



**SWK 597-01/02/03W: Human Trafficking**  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
**SUMMER 2024**  
**Web-based**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: **Lyndsey L. Norris**  
Office Location: **HEN 323**  
Office Hours: **By appointment**  
Office Phone: **903-468-3047 (SWK Main Office)**  
Office Fax:  
University Email Address: **Lyndsey.Norris@tamuc.edu**  
Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**  
Communication Response Time: **Within 2 business days**

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Textbook(s) Required:**

Bales, K. & Soodalter, R. (2009). *The slave next door: Human trafficking and slavery in America today*. University of California Press.

Burk, Mary C. (2022). *Human Trafficking: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. Routledge.

**Software Required:**

Microsoft Office 365

Access FREE at:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/facultystaffservices/academictechnology/documents/Office-365-Students.pdf>

**Optional Texts and/or Materials:**

Anti-slavery.org Child Slavery

<https://www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/child-slavery/>

Kozakiewicz, A. (2007). Victim testimony given for the House Judiciary Committee.

Available at <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/story?id=3742297&page=1>

U.N. Office on Drugs and Crimes. (2008, February). *Human trafficking for the removal of organs and body parts*. Paper presented at The Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking. Available at

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/search.html?q=human+trafficking+and+the+removal+of+organs&s>

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ\\_Sessions/CCPCJ\\_17/CRPs/E-CN15-2008-CRP2\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_17/CRPs/E-CN15-2008-CRP2_E.pdf)

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2015/UNODC\\_Assessment\\_Toolkit\\_TIP\\_for\\_the\\_Purpose\\_of\\_Organ\\_Removal.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/2015/UNODC_Assessment_Toolkit_TIP_for_the_Purpose_of_Organ_Removal.pdf)

[http://commdocs.house.gov/committees/intlrel/hfa28104.000/hfa28104\\_0.htm](http://commdocs.house.gov/committees/intlrel/hfa28104.000/hfa28104_0.htm)

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CRPT-109hrpt317/html/CRPT-109hrpt317-pt1.htm>

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/An\\_Introduction\\_to\\_Human\\_Trafficking\\_-\\_Background\\_Paper.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/An_Introduction_to_Human_Trafficking_-_Background_Paper.pdf)

<https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-06-825.pdf>

**Course Description**

Human Trafficking is a graduate level course designed to help students gain a better understanding of contemporary human trafficking and modern day slavery. During this course, you will learn important terminology in this field, the different types of human trafficking that exist and an understanding of the scope of the problem, both domestically and globally. You will also learn about the physical, emotional, and psychological trauma experienced by victims of human trafficking and the methods used to recruit and control them. The roles that entities such as government, the economy, the media, organized crime and culture play in this complex human rights and social (in) justice issues will also be explored.

**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES:**

SWK 503, 505, 506, 553

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires a competency-based approach to identify and assess what students demonstrate in practice. In social work, this approach involves assessing students' ability to demonstrate the competencies identified in the educational policy. Listed below are the competencies and associated knowledge, skills, values and cognitive and affective processes that comprise the expected outcomes for this course.

	Activity/Assessment	Dimension
<b>Competency 1:</b>		

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

In this course, you will utilize the Learning Management Systems (LMS) D2L for instructional and learning opportunities, submitting assignments, participating in online synchronous and asynchronous discussions, accessing resources, and completing quizzes/tests. Additionally, you will need the knowledge and skills to use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Outlook Email. If you have any issues with using the various systems or software, you must contact support services and notify the Instructor of the technical issue.

### Instructional Methods

This course will be delivered via synchronous and asynchronous sessions via D2L. It will consist of live class sessions, pre-recorded lectures, group engagement activities, and various assignments, including experiential learning and practical application of the content areas. In addition, small lectures, discussion activities, and workshops may provide instruction during this course.

### Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course

As a student in this course, you are responsible for engaging in active learning and reaching out to the Instructor if problems or challenges interfere with optimal learning. Communication is vital when engaged in a fully online, virtual environment.

Expectations for success include:

1. Always demonstrate professional behavior, including respect for the Instructor and peers; being open to feedback and guidance throughout this class and the program.

2. Adhered to the School of Social Work and University student code of conduct and NASW Code of Ethics.
3. Begin reading the assigned text and supplemental readings as soon as possible, focusing on completing all readings prior to engagement with the Instructor or peers.
4. Prepare to engage in live class sessions, discussions, and other activities so you can be a contributor as well as a receiver of knowledge and skills.
5. Actively participate in engagement activities, including live virtual class sessions, online discussions, and interactive learning opportunities -as this is vital for learning and success in both this course and the program.
6. Work ahead when possible. Completing assignments ahead of the due date so you are prepared to submit on the due date.
7. Sign in to the D2L course shell multiple times weekly to access updated announcements or posted resources.
8. Check your university email daily. This is the university, department, and Instructor's official method of communication.
9. Be open and focused on the "process" and not the "product," as earning this degree requires time, effort, work, growth in knowledge, skills, and abilities, along with personal and professional attributes.

## GRADING

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

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

Assessments	Value
Discussion/Responsive/Reaction Writing Assignments (5 @ 20 pts. each)	100 pts.
Weekly Quizzes: (10 @ 5 pts. each)	50 pts.
Project	150 pts.
TOTAL	300 pts.

## Assessments

### 1. DISCUSSION/REACTION/RESPONSE ASSIGNMENTS: (5 assignments @ 20 points each/ total of 100 points)

You will have a mixture of Discussions or Responsive Writing assignment to a link or reading that is posted. Both Discussion and Responsive Writings are an

integral part of this learning experience. Since this class meets on-line in an asynchronous setting students have limited reasons for not participating each week. Please note that many of you will find these activities to be very interesting and will widen your scope of the definition of human trafficking. The responsive writing is expected to be approximately a page in length and will have very clear directions located in D2L during the coordinating week the item is due. At the graduate level, the expectation is that there will be appropriate use of grammar and conceptual theoretical frameworks.

### **DISCUSSIONS:**

The discussions will open when the course opens, and the student will be expected to respond to the discussion post **by Wednesday at 11:30 p.m. of the week it is assigned**. Obviously responding to the prompt can be done ahead of time. The response to the prompt will need to be 7-10 sentences in length, using your critical thinking skills. This means you need to cite either of the textbooks or you may use outside sources. **The following has to be done during the week that the discussion is assigned: Additionally, you will need to respond to TWO of your peers post between Thursday– Sunday at 11:30 pm.** by responding to each of the two with a **3-5 sentence response**, again using critical thinking skills which means that you will need to provide citations to back up what you have written. The discussion will close on Sunday at 11:30 p.m. Remember these discussions should really engage you and your peers. Remember this is about learning and the desire to learn new topics of interest.

### **2. UNIT QUIZZES (10 quizzes @ 5 points each/ total:50 points):**

Each week you will submit a quiz. A quiz will consist of you providing FIVE points of interest that found within the assigned reading from either text. **Because it is so easy to put off reading assignments, especially during the summer, I have built these quizzes into the course to help you stay on task.** It is important to do the readings and be able to synthesize this information. I not only expect you to name the area of interest but to expand and tell me your understanding of it and why it stood out to you. You might include the implication to practice.

### **3. HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROJECT: (150 points)**

This is a great opportunity for students to really get some hands-on experience in the world of human trafficking. Students will be expected to work on a project related to human trafficking. **THE STUDENT MUST FIRST GET THE INSTRUCTOR'S APPROVAL REGARDING THEIR DESIRED PROJECT.** The student may want to contact agencies that are associated in some way with issues surrounding human trafficking and find out what might be available. The student will need to begin work on this project as soon as the summer session begins and may include, but are not limited to:

- Help with writing a grant in cooperation with and to support a local human

- trafficking social service agency
- Work with a local social service agency that serves victims of human trafficking to plan an event/support an event to gain public awareness of the growing issue
  - Work with a social service agency that serves victims of human trafficking on a special project
  - Speak to a community forum on the growing issue of human trafficking locally and/or as it affects the micro, mezzo, and macro population. This might include a venue such as a network of providers, social service groups, community leaders, a state representative, or group of legislative representatives, a city council meeting, etc. The list goes on and on.
  - Volunteer as a blogger for a coalition or group aimed at educating and eradicating human trafficking and blog for them over the summer
  - Be creative and use your creative mind to come up with something that fits your desire to learn about Human Trafficking. Meaning some will be interested in the Micro, Mezzo, or Macro area depending on what area they gravitate to as MSW students

**As you can see the project is NOT something that can be done last minute. It will take some thought, time, and networking. However, what is gained from such an experience is far greater than imaginable.** The student will need to upload a presentation of the project to the D2L folder or a link to the presentation. This presentation will be made available to your peers during a zoom meet-up with the class. This is so that your peers can view all of the experiences and interact, ask questions, and become more informed. Be creative. This may include a video of the volunteer experience, pictures, or an interview. The student will also write a brief 1-2 page paper reflecting what the project was and the impact on the student, on practice, and society as a whole. This project offers a great way for students to “get involved” and a creative means to do so. There are a number of grassroots organizations working to combat the problems of human trafficking and this is your chance to be a part of that on some level. There are also a lot of organizations that welcome to help our students as volunteers.

## 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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](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](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 here:

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

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor via email. The Instructor will respond to email queries within two business days.

## **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 require the Instructor to modify it during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Ethical Behavior**

The School of Social Work expects all students to conduct themselves in an ethical, professional manner in the classroom and field settings consistent with the [NASW Code of Ethics](#).

### **University Code of Conduct**

Texas A&M University-Commerce has established standards of conduct to create and foster an environment that facilitates student learning and development. Students and university student groups are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for the rights and property of others and is consistent with the educational goals and mission of the university. This Code of Student Conduct ("Code") focuses on personal responsibility and accountability for students' actions and the impact those actions may have on the greater community. To access student academic and behavioral expectations for students refer to 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 (or copy/paste the following URL in your web browser:

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

[If a student believes the final grade is unfairly impacted by attendance requirements, an appeal can be made. This appeal process is explained in "Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation" - Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05.](#)

### **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:

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)  
[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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

### **University Rules on Research**

Students involved in conducting research and/or scholarly activities at Texas A&M University-Commerce must also adhere to standards set forth in [University Procedure 15.99.03.R1 Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work](#).



### **AI use in the course**

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

Any use of such software must be documented. Undocumented use constitutes academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow the use of such software entirely 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.

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

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

### **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.

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 connections 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)

### **School of Social Work & Council on Social Work Education-Specific Policies**

#### **Course Engagement**

*Final Evaluation and Grade Depends on both Classroom attendance and Participation:* Inadequate participation or lack of required time commitment in each class significantly affects students' grades. No matter the course venue, students must engage in a comparable amount of time. Expectations of both Face-to-Face classes and those with Online components include time spent reading and studying course material.

To earn a level of competency within a specific course, students must demonstrate both mastery of content and active engagement.

Mastery of content areas is evidenced by successful completion of course assignments such as written papers, group project deliverables, tests/quizzes, and other tangible products designed by instructors to evaluate knowledge and skills.

Additionally, the Social Work Profession is built upon human interactions and building human relationships – which is defined as engagement. Engagement is defined as meaningful involvement in interactions with the Instructor, peers, and outside

stakeholders as appropriate (such as contacting a social worker to interview for a required assignment). Within the classroom setting, whether virtual or F2F, students must actively participate in 80% of engagement activities as outlined by individual instructors. These activities may include but are not limited to, participation in live, synchronous virtual classes, attending a Face-to-Face course when appropriate, interacting with peers in posted discussions, and collaborating in group interactive projects.

Students must meet standards for content mastery on tangible assignments and meet the threshold of active engagement of the time set during a semester by the Instructor.

Instructors are experts in each course content area and set the standards for students to meet to successfully complete the course.

### **Student Conduct**

Students preparing to become professional social workers must adhere to the *University Code of Conduct*, *Department Code of Conduct* and the *National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics*.

### **Department Code of Conduct**

The Academic and Professional Issues Committee (API) hearing is the formal path of due process for a student in regard to the concern being expressed. A student will be referred to the School of Social Work's API by faculty, field instructors, or faculty field liaisons when a concern arises regarding academic and student conduct and/or professional preparation. When "a student who fails to meet the professional expectation of the field for which he/she is preparing may be suspended from further study in that program by the department administering that program" as demonstrated through ethical and/or legal violations; aberrant disregard for School of Social Work Code of Conduct or other concerns as determined by the [Academic and Professional Issues Committee](#).

Graduate Students have the right to appeal to the Graduate Dean according to [University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.39](#).

Undergraduate Students have the right to appeal to the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services according to [University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.41](#).

### Tentative Course Outline / Schedule

Week	Topic for Week	Assignment/Activities: Supplemental Links to Readings of Testimonies to Congressional hearings by victims, video clips, Documentaries, etc. will be located within each week of the course.	Due Dates
1 June 3-9	Introduction to HT, Definition, Prevalence, Historical Perspective <b>Zoom Meet/Greet Tuesday June 4, 2024 7:00 pm</b>	Slave Next Door (SND) Ch. 1, 9 Human Trafficking (HT) Ch. 1, 2	<b>Due: June 9, 2024 by 11:30 pm</b> • Quiz #1
2 June 10-16	Introduction to HT, Definition, Prevalence, Historical Perspective	SND: Ch. 1, 9 HT Ch. 1, 2	<b>Due by June 16, 2024 by 11:30 pm</b> • Discussion #1 Week 2: • Quiz #2
3 June 17-23	Labor Trafficking and Sociological Perspective/Underlying Causes <b>Zoom: LABOR TRAFFICKING AND SERVITUDE Tuesday June 18, 2024 7:00 pm</b>	SND: Ch. 2,3,5 HT: Ch. 3, 6	<b>Due: June 23, 2024 by 11:30 pm</b> • Discussion #2 Week 3 • Quiz #3
4 June 24-30	Labor Trafficking and Sociological Perspective/Underlying Causes	SND: Ch. 2,3,5 HT: Ch. 3, 6	<b>Due: June 30 2024 by 11:30 pm</b> • Mail order Brides • Quiz #4
5 July 1-7	Sex Trafficking Sexual Exploitation of a Child And child trafficking	SND: Ch. 4 HT: Ch. 4, 5, 8	<b>Due July 7, 2024 by 11:30 pm:</b> • Quiz #5
6 July 8-14	Organ Trafficking HT through Law Enforcement Lens: <b>Zoom: ORGAN TRAFFICKING Tuesday July 9, 2024 7:00 pm</b>	HT: Ch. 17	<b>Due July 14, 2024 by 11:30 pm</b> • Organ trafficking • Quiz #6

7 July 15-21	Minority/Gender influences	SND: Ch. 8 HT: Ch. 9,10	Due: July 21, 2024 by 11:30 pm • Quiz #7
8 July 22-28	Technology and HT/Financial Institutions' Role	HT: Ch. 15, 16	Due: July 28, 2024 by 11:30 pm • Quiz #8
9 July 29- Aug 4	Eating Wearing, Walking and Talking, Supply/Demand/ Slaves In the Neighborhood <b>Zoom: Presentations of HT Tuesday July 30, 2024 7:00 pm</b>	SND: Ch. 6, 7 HT: Ch. 14	Due: August 4, 2024 by 11:30 pm • Out of Africa/Survey • Quiz #9
10 Aug 5-8	Policy: Domestic and Foreign and Responses <b>Zoom on Presentations of HT Tuesday August 6, 2024 7:00 pm (if needed)</b>	SND: Ch. 10 HT: Ch. 11, 13	Due: August 6, 2024 by 11:30 pm • HT Project • Quiz #10