PSY 645, 01B, Introduction to Learning Technology
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2024
Thursday 4:30-7:10 pm, Location: Henderson 206 for In person sessions

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Shulan Lu, Ph.D., Professor
Office Location: Henderson 218
Office Hours: TBA

Office Phone: 903.468.8628
Office Fax: 903.886.5510

University Email Address: shulan.lu@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours on weekdays

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Handouts and reading materials will be distributed in class or placed on D2L.

Course Description
This is NOT a course on how to teach psychology or a particular content domain. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a spectrum of current leading edge research development on new types of tools, applications, media and environments in learning, and the theories in learning that underlie the work.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
1. Students will understand how the "affordances" of information technology (e.g., distributed cognition, situated learning, sophisticated pattern recognition, multisensory immersion, multimodal learning, visualization) aid the learning processes.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

2. Students will appreciate and consider the likely evolution of students' media-based learning styles and of information technology in learning over the next decade.

3. Students will discuss how innovations such as generative AI, eye tracking glasses, multi-user virtual environments, mobile devices, digital teaching platforms for customizing learning, and augmented realities can support teaching and learning.

4. Students will consider how the technologies discussed in this course, integrated into a 21st century educational model, can disruptively transform schooling.

5. Students will consider ways to overcome barriers in integrating sophisticated learning technologies, given the current context of education practice and policy.

6. Students will consider the challenges to learning equity and diversity posed by emerging technologies and strategies for overcoming these problems.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

The essential computer skills in modern life: See an example at
http://www.yti.edu/blog/top-four-essential-computer-skills.asp

Use D2L, Zoom, Youtube, Google Presentation, Google Sheets, Google Docs
Use Socrative on your mobile devices.

Instructional Methods

This is a blended course. We will have a significant percentage of face-to-face classes, and a significant percentage of online classes. I cannot emphasize enough the value of collective listening, which is articulated so well by Professor Monessa Cummins at Grinnell College.

"Can [students] listen to a political candidate with a critical year? Can they go and listen to their minister with an analytical ear? Can they listen to one another? One of the things a lecture does is build that habit."

During our lecture, we will deepen your understanding of the important concepts and theories through lectures, demonstrations, and class discussions. We will share learning technology experiences.

Prior to each week's lecture, you will be expected to complete the reading materials before the class.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Throughout our course, we will discuss the science of learning and instruction through the effective use of technology. The following are some basics.

- Check and read class emails promptly for announcements, updates, clarifications, etc.
- Active personal explorations of learning technology that potentially helps learning to be more effective and efficient.
- Take notes while you read the assigned materials and listen to lectures. When we travel, we take our own pictures to organize our experience instead of downloading pictures online later. Similarly when we learn, we take our own notes to organize our thoughts.
- Consider the Pomodoro technique. Set aside 20-25 minutes each time to study.
- Take the initiative and read a few most recent research articles on the topics we discuss in our class.

GRADING

To be on the safe side, assume that I grade on a numerical scale. However, I reserve the right to reward exemplary attendance and participation.

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

<u>Questions about Grades:</u> Any questions about a grade for a particular Assignment Highlights, quiz, or exam should be brought to my attention within a week of the particular grade being posted.

Assessments

Unless authorized by instructor, students are expected to complete all course assignments without assistance from any source, including artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT.

Students must reply to the instructor's email concerning the integrity of their coursework within three business days and schedule a meeting with the instructor within one week from the date of the initial contact email.

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Makeup exams and assignments

<mark>If you become sick, you must schedule to retake the assignments / discussions within two weeks of the due date and must provide documentation of your illness. However, presentations and assignments / discussions can be only replaced by later ones.</mark>

If you are traveling and representing the university (e.g., band members, athletes, etc.) you need to request accommodations <u>BEFORE</u> the exam or assignment is due, not after.

<u>Learning Engagement, Professionalism and Good Conduct</u>: This class will employ active learning techniques. There will be 1) learning engagement activities, and 2) class participation and discussion requirements. The criteria and expectations of each activity will be announced as the class unfolds.

Below are a few basic elements that go into class participation and discussion requirements.

1. Maintain good attendance. While anyone can be late on rare occasions, habitual lateness is unacceptable. Also once in class, be prepared to stay for the entire class period. If you must miss class you are responsible for what transpires during class sessions whether you are there or not.

2. Be respectful toward all members of the class and their views.

3. We may not always have time for everyone to speak up in every class. Come to the class prepared, and make a point of participating. Your contributions should reflect a reasonable understanding of the course materials.

4. Demonstrate professionalism when interacting with all members of the class.

This part will be largely based on my observations, notes and impressions. For the efficiency of the class, I will not count the number of times you participate in discussions and what you say in each class.

Learning Engagement Total: 8%

<u>Assignment</u>: *The questions aligns with each of the 4 learning outcomes, in particular, Learning Outcome 1, 2, 3,* and *4.*

To do well on these assignments, you will have to attend the lectures and pay attention to the assigned readings.

Assignment Total: 30%

<u>Generative AI Learning Technology Exploration:</u> This assessment aligns with SLOs 2,3, 4, and 5, students are expected to explore generative AI powered technology. Give an overview of how the technology can be used, and show how to use it in certain learning contexts.

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Students are expected to showcase two generative AI technologies. Student collaborations are encouraged. More details will be announced as our class unfolds.

Generative AI Learning Technology Exploration: 30%

Presentation and Discussion: *This requirement aligns with learning outcome 4, 5 and 6.* For each learning objective, search 1 article, discuss with the instructor whether it is a suitable article, prepare and deliver a presentation, and propose a question and guide discussions. More details will be announced as our class unfolds. Every student is required to do presentations on 1 of the 3 learning objectives. The presentation needs to be in person.

In your presentation of research, the ease of the communication (e.g., the use visualization) and the accuracy of the information will also be assessed.

Highlight Total: 10%

Exams: There is one comprehensive exam. **There will be NO after the fact make-up examinations.** If for some REAL emergency you must miss the exam, make sure that you contact me immediately.

Exam Total: 22%

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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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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.

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

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Interaction with Instructor Statement

Typically, I will respond to your emails within 24 hours from Mon to Fri. It will take longer during the holidays and weekends. I can also meet with you via Zoom. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific 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.

Academic Honesty

Unless authorized by me, you are expected to complete all course assignments without assistance from any source, including generative artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you are not allowed to submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course.

Contact me if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work.

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.

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

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

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 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesprocedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.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

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.

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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

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Date	Topic & Course Format
1	Feb 1	Introduction to the course (F2F, 1)
2	Feb 8	Artificial intelligence (F2F tentative)
3	Feb 15	Generative AI in education challenges (Online)
4	Feb 22	Going to scale in education (Online)
5	Feb 29	Disruptive innovation via online learning (Online)
6	Mar 7	Digital equity and diversity (Online)
7	Mar 14	Spring break
8	Mar 21	Generative AI technology exploration 1 (F2F, 2)
9	Mar 28	Generative AI technology exploration 2 (F2F, 3)
10	Apr 4	Augmented and mixed reality (F2F, 4)
11	Apr 11	Learning analytics (F2F, or online)

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12	Apr 18	Multisource, multimodal processing (F2F, 5)
13	Apr 25	Interactive, collaborative learning (F2F, 6)
14	May 2	Summary (F2F, 7)
15	May 6	Online final exam

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