



To access COVID-19 information, please visit the [Stay Healthy Lions Webpage](#).

**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

**CJCB 408.0CW – Critical Thinking & Decision Making  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall Term I: 9/6/22 – 10/21/22**

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor:	<b>Louis Lufkin</b>
Office Location:	<b>Online</b>
Office Hours:	<b>Email or Telephone or Virtual by Appointment</b>
Office Phone:	<b>903-886-5889</b>
University Email Address:	<b><a href="mailto:Louis.Lufkin@tamuc.edu">Louis.Lufkin@tamuc.edu</a></b>
Preferred Form of Communication:	<b>Email</b>
Communication Response Time:	<b>At my earliest convenience; within 24-hours or next business day</b>

#### **COURSE INFORMATION**

##### **Materials**

This course has been designed using Open Educational Resources (OER). All materials are embedded within the course and are accessible via the internet. After taking the pretest, students are encouraged to bookmark, download, or save materials provided via the internet for use during quizzes, assignments, and projects in this class.

\*A textbook is not assigned for this class. All reading assignments are provided with links to Internet sources and/or document files.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines critical thinking and problem solving in a policing context.

#### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Completion of this course provides the student with the knowledge to:

1. The SWBAT will define critical thinking.
2. The SWBAT will define community policing.
3. The SWBAT will identify the essential aspects of critical thinking.
4. The SWBAT will identify four typical reasons for errors in reasoning.
5. The SWBAT will identify methods of good problem solvers.
6. The SWBAT apply critical thinking to a scenario.
7. The SWBAT identify kinds of decisions.
8. The SWBAT identify types of decisions.
9. The SWBAT discuss the whole-brain concept.

10. The SWBAT define emotional intelligence.
11. The SWBAT identify methods for making decisions or problem solving.
12. The SWBAT recall the rules for brainstorming.
13. The SWBAT apply the seven-step decision making model.
14. The SWBAT apply the SWOT decision making model.
15. The SWBAT apply the SARA decision making model.
16. The SWBAT recall problem solving resources.
17. The SWBAT recall federal assistance programs in problem solving.
18. The SWBAT identify thinking traps and mental locks.
19. The SWBAT identify common mistakes in problem solving.
20. The SWBAT identify components of legal decisions.
21. The SWBAT identify components of ethical decisions.
22. The SWBAT apply tactical decision making to tactical scenarios or situations.

Additional Learning Outcomes throughout course:

1. Critical Thinking-- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
2. Social Responsibility -- to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.
3. Communications-- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
4. Empirical and Quantitative Skills - Students will be able to interpret, test, and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.

### **REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE COURSE INTERACTION**

As a general guide, students enrolled in a three semester hour course should spend one hour engaged in instructional activities and two to three hours on out-of-class work per week in a traditional semester. Students are expected to double this effort of engagement given that this course is being delivered in a seven-week term. Educational activities in this course are designed to ensure regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty to ensure that students are able to demonstrate competency.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Minimal Technical Skills Needed:** Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

**Instructional Methods:** This course is an online course. To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) must be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

**Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course:** To be successful in this course, all content and course modules should be read and reviewed. All assignments and quizzes (both graded and not graded) should be completed. Please contact the instructor by email for any assistance.

## ASSESSMENT

Students must achieve 80% or higher for the both the posttest and culminating project to demonstrate competency and pass the course.

### PRE-TEST

Though the PRE-TEST is NOT a graded activity, it IS none the less REQUIRED for completion of the course!

The purpose of the pre-test is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in this competency. The pre-test is required before you begin studying course materials. If you do not make at least 80% on the pre-test, students will be expected to complete assignments, quizzes, and other course content to prepare for the post-test and culminating project.

Content	Description	Value	Notes
Pre-test	This is the initial assessment in the course to provide a baseline understanding of a student's knowledge of the course content and competencies. Pretests are taken once and should be completed upon the first couple of days of a CBE academic term or entry into a course if a student is an accelerator.	100 points	Required before completing any other work in the course. The grade on the pre-test does <b>not</b> count in the final grade for this course.

### POST-TEST

The end-of-course POST-TEST that assesses student knowledge and understanding of major concepts, theories, processes, etc., in the course. A **score of 80% or higher is required** to demonstrate competency.

Content	Description	Value	Notes
Post-test	Measures your competency of learning outcomes through essay, short answer, and multiple-choice questions.	100 points	Required and you must score 80% or higher. You have up to three attempts. <b>DUE: On or before Friday, 10/21/22, 5:00pm</b>

If you score less than 80% on the post-test, you will have an opportunity to review the material and retake the post-test two additional times. If the posttest score is less than 80% within three attempts, students will receive a grade of "F" in the course and will be required to retake the course in the new term. Students who fail the posttest should review feedback from the instructor before reattempting the posttest.

## **CULMINATING PROJECT**

The project assesses your knowledge of terms and the application of concepts presented in this course. A **score of 80% or higher is required** to demonstrate competency.

<b>Content</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Project	Measures your competency of learning outcomes the completion of a competency-based project.	100 points	Required and you must score 80% or higher. You have up to three attempts. <b>DUE:</b> <b>On or before the end of week 6 – 10/14/22.</b> <b>(This allows time for Revisions and resubmission for Final Grading)</b>

If students score less than 80% on the culminating project, they will have an opportunity to review the material and resubmit the project up to two additional times. If the culminating project is less than 80% within three attempts, students will receive a grade of “F” in the course and will be required to retake the course in the new term.

## **Culminating Project –Capstone Project**

### **SCENARIO:**

**You are a patrol officer assigned to a beat that has a truck stop located near a major highway. Hundreds of trucks park in the lot. Prostitution and drug use is reportedly common. At this particular truck stop there is a fast-food restaurant; there is also a diner near the truck stop.**

**Your supervisor has been receiving complaints from parents about the location. The complaints generally are about seeing the drug syringes and “ladies of the night.” Parents are not happy they can’t stop in with their children for food and a romp in the play area without seeing these things. The kids are not happy either. Patrons from the diner are complaining to your supervisor about the same things the parents were calling about. They are also being “harassed” by panhandlers near the restaurant. The diner patrons are also not happy.**

**Your supervisor tells you to work on this Problem-Oriented Policing matter; apply the SARA model, and submit a report to him with recommendations. Your supervisor is a stickler, and expects you to put in the effort to “do this right.”**

### **Instructions:**

- Create a written plan using the SARA model to address the crime and disorder problem outlined in this presentation.
- Upload the plan for grading via the culminating assignment upload portal in D2L.
- You should create something that is quality; a work product that could be applied in a real-world situation.
- Your paper shall be written using APA-style guidelines (Assistance with using APA-style is found via the link below, as well as a Sample APA-style paper)

- You are required to use proper in-text citation and link each citation to a source listed on the reference page of the paper.
- Your culminating assignment is due, no later than Friday of Week 6 (June 24<sup>th</sup>); this is to allow me time for grading and for you to make any revisions I may require.
- Assistance with APA-Style  
[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_style\\_introduction.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html)

### GRADING

A score of 80% or higher on both the Culminating Project and Posttest is required to demonstrate competency and receive credit for the course. The following items will be used to calculate the final grade in the course.

Item	Worth
Posttest	100 points
Culminating Project	100 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>200 points</b>

#### Grading Scale

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

F = 79% or Below

Grading for the final project follows this scale:

Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Level 0
90 points	80 points	70 points	60 points	0 points
Assignment is <u>well developed</u> and addresses all aspects. Meets page length requirements	Assignment is <u>adequate</u> and briefly addresses relevant aspects.	Assignment <u>does not address</u> all aspects.	Assignment is late.	Assignment is not done.
10 points	10 points	10 points	10 points	0 points
Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	Provides accurate citations where applicable.	

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

Learning Management System (LMS) Requirements:

View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).

LMS Browser Support:

Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

Visit the [Virtual Classroom Requirements Webpage](#).

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

#### Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. Correspondence will always be through university email (your "myLeo" mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 provided the correspondence follows the requirements listed below. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

## **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.

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#)

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Policy](#)  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

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  
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

### **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 Statement**

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document 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.

### **Counseling Services**

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

<b>Learning Objectives and Competencies</b>	<b>Materials to Read or Review</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SWBAT will define critical thinking.</li> <li>• The SWBAT will define community policing.</li> <li>• The SWBAT will identify the essential aspects of critical thinking.</li> <li>• The SWBAT will identify four typical reasons for errors in reasoning.</li> <li>• The SWBAT will identify methods of good problem solvers.</li> <li>• The SWBAT apply critical thinking to a scenario.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify kinds of decisions.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify types of decisions.</li> <li>• The SWBAT discuss the whole-brain concept.</li> <li>• The SWBAT define emotional intelligence.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify methods for making decisions or problem solving.</li> <li>• The SWBAT recall the rules for brainstorming.</li> <li>• The SWBAT apply the seven-step decision making model.</li> </ul>	<p>All materials are contained within the two course modules.</p>	<p>Course material is broken into two modules: critical thinking and problem solving. Both contain the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Pretest</li> <li>• View Presentation</li> <li>• Readings</li> <li>• Videos (Optional)</li> </ul> <p>After completion of both modules students must take a post-test and complete their culminating project.</p>

<b>Learning Objectives and Competencies</b>	<b>Materials to Read or Review</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SWBAT apply the SWOT decision making model.</li> <li>• The SWBAT apply the SARA decision making model.</li> <li>• The SWBAT recall problem solving resources.</li> <li>• The SWBAT recall federal assistance programs in problem solving.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify thinking traps and mental locks.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify common mistakes in problem solving.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify components of legal decisions.</li> <li>• The SWBAT identify components of ethical decisions.</li> <li>• The SWBAT apply tactical decision making to tactical scenarios or situations.</li> </ul>		