



EAST TEXAS A&M

UNIVERSITY

To access COVID-19 information, please visit the [Stay Healthy Lions Webpage](#).

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

BGS 492 Innovative Technologies for Project Management

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Joseph Sommeso MS, CSP, CHMM, PMP, PMI-RMP

Office Hours: Email for appointment. Flexible evening schedule.

Phone: 757-356-2643

University Email Address: joseph.sommesso@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**

Communication Response Time: 4 -12 hours

Grading Response Time: Homework is due on Saturday nights; Initial discussion posts are due Tuesdays at midnight. Grades will be posted the following Monday or Tuesday.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

There are no books or software to purchase for this course. Your textbook is in the library.

To move through the course, it's easiest to choose Content at the top left of the page. As you move through the chapters, you will find detailed assignments. Be sure to read this entire document, then take the syllabus quiz.

Course Description

This course builds on the foundation of basic project management, providing coverage of advanced topics in Agile Methodologies and Frameworks. There will be opportunities to use Generative AI and Agile Project software.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Define and discuss the Agile Methodology
2. Understand Project Management processes.
3. Use tools and techniques to plan, organize, and manage a project.
4. Complete Challenge exercises to gain mastery

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In pursuing these ends, you will:

- Use Coursera throughout
- Combine theory and practice.
- Combine strategy with tactics.
- Use relevant concepts to analyze and assess complex project management situations.

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE COURSE INTERACTION

As a general guide, students enrolled in a three-semester-hour course should spend one hour engaged in instructional activities and two to three hours on out-of-class work per week in a semester. Educational activities in this course are designed to ensure regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students must be able to use Microsoft Word for assignments. Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office. Students will become comfortable using the basic templates found in Project Libre.

Instructional Methods

There are a number of assignments due each week, among them will be Case Studies, Discussion posts, and Project Libre assignments.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students are expected to log into the course 3-4 times per week. Initial discussion posts are due on **Tuesday** of each week. Final replies (2 or more) will be due on Saturdays of each week when discussions are assigned. The Introduction is a chance for you to 'meet' your colleagues in the class. Specific instructions on what to post are available when you click on 'Introduction' in the Course Home. In Chapter 4, you will be placed in small groups for discussions. My goal here is to foster a sense of community while you learn, not only from me but from each other. Research shows that when students work in small groups, learning is richer and deeper. Keep this in mind as you work in your groups.

There are overview lectures for each chapter. These are just the high points. You still must read the chapters in your text. All the materials in the lectures come from your textbook and were developed and recorded by me.

The **Discussions** are directly related to the assigned readings, websites, podcasts, or videos. These discussions are crucial for learning and are designed to offer opportunities for you to share your experiences with your peers, research the topics, and express your thoughts. Upon completing the assigned readings, you are expected to engage in an ongoing discussion and debate with your classmates. Your contributions to the discussion forums will be graded for

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quality and a **detailed analysis** linking the material to a critical appraisal of theory, policy, and practice. The introduction of outside materials is mandatory (unless otherwise noted in the discussion topic assignment). In all cases, students must cite in-text references and provide a complete bibliography (or works cited) at the end of their post for all citations mentioned within it. You can find information in the [Purdue Owl](#).

The specific discussion assignment is located in each unit Chapter by clicking on the Discussion link. The rubric used to grade the discussions will be available with the instructions.

The **Reply** posts are responses you make to the discussion posts that you and your classmates post as assigned.

Reply posts should be meaningful. Merely agreeing or disagreeing with a classmate will not be looked upon favorably and will result in a loss of points. A meaningful post is one that moves the discussion forward in some substantive way through providing one's perspective, additional information through research, or reframing the discussion in some new way. You are expected to participate in an ongoing discussion and debate with your classmates. Ask questions! Your comments will be graded for **quality** and **relevance**. Your comments will also be graded based on your ability to engage in critical thinking. **Students must provide one outside source for at least one comment that they make. These are worth 10% of your grade**

The final project will also be done in the same small groups you will be working in for discussion posts. **It is 20% of your grade.** One set of documents and a video presentation will be submitted by your group.

Assessments

Assessment Method: The Challenge assignments will be auto graded in Coursera and the grades automatically updated in D2L.

Graded Activities

| Item | Worth |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Student Introduction | 1 Bonus Point |
| Academic Honesty Policy | 1 Bonus Point |
| Syllabus Quiz | 1 Bonus Point |
| Challenge Exercises | 70% |
| Final Challenge Exercises (Jira) | 30% |
| Total | 100% |

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

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

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C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

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 on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

Interaction with Instructor Statement

This is an online course; therefore, expect most communication to be online as well. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 hours provided the correspondence follows the requirements listed below. Students are encouraged to check university email daily. I strongly prefer the **Q & A Forum** so that I can share answers with the entire class; however, if you have something of a personal nature to discuss, by all means, email me.

All emails from students should include:

- **Course name and subject in the subject line**
- **Salutation**
- **Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)**
- **Student name and CWID after the body of the email**

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY 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.

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 online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#)

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Academic Dishonesty Involving Algorithmically Plagiarized Work

- Students who use artificial intelligence tools to develop responses to assignments (unless specifically allowed in the assignment description) will be considered in violation of academic honesty.
- Tools used to assess distinctions between human-written and AI-generated content may be used to assess suspected violations of academic dishonesty. Results showing the writing is possibly or likely written by AI will be considered a violation of academic honesty.
- Academic dishonesty using AI-generated content will follow the Procedure for Assessing Academic Dishonesty

Procedure for Assessing Academic Dishonesty

- If academic dishonesty is suspected, the instructor will contact the student and meet to discuss the specific situation. The instructor should use this meeting to explain how academic dishonesty could be avoided in the future.
 - If it is determined that the student is responsible for an academic dishonesty violation, the student will receive 0 points for the assignment and a written warning.
 - Once academic dishonesty has been determined, the instructor will notify the Assistant Dean of the incident details and meeting date. The student's name and incident details will be recorded in a CID database of Written Warnings.
 - The Assistant Dean will inform the instructor if a Written Warning has been reported in another CID course.
 - If the student does NOT have a previous Written Warning for academic dishonesty reported in CID courses and has additional attempts available for the assignment, the student may resubmit the assignment (this applies to CBE courses only).
 - If the student has a previous Written Warning of academic dishonesty reported in CID courses, the student may NOT resubmit the assignment, and the instructor will follow the procedure detailed in Policy 13.99.99.R0.03 for Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty.
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[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Policy](#)
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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:

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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.

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halliday 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 the Counseling Center's events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel.

The **course calendar** and assignment details are found in D2L.

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