



EAST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COUN 483.01W: Domestic Violence: Causes, Treatment, & Preventative Measures

**COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026
January 12 - May 9, 2026**

Online

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Derryle G. Peace, MS

Office Location: ONLINE

University Email Address: derryle.peace@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook is digital and is in D2L

Course Description

We call it domestic violence. We call it private violence. Sometimes we call it intimate terrorism. But whatever we call it, we do not believe it has anything at all to do with us, despite the World Health Organization deeming it a “global epidemic.” In America, domestic violence accounts for 15 percent of all violent crime, and yet it remains locked in silence, even as its tendrils reach unseen into so many of our most pressing national issues, from our economy to our education system, from mass shootings to mass incarceration to #MeToo. We still have not taken the true measure of this problem.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

In this class, you will utilize the Learning Management System (LMS) entitled D2L for portions of instructional and learning methods, submitting assignments, participating in online discussions, and completing quizzes. You will need to utilize other technologies such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, etc. If you have issues with this system, it is your responsibility to contact the help desk immediately.

Instructional Methods

All work is done through D2L.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

As a student in this course, you are responsible for the active learning process. Expectations of this course include the following:

1. You are expected to always display professionalism. Be respectful of your professor and peers. Be open to feedback, as you will receive this throughout the program.
2. Complete all readings and assignments by the deadline.
3. Adhere to the university student code of conduct.
4. Participate.
5. All writing assignments must be done according to APA 6th edition.
6. Regularly check your university email. My suggestion is to check this at least once a day as your instructors and others from the department and University may contact you.
7. Begin reading ASAP. Sometimes it may take more than one attempt to digest the material.
8. Deadlines are the last possible moment something is due—not the first moment to start. Work ahead. I realize this may not always be possible; however, when you can, do so.
9. Be open to the process. This degree takes time, work, effort, and growth.

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

Syllabus Exam

25%

Support Group Papers (2)	30%
Research Paper	20%
Final Exam	25%
TOTAL	100%

Late assignments will not be tolerated.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

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.

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>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance Procedures 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 East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

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

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

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 based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination based on 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 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.

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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.



AI use policy 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).

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

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Examination (25 points each) – The first examination will cover the syllabus, and the code of ethics. The examination will consist of multiple-choice questions.

Exam Due: January 18, 2026.

Meetings (15 points each) - Each student is to attend two meetings: domestic violence self-help support meeting. You are to develop a 1–2-page summary of your observations and reactions to each visit. Below is an example for your review. You do not have to attend a meeting in person, and you may find other videos via YouTube if you want to do so. Please list the link of the video you choose.

Meeting #1: Due February 8, 2026

Meeting #2: Due March 1, 2026

https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video;_ylt=AwrFYy9LjitpEwIA7K9XNyoA;_ylu=Y29sbwNiZjEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?type=E210US1641G0&mkr=8&p=domestic+violence+group+session+videos+online+free&fr=mcafee&turl=https%3A%2F%2Ftse3.mm.bing.net%2Fth%2Fid%2FOVP.1_au0Jk5ZxkcABY75LLfagHgFo%3Fpid%3DApi%26w%3D296%26h%3D156%26c%3D7%26p%3D0&rurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dkx4vHQ-p91w&tit=5+Powerful+Ways+to+Talk+to+Someone+Experiencing+Domestic+Violence+%7C+MedCircle&pos=01&vid=903a925526a1d330ec9434af88a4ad85&sigr=BAPVkyq0u_a&sigt=Zf7q.s12gcK3&sigi=iiUhisUiJTgD

Research Paper: (20 points)

Each student will complete a research paper for the course. Students may select topics from those addressed in the textbook, but all choices must be approved by the course instructor before being finalized. You may choose any topic if it is relevant to the course. At least (Five) outside sources must be used on the paper. It must be at least five written pages, plus a cover page and reference page, making it no less than seven pages. (APA STYLE) **(DUE: April 5, 2026)**

Examination: (25 points)

The Final will cover content from chapters assigned in the textbook and are all multiple-choice questions. **(DUE: May 6, 2026)**

Date	Readings	Assignments
Week 1 01/12/26	Lecture Notes Read Unit 1 - pages 1 to 4.5. <i>What is Domestic Abuse?</i>	Syllabus exam due January 18, 2026
Week 2 01/18/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 4 - 5	<i>The Cycle of Abuse</i>
Week 3 01/25/26	Lecture Notes Read page 6:	<i>The victim of abuse & some long-term effects of abuse</i>
Week 4 02/01/26	View a video and complete assignment	Complete first meeting assignment – Due February 8
Week 5 02/08/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 7 to 11.5	<i>PTSD; Why are some people abusive?</i>
Week 6 02/15/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 11.5 – 15.5 End Unit 2	<i>Is it possible to spot a potential abuser thru Physical Abuse</i>
Week 7 02/22/26	Lecture Notes Unit 3 – Read pages 15.5 -17.	<i>Emotional Boundaries</i> Complete second meeting assignment – Due March 1, 2026

Week 8 03/01/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 18 – 19.5.	<i>Lack of a sense of identity; Settling for second best</i>
Week 9 03/08/26	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
Week 10 03/15/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 19.5 – 25.5.	<i>Over-Responsibility and Guilt thru The Difference Between Love and Rescue; Fantasy vs. Reality thru How to tell he is not changing abusive behavior by the way he acts.</i>
Week 11 03/22/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 25.5 - 27	<i>Mr. Wrong and Mr. Right</i>
Week 12 03/29/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 28 - 30. Work to finish Research Paper	<i>What about Alcohol and Domestic Violence?</i> Research Paper Due April 5, 2026
Week 13 04/05/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 31 – 34.5	<i>Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence</i>
Week 14 04/12/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 34.5 - 36	<i>What about culture teaches us about domestic abuse</i>
Week 15 04/19/26	Lecture Notes Read pages 37 - 40	<i>Domestic Violence Myths and Facts</i>
Week 16 04/26/26	Review for Final Exam	
Week 17 05/03/26	Review for Final Exam	
Week 18		Final Exam due May 6, 2026

Please be aware: As this is an online course, I recognize that many students choose to finish their assignments in the evening. I will attempt to respond to emails as I receive them, but at times will be unable to do so. I will always respond as soon as possible.
Thank you for your understanding.