

Course Objectives

- Students will demonstrate the ability to develop a research plan including a problem statement, hypotheses, related literature, and methodology.
- Students will learn how to write concise digests of the key insights from research findings in a manner that senior managers will be able to use.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate secondary data to solve business problems.
- Students will develop an appreciation for the importance of quantifying business decisions.

Instructional Methods

- Class participation & discussions
- Lecture w/ PowerPoint Slides
- Assigned readings
- Student presentations / teaching
- Research papers w/ presentations
- Group work w/ presentations
- Video
- Exam

Grading: Each student's grade will be comprised of two exams (20%), two projects (15% each), six scheduled online debates (15%), and online quizzes (15%).

Grading Scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

Late Assignment Policy:

Late assignments will accrue a penalty of 10 points per day the assignment is late. An assignment is considered one day late if it is submitted past the identified due date/time. It is considered two days late if it is submitted any more than 24 hours past the identified due date/time, and so forth. This includes weekends! Once an assignment is more than 10 days late, it will become a zero and will not be accepted for credit.

If a student wants an extension for an assignment, this must be received no less than 48 hours before the assigned due date/time. Extensions are not guaranteed, and are at the discretion of the instructor. Extensions may include a late penalty.

- o *U.S. Health Report: September 24th (15%)*

Students will form groups of five students, each group being tasked with evaluating the current environment surrounding a current healthcare issue facing the U.S. (as assigned by the instructor). Students will be tasked with conducting a thorough academic literature review. Each group will submit a final report illustrating the current market conditions, as well as highlighting the primary concerns and opportunities within the sector as guidance for decision-making at the managerial and policy levels. Each group will submit a paper of no more than 500 words, and present to the class. The presentation should be a PowerPoint file with audio embedded, and last no more than 20 minutes.

- o *Healthcare Consultant Project: November 26th*

- Acting in the role of a policy consultant, each group will research a current health policy issue within healthcare (as chosen by the group). This will include a thorough analysis of the problem, all interested parties, potential solutions, and problems associated with the potential solutions. The paper submitted should defend an innovative policy action which addresses the issue, while taking care to use positive analysis. The final paper should follow APA formatting guidelines, and should not exceed 2,000 words (not including cover page, references, and appendices). While some internet sources are acceptable, refereed academic journals should be the primary reference sources. Additionally, each group will submit a PowerPoint presentation with audio embedded (lasting no more than 20 minutes).*

- **Scheduled In-Class Debates:**
 - On six occasions (one per module), the class is assigned a debate topic that can easily be translated into a specific pro-or-con format.
 - The class is assigned a discussion topic that can easily be translated into a specific pro-or-con format. Each student is required prepare two pro and two con arguments on the discussion topic. Each argument must be supported with evidence comprised of an economic theory, a concept, or a study.
 - Each student is required to post at least two supported arguments for their chosen side.
 - After the initial arguments have been made, each student must provide a response to at least one argument made by a student from the other side. Students are further encouraged to actively discuss the topic beyond the assigned parameters.

- **Exams**
 - Each exam will be completed in CANVAS. They will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions. **Tentative** due dates for the exams are listed below:
 - Exam I (Due: October 8): 20%
 - Exam II (Due: December 3): 20%
 - **Late Exams:** An exam that is turned in late will be given a penalty of **10 points per day late** *unless* your instructor is notified *prior* to the due date and the excuse is a legitimate medical one or is officially approved. Acceptable documentation, such as a doctor's note, may be required.

- **Online Quizzes: CANVAS (15%)**
 - For each week (with the exception of exam weeks), there will be quizzes posted in CANVAS for the student to complete. The quizzes will relate directly to the material covered in the module and associated lecture and are meant to reinforce the principles and methods learned. For this reason, it is important that each student completes these independently.

Netiquette

The discussion boards are created to provide an opportunity for students to actively engage in meaningful conversation on a particular topic or issue. You are encouraged to provide your honest viewpoint, but be respectful of the views of your classmates.

Do's

1. Do use correct grammar and spelling.
2. Do read the prompt, reflect on what you would like to say, and review what you've written before posting!
3. Do respect the privacy, beliefs, and opinions of your classmates.
4. Do challenge each other's ideas but not each other personally.
5. Do remember to treat others as you would want to be treated.
6. Do stick to the discussion prompt at hand when posting to a forum.
7. Do use humor and sarcasm carefully. Students cannot see your facial expressions or hear any voice inflections.

Don'ts

1. Don't type in ALL CAPS. This is regarded as shouting.
2. Don't rant or rage. This is not the place to vent your anger or start a fight.
3. Don't make inappropriate comments. Objectionable, sexist, or racist language will not be tolerated.

In the discussion forums you will post assignments and discuss your work with others in the class or in your groups. These are public forums, so whatever is posted can be seen by everyone in the course, including the instructors. If you want to send a private message, use individual email. The Class Lounge discussion forum is a public space for conversation with your classmates on any topic or question.

General Comments:

1. Turn off your cell phones before coming to class. This is a classroom environment. It is disruptive to the class and disrespectful to the instructor to have a cell phone ring in the middle of class. Please double check before you come to class.
2. Texting, the use of a computer for purposes not related to class, reading of newspapers, sleeping, or any other distraction will not be tolerated.
3. Each student is expected to check his/her **university** e-mail (e.g. rt42@tamcu.edu) frequently for course announcements. E-mails **will not** be sent to personal e-mail addresses (e.g. goldlion@yahoo.com). This is to ensure privacy.
4. You will most likely need a calculator for this course. A standard calculator should be sufficient. A graphing calculator is not necessary.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to myLeo. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx> You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo. <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

- The best way to contact me outside of the classroom is by email, or to come by my office during office hours. I will reply to emails as quickly as possible. Please put the course number 'ECO 555' in the subject. Missing course numbers in the subject can seriously delay the response time.
- Please allow up to 24 hours during weekdays and 48 hours during weekend for me to reply. If you do not hear from me within that time frame, you can resend your email or call me at 903-886-5172 (leave a message if not answered).

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance in Webinar or through email.

University Specific Procedures 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 current Student Guidebook).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

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

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule

34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

((<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Text	Details
Week 1 (8/27)	Syllabus; Chapter 1	First Debate
Week 2 (9/3)	Chapters 2-3	
Week 3 (9/10)	Chapters 4-5	Second Debate
Week 4 (9/17)	Chapters 6-7	
Week 5 (9/24)	Health Report	
Week 6 (10/1)	Chapter 8	Third Debate
Week 7 (10/8)	Exam I	
Week 8 (10/15)	Chapters 9-10	
Week 9 (10/22)	Chapter 11	Fourth Debate
Week 10 (10/29)	Chapters 12-13	
Week 11 (11/5)	Chapters 14-15	Fifth Debate
Week 12 (11/12)	Chapter 16	
Week 13 (11/19)	Group Work / Review	Sixth Debate
Week 14 (11/26)	Consultant Project	
Week 15 (12/3)	Final Examination	

Note: All assignments are due by 11:59 PM CST on the date shown