



US 497: Pedogeological Collaborative & Us

SUMMER 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Zachary Palmer
Office Location: Ferguson 232
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm or by appointment
University Email Address: Zachary.palmer@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

No required textbook or readings, all **optional** readings will be posted to D2L

Course Description

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to...

- Evaluate the pedagogical implications of AI and design instructional approaches that respond to those challenges
- Develop new approaches to teaching through collaborative discussions and peer feedback
- Construct a personalized action plan to implement new teaching practices within your courses

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following: Successful/Unsuccessful

Assessments

Participation- The only way for this class to be successful is if you show up and participate in discussion. If something comes up and you are unable to make the majority of courses, I recommend dropping the course. Please come to each session having thought about the “focus questions” listed on D2L for this week and ready to contribute to discussion. Each course session is worth 12.5 points for a total of 100 points.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M 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 ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

The obvious policies apply here: Be respectful to each other and understand that we all care about students even though we may approach teaching differently.

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.

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.

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>.

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>

ETAMU Attendance

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

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

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M 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 Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<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

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

<https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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

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East Texas A&M 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 East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



<http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

East Texas A&M University 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).

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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.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Our weekly meetings are Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 on Zoom

Week	Topic	Focus Questions
1 (June 4 th)	Reaching our student population	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.What are some of the challenges you've faced in trying to engage our students? What are some approaches you've tried that have helped? 2.How can we best meet students where they are and help them thrive? 3.Our university has committed to being "student ready." What do you think this means? What do you think this asks of us as faculty/instructors?
2 (June 11 th)	Creating Flexible Course Policies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.How can we best address issues related to attendance, late work, students not doing the readings, etc.? 2.What course policies do you utilize that you feel are effective? What challenges do you face in developing or implementing these policies? 3.How do we balance uniformity/fairness with flexibility and empathy
3 (June 18 th)	Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.What do you know about/what is your experience with ungrading? 2.How can we develop effective assessments in the age of generative AI? 3.What assessments do you find work particularly well in online classes (beyond discussion boards)?
4 (June 25 th)	Teaching & AI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.What should we be doing with AI?

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		<p>2.How can AI be beneficial for students to learn about and use?</p> <p>3.How can AI be detrimental to education? How can we balance these potential benefits and drawbacks?</p>
5 (July 2 nd)	Innovative Techniques	<p>1.What is something unique or creative that you have tried in the classroom?</p> <p>2.What are some techniques you'd be interested in learning more about or trying (flipped classroom, gamification, inquiry-based learning, etc.)?</p> <p>3.What might innovative, high-impact teaching look like online?</p>
6 (July 9 th)	Integrating Career-Readiness	<p>1.How do we prepare our students for careers when everything seems to be changing in virtually every industry?</p> <p>2. How can we intentionally incorporate and assess transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and digital literacy into our teaching practices?</p> <p>3. What have you done to incorporate career-readiness in your classes that you feel has worked particularly well?</p>
7 (July 16 th)	Student Support	<p>1.How can we help students who seem to "fall off the face of the Earth"?</p> <p>2.How can we best support students struggling with issues around mental health?</p> <p>3.What services, approaches, etc do you wish other faculty/instructors were aware of?</p>
8 (July 23 rd)	Wrap-Up	<p>1.Is there anything we discussed that you plan on trying next time you teach?</p> <p>2.What did you learn from hearing your peers talk about their teaching?</p> <p>3.What is your takeaway from this class?</p>

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