



**PSY 205: Applied Professional Ethics COURSE  
SYLLABUS: Spring 2024**

**Instructor:** Sarah Dailey

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Please put **PSY 205** in the subject line of ALL emails that are sent to me. Also, be sure to include your **first and last name** at the end of every email.

**Preferred Form of Communication:** email

**Communication Response Time:** within 24 hours M-F.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

**THE FOLLOWING TEXTBOOK IS REQUIRED:**

Fisher, C. (2023). *Decoding the Ethics Code: A Practical Guide for Psychologists* (5th ed). SAGE Publications. ISBN: 9781544362717

Any additional materials will be made available on the course website.

Keep in mind the following: If you are considering purchasing an e-text only, you need to remember that our online quizzes are 'open book' quizzes, and you may not be able to access your e-text while taking a quiz. You will need to have a printed version of the textbook if you wish to be able to access your textbook while taking a quiz.

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTE:** If, for whatever reason, you are unable to lease or purchase your required textbook (your own copy) AND HAVE IT IN YOUR POSSESSION before the first day of class, you will need to drop this course and take it during a term when you will be able to have the textbook at the start of the semester. You are expected to have the textbook on the first day of class, and you will be using it immediately.

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## Course Description

This course will introduce you to the basic foundations of ethics, overview of ethics in various professional fields such as psychology, counseling, social work, nursing, etc.. It examines the implications of ethical principles in professional applications, and how those principles interact with modern law. Comparisons of professional codes of ethics and their applications in modern society will be studied.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. You will learn about the fundamental ethical issues faced by psychologists.
2. You will think critically about ethics in psychology.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

- Using the learning management system (D2L)
- Using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Using general Internet search engines (i.e., Google.com, Yahoo.com) to locate research related to topics.
- Accessing and using the Texas A&M University-Commerce Library electronic databases

### Instructional Methods

Your course is delivered to you fully online, using the LMS (MyLeoOnline/D2L/Brightspace) instructional system that is available to you through Texas A&M University-Commerce. There are no on-campus meetings for this class. "LMS" refers to learning management system, and the names "MyLeoOnline", "D2L", and "Brightspace" are all names that refer to the one online learning management system that TAMUC is currently using for all web-based courses. In this syllabus, sometimes you will see the LMS referred to as MyLeoOnline, and sometimes it will be referred to as D2L or Brightspace or your LMS website.

Video and textual lecture summaries and other supplemental course materials will be posted in D2L. Students will use these materials with the assigned reading to prepare for course assessments. Assessments will include quizzes, exams, and participation in online discussions. This online course contains the same content you'd expect in a traditional 15-week face-to face version. You should plan on spending approximately 6-10 hours per week reading, viewing course content, completing course assignments, and participating in discussions.

**This is not a self-paced course.** There is a very specific and scheduled format that you will follow for the course. All assignments and quizzes are to be completed according to the posted schedule. **You are required to complete all assignments, quizzes, and other course requirements.** You may not skip any assignments. Assignments that are submitted past the

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**deadline dates that are listed in the D2L topic assignment guidelines must still be submitted; however, they will be submitted for partial credit, or no credit if they are submitted very late.**

**You will need to sign online daily to check your campus email.**

**You will need to sign onto your PSY205 D2L website almost every day to work on this course.**

New topics will generally open every few days, and the schedule for the topics is on the last page of this syllabus. Posting topics may vary at the instructor's discretion. Basically, **you need to sign on almost every day,** and will be addressing new topics/discussions/assignments every few days. A more detailed day-by-day schedule appears later in this syllabus. Print out this syllabus and make several copies of the last page, so that you will know exactly what we are doing, and when we are doing it, throughout the semester. There is no reason to ever feel uninformed or 'lost' about your schedule of assignments and quizzes.

All class components are completed online on our course website, or via email with other students and the instructor. There are no face-to-face class sessions, nor are students required to go to one of our campuses. Students are required to have access to a computer with internet access and email, and are required to have in their possession at all times the course textbook (purchase or lease).

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

It is your responsibility to promptly order a copy of the textbook, and make sure you read the relevant chapters for the quizzes. Log in to D2L daily to check for announcements. Regularly check the syllabus and D2L calendar for quiz and discussion post due dates.

Formatting Emails: When sending emails, please be sure to always state your name, course section, and your CWID. All communications should be professional and well-written. Your emails project and communicate your image, so be sure you do that appropriately.

## **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

**A = 90%-100%**

**B = 80%-89%**

**C = 70%-79%**

**D = 60%-69%**

**F = 59% or Below**

**Grade Weights**

- **20%:** There will be 10 quizzes, and each is worth 2% of your grade.
- **20%:** There will be 4 assignments (discussion posts), each worth 5%.
- **30%:** Midterm Exam
- **30%:** Final Exam

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## Assessments

### Quizzes

After completion of each topic, you will be quizzed over that material in D2L. There are two reasons for these quizzes. First, they should encourage you to keep on top of the reading, in order to ensure that you do not fall behind in the course. Second, research has shown that repeated testing (i.e., retrieval practice) enhances retention of material. We will make use of this finding in order to help you remember the topics we cover after the course has been completed.

### Assignments

There will be 4 assignments requiring you to post your answer to the discussion board for a given topic, and also requiring you to respond thoughtfully to another student's post.

### Exams

There will be two exams during the semester: a midterm and a final. Both will be comprised of multiple-choice questions accessible in D2L like the quizzes.

## 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 technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## 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).

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**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 here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

It is best to communicate with me via email (sarah.dailey@tamuc.edu). I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours. Please do not re-send your email unless at least 48 hours have passed since your last email.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

No quizzes, exams, or homework will be accepted after the deadline unless permission is provided in advance of the deadline by the instructor.

### **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.

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## 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. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

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

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

### TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### 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:

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[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### **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](#)

<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 Statement**

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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&MCommerce 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.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

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)

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