



COURSE PREFIX, #, SECTION, & TITLE

COURSE SYLLABUS: SEMESTER YEAR

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Misty Ely
Office Location:
Office Hours: by appointment
Office Phone: 903.468.3047
Office Fax:
University Email Address: Misty.Ely@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**
Communication Response Time: within 2 business days.

COURSE INFORMATION

MATERIALS – TEXTBOOKS, READINGS, SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Textbook(s) Required

Zastrow, C.H., Kirst-Ashman, K.K. & Hessenauer, S.L (2018). *Understanding human behavior and the social environment*. 11th ed. Boston, MA: Cengage.

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (2020). 7th ed. Washington DC: American Psychological Association.

Software Required

Optional Texts and/or Materials

All MSW students must purchase the following study materials to prepare for the Graduate Comprehensive Exam they will take in their final semester. You must pass the exam to receive your degree. It is never too early to begin studying for the exam. Comprehensive Study Guide (Masters, Clinical, Adv. Generalist) Version 9.0. Social Work Examination Services. [www.https://swes.net/study-materials/comprehensive-study-guide-lmsw/](https://swes.net/study-materials/comprehensive-study-guide-lmsw/)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides foundation students with knowledge and theoretical understanding of human development's bio-physical, psychological, and behavioral aspects within various social systems. In this course, we will study human development with attention to the interaction between individuals and families and the changing social environment that pertains to the phases of adulthood. Traditional approaches to life stages will be considered, as well as less traditional issues such as the impact on human development of different cultures, poverty, physical/mental disabilities, gender roles, sexism, ageism, and sexual orientation.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

(Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires a competency-based approach to identifying and assessing 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/or cognitive and affective processes that comprise the expected outcomes for this course.

	Activity/Assessment	Dimension
Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior		
Make ethical decisions by applying the NASW Code of Ethics standards, Relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context.	In the News	
Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations.	In the News	
Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and oral, written, and electronic communication.	In the News	
Competency 2: Engage in Diversity and Difference in Practice		
Apply and communicate an understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.	Culture Other than their own	

Present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as experts in their own experiences.	Culture Other than their own	
Apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with	Culture Other than their own	

EPAS 2015 – REVISED 2024

diverse clients and constituencies.		
Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities		
Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies.	Course Quizzes Culture Other Than Their Own	
Use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies.	Course Quizzes Culture Other Than Their Own	

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED

In this class, 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 have knowledge and skills in using Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Outlook Email; if you have any issues using the various systems or software, you must contact support services and notify the instructor of the problem.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE

As a student in this course, you are responsible for engaging in active learning and contacting the instructor if problems or challenges interfere with optimal learning.

Communication is key when engaged in a fully online, virtual environment.

Expectations for success include:

1. Always demonstrate professional behavior, including respect for the instructor and peers and 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 the NASW Code of Ethics.
3. Begin reading the assigned text and supplemental readings as soon as possible, focusing on completing all readings before engaging with the instructor or peers.
4. Prepare to engage in live class sessions, discussions, and other activities so you can contribute and receive knowledge and skills.
5. Participate in engagement activities, including live virtual class sessions, online discussions, and interactive learning opportunities. This is vital for learning and success in this course and the program.
6. Work ahead when possible, completing assignments before the due date so you are prepared to submit them on the due date.
7. Sign into the D2L course multiple times weekly to access updated announcements or posted resources.
8. Check your university email daily. This is the official method of communication by the university, department, and instructor.
9. Be open and focused on the “process” and not the “product,” as earning this degree requires time, effort, and work, as well as growth in knowledge, skills, abilities, and personal and professional attributes.

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

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

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Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Example:

Assignments	20%
Discussions	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS
IN THE NEWS (3 @ 25 points each)	75 POINTS
CULTURAL EXPERIENCE	100 POINTS (50/50 Paper and Presentation)
QUIZZES (8 @ 10 points each)	80 POINTS
Discussions (3 @ 15 points each)	45 POINTS
TOTAL:	300 POINTS

ASSESSMENTS

1. IN THE NEWS (3 papers @ 25 points = 75 points)

SEE APPENDIX A: RUBRIC

You will need to choose a current event story from any media source that reflects the content of the readings up to this point and will need to be ready to discuss with the class. You will also write a one to two-page double-spaced paper applying the reading assigned for the week (see course calendar). This means you will use and cite content in the chapter with current events. The paper should identify and critique at least two key points from the reading.

IMPORTANT: (See RUBRIC)

- Points will be deducted for not **citing the text two times at a minimum.**
- Points will be deducted for using the **first person singularly or plural.**

2. CULTURAL EXPERIENCE: ENGAGE WITH A CULTURE OTHER THAN YOUR OWN: (100 points: 50 pts. for Paper and 50 pts. for Presentation) MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW THE RUBRIC

SEE RUBRIC: APPENDIX B

You must have a cultural experience with a culture other than your own. This could be a celebration, religious service, theater production, LGBTQIA+, AA/NA open meeting, or other event that meets the criteria. **Please step outside your comfort zone.** Write a 2–3 page reflection paper detailing your experience(See Below). You need evidence (a ticket stub or program) to demonstrate that you attended. This reflection paper can be

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written in the first person. Please correct any grammatical errors on the paper before submission.

- Describe why you chose this particular culture/event and why it was essential to experience it.
- Describe the event – what you saw/experienced.
- Describe your impressions – what you liked and did not like – whether anything surprised or made you uncomfortable.
- **Cite the textbook 2 Times with APA format**, relating the cultural experience to topics in the textbook.
- The paper should conclude with what you learned from the experience and how that will impact your practice in social work. IF YOU CAN INCORPORATE these [EPAS 2015 – REVISED 2024](#) areas above into your presentation (such as on slides), YOU will ONLY NEED TO DO THE PRESENTATION • Please be creative!
- I would like as many of you to present your experience; however, you will NOT receive a deduction if you do not. The presentation and paper (if both are needed) must be uploaded to D2L in the correct folder.

3. QUIZZES: (Eight Quizzes @ 10 pts each TOTAL: 80 points)

Quizzes will be given, which reflect content from all weekly assigned material, including lectures, videos, handouts, and class readings. Each quiz will consist of 10 questions from the corresponding chapters, and you will be given extended time to complete once you enter the quiz. **I want you to learn the material and not just memorize it.** Each quiz will open with the course but close on Sunday nights at 11:30 pm each week, corresponding to the assigned chapter. You must take the quiz within the allotted period. **You cannot make up a quiz if it is missed.** The format may include multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions.

4. DISCUSSIONS (3 Discussions @ 15 pts. each, TOTAL: 45 points).

There are **THREE** discussions for this course. During the week the discussion is assigned, students must respond to the instructor's prompt by 11:30 pm **Wednesday** with 8-10 sentences that cite the textbook or other empirical literature at least **TWO times**.

Then, students are to respond to **TWO** peers between **Thursday and Sunday the same week by 11:30 p.m.** on Sunday with 3-5 sentences to **each peer**. "Me too, I agree, etc." does not constitute a reasonable response. Please use critical thinking and writing skills aligned with this level of education. I appreciate those responses to your peers who may have different thoughts than what you posted.

Please be mindful that we can discuss difficult subject matters professionally and respectfully.

Course Outline/Calendar

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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@etamu.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>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID AND PASSWORD

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@etamu.edu.

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TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

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.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED

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.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) – D2L

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 the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

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](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line

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- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
 - Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
 - Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)
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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.

ETAMU ATTENDANCE

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

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 University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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

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@etamu.edu

Website: [Office of 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

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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 ETAMU 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.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

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 or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

DEPARTMENT AND ACCREDITING AGENCY STATEMENT:

School of Music Mission Statement:

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The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

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