences (including Criminal Justice), we use APA (American Psychological Association) format. As a rule of thumb, one cites whenever they are paraphrasing other people's words or when they quote other's words directly. You may learn to cite from a variety of different sources including the APA Tutorial and the sources listed below and in the Getting Started section of your course.

www.apastyle.org

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/>

www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/apa

Late Work

In principle, I do not accept late work and do not believe in allowing students to turn in work after the due date. My position is that everyone knows the rules of engagement at the beginning of the term and that it is the student's responsibility to ensure that they plan accordingly to submit their assignments in a timely manner. Assignments turned in late **will not** be accepted/graded.

Drop Course Policy

Students should take responsibility for dropping themselves from the course according to University policy should this become necessary.

University Specific Procedures

ADA Statement -Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Go to the following email address: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Go to the following link: [Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Every effort will be made to adhere to the course schedule as noted below. However, unforeseen circumstances may require changes to the schedule. In that case, changes will be announced via University Email and in Announcements. The professor reserves the right to change the schedule if necessary and depending on the progress of the class. I highly recommend that you follow the schedule outlined below **VERY CAREFULLY** so that you are sure to complete readings as assigned and turn your assignments in on time.

| Week | Guide | Ch. | Focus | Special circumstance |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|---|--|
| Week 1 8/25-29 | Syllabi overview | Ch. 1, Ch. 3 | Intro to Forensics | |
| Week 2 9/1- 9/5 | Guest lecture: Federal Polygraph specialist | Ch. 3 | Police and investigative psy. | No class Monday- Labor Day 9/1/2014 |
| Week 3 9/8 - 9/12 | Conduct an interview and mental status exam; report writing | Ch.3 | Psychological Profiling/Autopsy and lineup identification | |
| Week 4 9/15 - 9/19 | Jodi Arias trial sensation; court evaluations | ch.4-5 | Court evaluations and competency | |
| Week 5 9/22 - 9/26 | | Exam 1 | Exam 1 on 24 th - Commerce 25 th McKinney (cover ch. 1, 3-5) | Online exam in eCollege and open-booked allowed |

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| Week 6 9/29 - 10/3 | Forensic Sciences: Solve a crime | | Psychology of solving a crime using evidence | |
| Week 7 10/6 - 10/10 | Serial killer focus: Ted Bundy | Ch. 8 | Psychology of violence and intimidation | |
| Week 8 10/13 - 10/17 | Forensic linguistics- Unabomber | | | |
| Week 9 10/20 - 10/24 | Mass Murder: Seung-Hui Cho | Ch. 8 | Virginia Tech Massacre | |
| Week 10 10/27 - 10/31 | Sex offenders | Ch. 9 | Psychology of sexual assault | |
| Week 11 11/3- 11/7 | Specific population treatments | Ch. 12 | Correctional Psychology | |
| Week 12 11/10 - 11/14 | | EXAM 2 | EXAM 2- in person over ch. 8,9, 12 (closed book) | Commerce on 13th and McKinney on 14th |
| Week 13 11/17- 11/21 | Important Supreme Court cases | | Factors involved with law and psychology | |
| Week 14 11/23 - 11/28 | Wrapping up semester | | | Thanksgiving- No class |
| Week 15 | Jeopardy review game | | | Last week before finals |

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| 12/1 - 12/5 | | | | |
| Week 16 12/8 - 12/12 | Finals!!! | EXAM 3 | Cumulative! In- person (closed book) | Finals week schedule |

Assignments

(ALL assignments are due the week listed by Sunday 11:59 PM (unless otherwise announced) Note: ALL outlines are due the Friday of week assigned at 11:59 PM

| Schedule | Objective and values | Drop box |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Week 1 8/25-29 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communications quiz (25 pts.) 2. Scavenger Hunt quiz (30 pts.) 3. Why forensic psychology? - Discussion (optional) | Communication drop box |
| Week 2 9/1- 9/5 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personality Quiz (10 pts) 2. Overcoming Barriers exercise (40 pts.) 3. What is my personality type? - Discussion (optional) | -Personality quiz drop box -Overcoming barriers dropbox |
| Week 3 9/8 - 9/12 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reason and emotions (25 points) 2. Interview a classmate (25 points) | -Reason/emotions dropbox -Classmate interview dropbox |
| Week 4 9/15 - 9/19 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct interviews | |
| Week 5 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interviews | |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 9/22 - 9/26 | | |
| Week 6 9/29 - 10/3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 outlines of interviews (30 pts each)- set 1 2. 2 rough draft Interviews (50 pts each) - set 1 3. Who done it? Solve the interactive crime. (30 points) | <p>-2 outline interview dropbox (set 1) by Friday 11:59 PM</p> <p>- 2 rough draft dropbox (set 1) by Sunday 11:59PM</p> <p>-solve a crime dropbox</p> |
| Week 7 10/6 - 10/10 | | |
| Week 8 10/13 - 10/17 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 outlines of interviews (30 pts each)- set 2 2. 2 Rough drafts of interviews (50 pts each)- set 2 | <p>-2 outline interview dropbox- (set 2) by Friday 11:59PM</p> <p>-2 rough draft dropbox (set 2) by Sunday 11:59PM</p> |
| Week 9 10/20 - 10/24 | | |
| Week 10 10/27 - 10/31 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 outlines of interviews (30 pts each)- set 3 2. 2 Rough drafts of interviews (50 pts each)- set 3 | <p>-2 outline interview dropbox (set 3) by Friday 11:59PM</p> <p>2 rough draft dropbox (set 3) by Sunday 11:59PM</p> |
| Week 11 11/3- 11/7 | | |
| Week 12 11/10 -11/14 | | |
| Week 13 11/17- 11/21 | 1. Final project due | - Dropbox final project |

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|--|--|--|
| <p>Week 14 11/23 - 11/28</p> | | |
| <p>Week 15 12/1 - 12/5</p> | | |

APPENDIX A

Dear CHEC Students:

Below are important points to remember when participating in research for your course credit.

1. When you first log-on to the EMS (Experiment Management System), make sure to **register under the correct instructor AND course number AND section number** (you can find this information on your course syllabus or your myLeo). If you choose the wrong one, you won't get your credits!
2. After you register, take the prescreen survey (even if you have done it before). The prescreen is very short and will allow you to participate in more research studies than if you did not complete the prescreen. **IF YOU TAKE THE PRESCREEN DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER YOU WILL RECEIVE A FREE HALF CREDIT (0.5 CREDITS)**. When you are completing the prescreen the system will log you off after 15 minutes of inactivity. If you must step away, or if you spend more than 15 minutes on any one section, **SAVE YOUR ANSWERS**.
3. Do not let your junk email filter prevent you from seeing EMS emails. This will make it impossible for you to be properly scheduled, to receive updates, and so on.
4. You are required to earn at least **4** experiment credits. **ONLY SIGN UP FOR STUDIES PREFIXED BY "CHEC."** If you miss an experiment that you were signed up for (without canceling), you will receive a "no show." Your research credit information will be stored on the EMS system and will be viewed by your instructor at the end of the semester. You can keep track of the credits you've earned on the "My Schedule and Credits" page when you are logged on to the EMS website.
5. You are only allowed to complete 50% of your research credits via online studies, the remaining credits need to be completed via laboratory studies. However, if no studies are currently scheduled in-person at the CHEC campus then you may complete 100% of research credit via online studies.

5. Do not procrastinate on the research requirement for the class. Take the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester (for a free 0.5 credit) and get started scheduling experiments. In general, there are fewer research studies at the end of the semester, and you will be busy studying for finals.

Register with the Psychology Research Participant Pool via the EMS website (using the “request a new account” link) at <http://tamu-commerce.sona-systems.com/>. If you already have an account and can log in, it is fine to continue using it. You do not need to create a new one.

If you have questions, you should consult the Research Participant Pool Guidelines you received with your syllabus. If you still have questions, please check with your instructor first, then the EMS administrator (curt.carlson@tamuc.edu) if necessary.

APPENDIX B

CHEC Students’ Guide to Research Participation

Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education

Texas A&M University-Commerce

- **What is Research Participation?**

Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level: 1) read about related scientific investigations; 2) experience research as a volunteer participant; or some combination of both. The class in which you received this handout requires you to fulfill **4** research credits through one or both of these activities. Or, research participation is by extra credit – ask your instructor if you are not sure whether or not it is required.

- **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**

In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning research credit.

- **In what type of research studies will I participate?**

All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you’ll learn something from all of them. **ONLY SIGN UP FOR STUDIES PREFIXED WITH “CHEC”.**

- **What are my rights as a research participant?**

Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Betty Block (Betty.Block@tamuc.edu). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

- **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**

You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

- **How many research credits may I complete?**

You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but at a minimum you must complete **4** research credits (by participating in research, or alternative assignments, or a mixture of both).

- **What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?**

If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are 2 ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this online through the Experiment Management System (EMS) website. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can call or email the experimenter – their contact information will be available in the EMS.

- **What if I sign up for a study but forget to go?**

If you fail to show up for a study (without canceling prior to the start of the study) you will receive an email alerting you that you were listed as a “no show” for that study. Additionally on the EMS website you will see a “failure to appear” message in your list of studies completed. If you get a “no show,” you might be prevented from participating in additional studies.

- **What will happen if I fail to participate in studies or do the alternative assignments?**

You will be penalized if participation is required, and this penalty is up to your instructor.

- **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**

If you do not wish to participate in research studies, you may utilize the alternative assignment option. You must consult your instructor for information about this option.

- **What is the difference between an online study and a laboratory study?**

There are two types of studies that are conducted through the EMS system. You can sign up for both online studies and laboratory studies through the EMS system, however you are only allowed to complete 50% experiment credits through online studies (the system will not allow you sign up for more than 50% credits of online studies). A laboratory study requires that you attend the experiment at a specific time and place (e.g., Henderson 202 at 12:30pm on October 7th).

- **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**

Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS

regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.

- **If I decide to participate in research, what are my responsibilities?**

You are responsible for...

1. Registering with the Experiment Management System (at <http://tamuc-commerce.sona-systems.com/>). You can keep your login information if you already have an account.
2. Scheduling appointments at CHEC for research participation.
3. Writing down important information about the studies for which you sign up (e.g., name of study/time/location of your experiment, name and contact information of the experimenter).
4. Showing up on time, at the correct location for your scheduled research appointments (you must cancel online, or email/phone the experimenter before the start time of the study if you cannot attend).
5. Keep track of how many credits you need to complete (you can do this on the EMS website).

APPENDIX C

How do I use the Experiment Management System (EMS)?

(Create a new participant account unless you already have one and your login information works. If you do not remember your login information, email curt.carlson@tamuc.edu. A list of courses will be presented, from which you must select the courses you are taking this semester for which you will receive credit for participation. If your course is not listed, see the instructor for that course.)

A. How to create a participant account on the EMS

1. Go to <http://tamuc-commerce.sona-systems.com/>
 - a. Click on New Participant “request an account here” link on the left of the screen.
 - b. This takes you to a screen on which you must enter your name, a unique User ID, your University ID number, and primary email address (reminders of studies you sign up for will be sent here). You will also need to highlight the course(s) in which you are enrolled, and for which you will be earning credits. If more than one, highlight all that will be involving you in research participation. However, each study in which you participate will only provide you credit for ONE course. In other words, there is no “double-dipping” allowed. BE CAREFUL TO SELECT

THE CORRECT COURSE AND SECTION # – IF YOU CHOOSE THE WRONG ONE, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE INFORMED OF YOUR CREDITS!

After you submit your information, you will be emailed your login information. (After you have received your login information, I recommend that you login into EMS and go to your “Profile” and change your password to something that you can remember.)

If you encounter any problems with creating your account (e.g., login information not sent to you), contact the EMS administrator, curt.carlson@tamuc.edu with your full name and a detailed description of the problem.

2. When you first log into the EMS at the beginning of the semester you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. This is a short survey that researchers will use to decide if you meet the specified requirements for some studies (e.g., as a researcher I may only allow participants who are female. If you do not complete the prescreen you will not be eligible to participate in this study). In other words, if you do not complete the prescreen you will have fewer studies that you are eligible to participate in. **IF YOU COMPLETE THE PRESCREEN IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER YOU WILL GET 0.5 CREDIT.** Take it even if you have done it before – it has probably changed, and you will still earn the 0.5 credit.
3. You are now ready to use the EMS to sign-up for research studies.

B. Sign-up for studies—login to the EMS with your User ID and password that was emailed to you after creating your account

1. Click **Study Sign-Up**. A list of all available studies for which you qualify will appear (only sign up for those prefixed with “CHEC”). You can sign-up by clicking on either the study name or **Timeslots Available**, and you will go to a new screen showing more information about the study, with a link to **View Time Slots for This Study**.
2. Click the **Sign-Up** button to schedule your time. You should then write down or print out the study information (name, place, time, etc.) that appears in the final window. You will also receive an email reminder the day before the study time you have selected.

C. Canceling a Sign-Up (MUST be done if you know you will not show up)

1. If you need to cancel a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the **My Schedule and Credits** page. Choose the **My Schedule and Credits** option from top toolbar.
2. You will see listed all of the studies for which you have signed up, as well as those you have completed (see the Tracking Your Progress section below for more information).
3. Studies for which you have signed up that you are allowed to cancel will have a **Cancel** button next to them. If you cannot attend the study session you signed up for, you need to cancel it, either within the EMS system or by contacting the researcher directly prior to the start of the study. Keep in mind that there is a time limit before the study is to occur, when it is too late to cancel online. This restriction is listed at the bottom of the page (it

can be 24 hours before your timeslot, or much less, such as just 2-4 hours). If you cannot cancel online please email or call the researcher to cancel. **IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL ONLINE, BY EMAIL, OR OVER THE PHONE BEFORE THE START OF THE STUDY YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS A “NO SHOW.”**

4. If you cancel the first part of a two-part study, the second part will also be cancelled. If you cancel the second part of a two-part study, the first part will *not* be cancelled, but you will need to ask the researcher to sign you up for the second part again, if you would like to participate in it at a later date. However, this is up to the researcher.

D. TRACKING YOUR PROGRESS

1. You may track your progress at any time by choosing the **My Schedule and Credits** option from the top toolbar.
2. When you view this page, you will see at the top a list of the number of credits you are required to earn, and how many you have earned so far. Below that, if you have signed up for any studies, those are listed as well. In the list of studies, you will see information about your credit status. If you have a no show for a study you will see that the status for that study is “failure to appear.”

Note: Your login session will expire after a certain period of inactivity, usually 20-60 minutes. This is done for security purposes. If this happens, you can always log in again. When you are finished using the system, it is better to explicitly log out, to prevent any problems that may arise if someone uses your computer before the session expires. This is especially important if you are using a public computer lab.

E. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Immediately after I login, as soon as I click on any menu option, I am taken back to the login page and I see a message that my authentication has expired. What does this mean?

Your web browser is not properly configured to accept cookies. You should turn on cookies in your web browser, use a different web browser (for example, try Firefox if you are currently using Internet Explorer), or try a different computer. Detailed instructions can be found if you go to the site and enter the URL “cookie_help.asp” in place of “default.asp” in the address bar of the browser, when you are on the front page of the site.

2. I participated in a study, but I have yet to receive credit. How do I receive credit?

The researcher must grant you credit. This is usually done within a few days after your participation. If it has been several days and you still have not received credit, contact the researcher (his or her contact information will be listed when you click on the study name within the system).

3. How do I change the email address where email notifications from the system are sent?

You can change the email address where notifications are sent by going to **My Profile** and editing the email address you see there.

4. *I forgot where and when a study is that I signed up for. What do I do?*

Check your e-mail for the **EMS reminder**, or logon to EMS and check your appointments.

5. *Should I keep some sort of record of my participation and credits earned?*

The system will keep track of the credits you earn and your instructor will have access at the end of the semester to a report of credits earned by students enrolled in the class (and if any students have “no shows”). It is a good idea, however, to occasionally print a personal copy of your credits earned and hold on to that printout as a back up to the system.

6. *I showed up for a study on time, and no one was there! What do I do?*

First refer to your information about that study session, to make sure you are in the right place at the right time. If you are, then wait at least 10 minutes for the researcher. If they are still not there at that point, you can leave and must send them an email within 24 hours, stating that you were present at the correct place and time for the study (refer to the study name). It is up to the researcher to try to reschedule with you.

APPENDIX D

Students' Guide to Research Participation for Credit

Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education

Texas A&M University-Commerce

- **What is Research Participation?**

Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level: 1) read about related scientific investigations; 2) experience research as a volunteer participant; or some combination of both. The class in which you received this handout offers extra credit through one or both of these activities.

- **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**

In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning extra credit.

- **In what type of research studies will I participate?**

All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you'll learn something from all of them.

- **What are my rights as a research participant?**

Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Betty Block (Betty.Block@tamuc.edu). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

- **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**

You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

- **How many research credits may I complete?**

You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but your instructor will inform you of how many credits are offered for extra credit.

- **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**

Participation in research is voluntary. Your instructor is offering you the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating in research (and helping psychology).

- **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**

Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.

- **What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?**

If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are two ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this in your online account. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can email the experimenter – their contact information will be available online.

APPENDIX E

Research Alternative Assignment

You may substitute 1 research credit by writing 1 review of a journal article. You can mix and match, such that some of your research credits are earned by participating in research and others by writing these journal article reviews.

Guidelines:

1. The paper must be minimum 2 pages, 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, 1 inch left and right margins, and .8" top and bottom margins (these margins are usually the presets on word), and saved as a .rtf, .doc, or .docx format.
2. The journal article you review must be published in one of the following journals: (1) *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, (2) *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, (3) *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, or (4) *Journal of Social Issues*. You can pick whatever article you want from whichever of these four journals you want (so browse the titles of some articles and choose one that interests you).
3. The paper should begin with an overview of what the authors did (i.e., question being researched, how they researched it, and what they found), and then give your thoughts, opinions, reactions, implications for your life. Make sure to include the title of the article in the review.
4. The alternative assignment journal article review papers are due by email to the professor the day the research pool closes. This is typically the Friday before finals week. Check your syllabus to be sure.

****HOW TO FIND JOURNAL ARTICLES ONLINE****

1. Go to A&M-Commerce website.
2. Click on "ACADEMICS"

The image shows the top navigation bar of the Texas A&M University Commerce website. The navigation bar is dark blue with white text. It includes the university logo on the left, a search bar on the right, and a central menu with links for ABOUT US, ACADEMICS, ADMISSIONS, ATHLETICS, STUDENT LIFE, RESOURCES, and RESEARCH. Three red arrows point to the 'ACADEMICS' link. Below the navigation bar are three main content areas: Future Students, Alumni & Friends, and Visitors & Community. The bottom of the page features a yellow banner with the text 'APPLY | VISIT | WATCH | 888.868.2682 | GIVE | myLEO'.

3. Click on "Libraries"

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COMMERCE

CURRENT STUDENTS FACULTY/STAFF VETERANS

Search

ABOUT US ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS STUDENT LIFE RESOURCES RESEARCH

Academics

Academics Home

- A - Z Programs
- Colleges
- Graduate School
- Online Courses
- Continuing Education
- Course Listings
- Special Programs
- Libraries**
- Locations
- Catalogs
- Testing Office
- University College
- Academic Success Center
- KonKuk Global Frontier Program



Home > Academics

Your Drive Toward Success

At Texas A&M University-Commerce, you will choose from more than 100 [academic programs](#) to earn a relevant degree supplying the skills and knowledge employers seek. You'll receive a high-quality education in a comfortable, friendly environment where faculty and staff are focused on understanding your goals. It's our goal to help you succeed.

4. Click on "Finding Information"

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COMMERCE LIBRARIES

Home | Hours | myLeo

Find an Article Search!

Please Note: You must allow pop-ups in order for the Search Tool to display your search results.

Finding Information ▾ Services ▾ Collections ▾ Other Locations ▾

Welcome

Welcome to the Texas A&M University-Commerce Libraries website where you will find many resources to aid you in your academic endeavors. The librarians and staff of the Libraries are available to help you obtain the information you need to succeed academically.

Some of the tools available to the students, faculty, and staff of Texas A&M University-Commerce are listed below.

- [Access to more than 200 database interfaces](#)
- [Access to more than 1 million cataloged items](#)
- [Research help and/or consultation from highly skilled and knowledgeable librarians](#)
- [On-site computer lab facilities](#)

If you have a question, take advantage of the [Contact the Librarians](#) webpage. You may text via cellphone, chat online, call or setup a meeting, or send an email.

The Texas Texas A&M University-Commerce Libraries seeks to provide all users with equal access to library resources. The Libraries offer those with disabilities such services as building accessibility, staff assistance while in the library, and appropriate software in the Nexus for those users with special needs.

We are here to help you succeed!





5. From the dropdown menu choose "Electronic Format"

Note: If you are off-campus (and thus, off the campus network) you will be asked to sign in using your Leo login and password before proceeding.

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Find an Article Search!

Please Note: You must allow pop-ups in order for the Search Tool to display your search results.

Finding Information Services Collections Other Locations

Find an Article

Find Books & More (Catalog)

Find a Citation

Find Class Reserves

Find a Database

Find a Journal or Periodical **Electronic Format**

Research Guides

Research Help

SuperSearch MyAccount Access

Need Help?

Research Guides

Welc
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inform
Some
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Commerce Libraries website where you will find many resources to aid librarians and staff of the Libraries are available to help you obtain the of Texas A&M University-Commerce are listed

se interfaces

Access to more than 1 million cataloged items

Research help and/or consultation from highly skilled and knowledgeable librarians

On-site computer lab facilities

If you have a question, take advantage of the [Contact the Librarians](#) webpage. You may text via cellphone, chat online, call or setup a meeting, or send an email.

The Texas Texas A&M University-Commerce Libraries seeks to provide all users with equal access to library resources. The Libraries offer those with disabilities such services as building accessibility, staff assistance while in the library, and appropriate software in the Nexus for those users with special needs.

We are here to help you succeed!

6. Type in the name of the journal and click “Search.” In this example I am going to look for the *Journal of Social Issues*, but you can choose any of the four journals I listed in this assignment.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COMMERCE LIBRARIES

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Find an Article Search!

Please Note: You must allow pop-ups in order for the Search Tool to display your search results.

Finding Information Services Collections Other Locations

Current Electronic Journals

Find journals by title or ISSN

Title contains all words Search

Help

Browse journals by subject

-- Please select a subject category -- Search

Need Help?

7. You will be presented with different databases where you can see articles from that journal. I typically choose the database that gives me access to the most current articles. In this example, the most current articles can be retrieved when accessing the journal through “Wiley Online Library.” Click on the database name to go to the journal.

The screenshot shows a library search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the word "LIBRARIES" and four menu items: "Finding Information", "Services", "Collections", and "Other Locations". Below this is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to "Title contains all words" and a "Search" button. The search results indicate "6 records retrieved for the search: Title contains all words 'Journal of social issues'".

On the left side, there is a circular "Need Help?" button and a photograph of a classroom with a teacher and students. Below the photo are social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, and a generic profile icon.

The search results list several journal entries:

- Australian journal of social issues** (0157-6321) Peer Reviewed ✓ Title details from Ulrichsweb.com™
from 02/01/1995 to present in [SocINDEX with Full Text](#)
from 02/01/1999 to present in [Academic Search Complete](#)
- Journal of Gender & Social Issues** (1813-9892) Peer Reviewed ✓ Title details from Ulrichsweb.com™
from 12/01/2011 to present in [SocINDEX with Full Text](#)
- Journal of gender & social issues** Title details from Ulrichsweb.com™
from 12/31/2007 to present in [Access World News Research Collection](#)
- Journal of Gender and Social Issues (AsiaNet)** [View Terms of Use](#)
from 12/31/2007 to present in [LexisNexis Academic](#)
- Journal of social issues** (0022-4537) Peer Reviewed ✓ [View Terms of Use](#) Title details from Ulrichsweb.com™
from 02/01/1945 to 1 year ago in [SocINDEX with Full Text](#)
from 1997 to present in [Wiley Online Library](#) (highlighted with a red box and arrow)
from 1997 to 09/30/2012 in [EBSCOhost EJS](#)
from 03/01/1998 to 1 year ago in [Academic Search Complete](#)
from 03/01/1998 to 1 year ago in [Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection](#)
from 03/01/1998 to 1 year ago in [Religion & Philosophy Collection](#)
from 2000 to 2003 in [Electronic Collections Online](#)

8. Each journal is a little different in how they present their articles. In this example, I can click on “See all” to see all the Volumes and Issues of the journal, or click on a specific issue to see what articles were

published in that issue (e.g., June 2012, March 2012). Click on an Issue and find an article that looks interesting to review.

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JOURNAL OF SOCIAL ISSUES
A Journal of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

Journal of Social Issues
© The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Edited By: Sheri R. Levy
Impact Factor: 1.963
ISI Journal Citation Reports © Ranking: 2011: 5/38 (Social Issues)
Online ISSN: 1540-4560

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Issue Editors: Adam W. Fingerhut, Ellen D. B. Riggle, Sharon Scales Rostosky

Syllabus Receipt and Confidentiality Statement

I understand that due to the nature of psychology and related psychology classes that some individuals may share personal and private information. I agree not to share or repeat any personal or private information shared within this classroom, outside the classroom or with anybody else in any way, shape or form. This includes not only all verbal communication but also all media, social networking sites, text messaging, etc.

In addition, signing this agreement indicates that you understand all the rules and policies stated on thus syllabi and you agree to abide by the rules and procedures listed. You also understand that the syllabi may be altered by the instructor at any time throughout the course. At times this may be due to inclement weather and so forth. Although, this is a rare occasion, it still must be understood and accepted.

This confidentiality is a required portion of the course. If you disagree with any or all portion, you may bring it to the instructor's attention. At that moment, the proper steps will be taken to ensure integrity and ease of the student. Thank you for your time.

Signature/Name

Date

Print name

Date

Witness name

Date

I have received a copy of the syllabus, read it, and understand the requirements of this course.

Signature/Name

Date

Print name

Date

Witness name

Date