MKT370 – Marketing Policies
SECTION 06100
Spring 2023

CLASS MEETS: MW 8:00 – 9:30 in CBA 4.328

Instructor: Bill Peterson
Office: GSB 5.176c
Email: bill.peterson@mccombs.utexas.edu (please include section number in all emails)
Phone: 512-797-5690

Office hours: Tuesday 8:00am-noon (please schedule at https://calendly.com/billpeterson).
Email me if you would like to meet at another time.

TA: Azzy Francis
Email: Azenath.Francis@mba.utexas.edu

Course Description
WHAT WILL I LEARN?

As a major at McCombs and generally, marketing is a wonderfully diverse and complex discipline. It is also a critically important one, for at the heart of any effective organization’s growth strategy is the firm’s approach to creating value for customers.

In McCombs, we all start our marketing studies in the same place: MKT337. The foundation provided in that introductory class serves as a springboard for each of us to take a different path with the electives, internships, projects, case competitions, etc. which we select as part of our studies. Often, these pursuits give us deep but sometimes focused knowledge on a particular area of marketing.

As we near graduation and the time when we are expected to put into action our marketing expertise, it is important that we master a more holistic view of marketing – how the various components of marketing interact and can be woven together to create differentiated value for our customers.

That is the purpose of this capstone class: for one final time before graduation, to cement our knowledge of the various marketing tools, and especially to understand how these tools can be integrated together to create customer value and grow businesses.
While the concepts we discuss in Marketing Policies will be mostly familiar, the hands-on, intensive way in which we apply them may not be. With cases, a team project, class discussions and other activities, we will strive to put ourselves into realistic scenarios – the type you will face in your career after graduation – to build our skills and confidence in applying our marketing toolkit to real business situations.

Just like in the real world, this class puts a premium on dealing with ambiguity, applying marketing concepts to real problems in innovative ways, using data complemented by good business judgement to inform our decisions, and collaborating with other stakeholders & influencing them to make things happen.

Marketing policies is designed to be a “finishing school” for marketers at McCombs. It is intended to complement and integrate the substantial marketing expertise you have gained in your time here. I’m delighted that you have joined me in this class and I look forward to working with you to create a meaningful experience for us all.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

- **Course Materials and Organization:** Class sessions will include class discussions, in-class exercises, cases, guest speakers, and other activities. Class discussions and case sessions typically alternate, with class discussions (and pre-class exercises) used to introduce/review key concepts followed by cases to apply and further explore those concepts. Cases are included in the required coursepack and any additional materials for the course will be posted on Canvas.

- **Teams:** Just as in business, much of the work in this course will be done in teams. Students will be assigned by the instructor to one of the 4-6-person teams.

- **Workload:** This is a rigorous class and students are expected to fully apply themselves and be prepared for each class. Generally, it is expected that students will spend an average of at least two hours outside of class for each hour in class (i.e. an average of six hours outside of class each week) on MKT370 work. Typically, non-case classes will require less preparation time and case classes will require more.

- **Class Discussions:** Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions. Vibrant interaction in class not only provides a rich learning environment, but also helps to develop one of the most critical abilities any businessperson can have: verbal persuasion. Participation in class discussions is a major part of the “Individual Contribution” component of the semester grade.

- **Prior Knowledge:** As a capstone course, we will presume that each student has successfully learned the fundamentals of marketing in previous courses. Accordingly, in this course, we will focus on extending those concepts rather than teaching them directly. Often, articles and/or recorded lectures will be assigned in advance of class to serve as a refresher.

- **Writing Flag:** This course is designated as a Writing Flag course. Writing Flag courses are designed to give students experience with writing in an academic discipline. In this class, you can expect to write regularly during the semester, complete substantial writing projects, and receive
feedback from your instructor, teaching assistant, and/or peers to help you improve your writing. You will have the opportunity to revise some assignments and you may be asked to read and discuss your peers’ work. More information can be found at https://ugs.utexas.edu/flags/students/about/writing.

- **Independent Inquiry Flag**: This course is also designated as an Independent Inquiry Flag course. Independent Inquiry courses are designed to engage you in the process of inquiry over the course of a semester, providing you with the opportunity for independent investigation of a question, problem, or project related to your major. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from the independent investigation and presentation of your own work. More information can be found at https://ugs.utexas.edu/flags/students/about/Independent-inquiry.

- **Cases**: Cases are your opportunity to analyze real world business problems and develop recommendations. Situations in cases are frequently complex, only partial information is available, and relevant data are often presented in a non-linear fashion, just as the business problems you will encounter in the real world. You will succeed in your case analyses by carefully analyzing all available information, applying marketing concepts, dealing effectively with ambiguity, and clearly developing your recommendations (and being prepared to share those recommendations with the class).

- **Attendance**: Your attendance for each class session is important because this course is experiential and discussion-based with significant student interaction in class which cannot be replicated outside of class. As a result, this course has a less flexible attendance policy (as described in the “Assignments” section of this syllabus). It is not necessary to notify your instructor if you will miss a class session. Students who miss seven or more class sessions (or required instructor meetings) for any reason will receive a grade of “F” and not receive credit for this course.

- **General Conduct**: All students in MKT370 are businesspeople, as is the instructor. Correspondingly, businesslike conduct is expected in class and we are all expected to conduct ourselves professionally. This includes:
  - Arriving to class on time. Classes should be viewed as professional commitments.
  - Being fully engaged with the class discussion. If you must conduct a personal conversation, use an electronic device for non-class purposes, or use a mobile phone, please do so outside of the classroom or Zoom session.
  - Not making gratuitous comments in an effort to increase individual contribution grades.
  - Being respectful of your classmates, guest speakers, the TA, and your instructor.

Students not conducting themselves in a businesslike manner will receive a decrement to their individual contribution grade, may be asked to leave the classroom, and may be subjected to additional penalties.

- **Academic Integrity**: In addition to the standard expectations for scholastic honesty included later in this syllabus, it is especially important to note that individual assignments (e.g. case analyses and exercise write-ups) are to be completed without outside assistance unless otherwise communicated. You are not to discuss your individual assignments with other students. You are also not to use any material from previous semesters, club/sorority/fraternity test files, solutions
posted on the internet, or any other material unless directed otherwise. If you have ANY DOUBTS as to what is acceptable activity, ask me before proceeding. Any breach of this requirement will be penalized "to the full extent of the law". At the very least you will earn an F in the course, and you may be dismissed from the University.

PRE-REQUISITES FOR THE COURSE:

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS COURSE:
This class should be treated as a professional business commitment. As in business, you will optimize your chance for success by:

- **Being prepared** for every class session, instructor meeting and assignment. Ask for help when you need it.

- **Being curious** in thinking about the root causes of the issues discussed and creative approaches to addressing them. Business is not a fill-in-the-blank exercise and neither is this class.

- **Being participative** by constructively sharing your ideas in the classroom, in team meetings, and in all class activities. Speak to be heard, be professional and respectful, and back your assertions with data whenever possible.
Course Requirements

REQUIRED MATERIALS

▪ Coursepack: [https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/1012739](https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/1012739)

REQUIRED DEVICES

▪ Computer or other device to access class materials, participate in Zoom meetings, communicate with the instructor and other members of the class, and prepare required deliverables.

ASSIGNMENTS

Team Project:

▪ Student teams will execute a semester-long team project to build a marketing strategy and plan for a company of their choosing. The project will be divided into two phases. The deliverable for Phase 1 will be a written document. The deliverable for Phase 2 will be a “Board of Director Meeting” where student teams will lead a hypothetical Board meeting, with classmates role-playing leaders of disciplines which have a stake in marketing decisions (e.g. sales, finance, customer service, engineering, etc.). Just as in an actual Board meeting, student teams will present their analyses and recommendations in way which informs/persuades the Board, solicits and comprehends their input, builds consensus, and clarifies the next steps. The definition and weight of each deliverable is noted in the grading matrix included in this syllabus. Suggested format, contents, grading rubric and deadlines for the deliverables will be communicated in class and/or on Canvas.

Written Case Analyses:

▪ For two of cases to be discussed during the semester, each student will individually prepare a written case analysis. A written case analysis may be mandatory for one of the cases; the selection of the remainder of the case(s) for which a written case analysis required is at the discretion of the student, based on their interests and schedule. Please do not select the Subway case or any case which you have studied in a prior class for your written case analyses. Suggested format, contents, grading rubric and deadlines for the deliverable will be communicated in class and/or on Canvas. Note that each student is expected to be completely prepared for discussion of each case irrespective of whether or the student completed a write-up on that case.
Exercises:

- Students are expected to complete a brief exercise prior to most discussion classes (i.e. class meetings when a case is not discussed). Usually, this exercise consists of reading one or more chapters or articles, analyzing a situation, completing a small market research effort, etc. All students are expected to individually complete each exercise. For five of the exercises throughout the semester, each student will individually prepare a brief written document summarizing the exercise. Written responses may be mandatory for some of the exercises; the selection of the remainder of the exercises for which a written response is required is at the discretion of the student, based on their interests and schedule. Suggested format, contents, and grading rubric for the deliverable will be communicated in class and/or on Canvas.

Individual Contribution:

- As in business, this class places a heavy emphasis on individual contribution. All students are expected to take an active and productive role in class discussions and other aspects of the class.

- There are two components to the individual contribution grade:
  
  - 1/3 of the individual contribution grade will be based on the assessment of project team members.
  
  - 2/3 of the individual contribution grade will be based on the assessment of the instructor and teaching assistant. Individual contribution will be assessed by the instructor and teaching assistant in every class and instructor meeting based on the following rubric:
    
    - Present and contributing especially insightful comments which enhance the learning of other students: 9-10 points
    
    - Present and actively contributing to the discussion: 8 points
    
    - Present and not obviously unprepared: 7 points
    
    - Present but unprepared: 5 points
    
    - Not present: 0 points
    
    Students who are late to class or otherwise negatively impacting the businesslike environment of the class will be subjected to penalties.

- You will have the opportunity to suggest a self-appraisal of your individual contribution. This provides us an opportunity to identify and address any discrepancies in the perception of individual contribution. The format for this self-appraisal will be discussed in class.

- Like many aspects of business, there is a level of subjectivity in evaluating individual contribution. Additionally, not every student will have a chance to contribute in every class. Over the course of the semester, however, there will be ample opportunities for all students to
contribute such that the individual contribution average at the end of the semester will be approximately 89-90 (in line with the target GPA for the class).

- To allow for the active extracurricular schedules of most upper-division Marketing students, the lowest two individual contribution grades for the semester will be dropped. Absences beyond two will not be excused for any reason. Note that students are responsible for all class material (including the material covered on days when class is missed). If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining the class materials from another student. Students who miss seven or more class sessions (or required instructor meetings) for any reason will receive a grade of “F” and not receive credit for this course.

**GRADING FOR THIS COURSE**

The following table represents how you will demonstrate your learning and how we will assess the degree to which you have done so.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percent of Semester Grade</th>
<th>Evaluator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Case Analyses</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Write-Ups</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Contribution</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COURSE OUTLINE

All instructions, assignments, readings, rubrics and essential information will be on the Canvas website at utexas.instructure.com. Check this site regularly and email me to ask questions about the course schedule.

Changes to the schedule may be made at my discretion and if circumstances require. It is your responsibility to note these changes when announced (although I will do my best to ensure that you receive the changes with as much advanced notice as possible).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class Type</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/9</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Course Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/11</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Subway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Situation Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>RoboTech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/23</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>The Team Project Phase 1; Business Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Strategy and STP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Instructor Mtg</td>
<td>Instructor Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Dollar Shave Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/8</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>The Team Project Phase 2; Research; Projections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Mountain Man Brewing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/22</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Marketing Channels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Tower Paddle Boards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Redesigning the Wedding Dress Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/13</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Business Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/27</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Magellan Boatworks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/29</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Pricing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>SpaceX Starlink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>CRM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/10</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Krispy Natural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Instructor Mtg</td>
<td>Instructor Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/17</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>BOD Meetings</td>
<td>Board of Director Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/19</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>BOD Meetings</td>
<td>Board of Director Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/24</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Course Wrap-Up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policies

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

This class respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities. If there are circumstances that make our learning environment and activities difficult, if you have medical information that you need to share with me, or if you need specific arrangements in case the building needs to be evacuated, please let me know. I am committed to creating an effective learning environment for all students, but I can only do so if you discuss your needs with me as early as possible. I promise to maintain the confidentiality of these discussions. If appropriate, also contact Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259 (voice) or (512) 410-6644 (video phone).

GRADING POLICIES

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester Average</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 or less</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consistent with the guidelines for business electives suggested by the Undergraduate Program Office, the average grade for this course will be between 3.4 and 3.6 (or ~89-90%).

To avoid any misunderstanding regarding rounding methodology, grades will NOT be rounded up - an 89.99 (as close as it is to 90) will still be a B+.

Note that the grade calculations shown on Canvas are occasionally in error. The official grades for this class will be calculated as described in this syllabus and may be different than the grade calculations shown on Canvas.

Out of fairness to all students, I do not arbitrarily change grades or give additional extra credit opportunities. There will be no exceptions. The way to get the grade that you want is by earning it during the semester, and not by asking for an exception at the end of it.
If you believe there is a grading error which is cause for review, you may make an appeal. All appeals must be submitted via email (not Canvas) to bill.peterson@mccombs.utexas.edu and must be received no later than 11:59pm on the 7th calendar day after the grade is posted on Canvas or otherwise communicated to you. Your appeal must include a detailed, fact-based explanation of why you think the grade is in error. Note that an appeal is not an opportunity to provide new information or explain a previous submission but instead to correct a legitimate grading error. Your grade may be increased or decreased as a result of the appeal. Appeals for team deliverables must be agreed to by all team members (and the outcome will apply to all team members). Due to tight grading timelines at the end of the semester, no appeals will be considered during the final two weeks of the semester.

LATE WORK
No late assignments are accepted. No submissions will be accepted after the due date/time for any assignment because assignments usually have some sequential follow-on activity such as discussion in class, peer reviews, or subsequent assignments. Due dates and times will be communicated in class and/or on Canvas.

ABSENCES
Students are expected to attend and participate in all scheduled class activities. To allow for the active extracurricular schedules of most upper-division Marketing students, the lowest two individual contribution grades for the semester will be dropped. Unless required by University directive, absences beyond two will not be excused for any reason. Note that students are responsible for all class material (including the material covered on days when class is missed). If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining the class materials from another student. Students who miss seven or more class sessions (or scheduled instructor meetings) for any reason will receive a grade of “F” for this course.

POLICY ON SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY
The McCombs School of Business has no tolerance for acts of scholastic dishonesty. The responsibilities of both students and faculty with regard to scholastic dishonesty are described in detail in the BBA Program’s Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty at http://my.mccombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Code-of-Ethics. By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all faculty responsibilities described there. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all student responsibilities described there. If the application of the Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty to this class or its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, the integrity of the University, and the value of our academic brand, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Conduct and Academic Integrity website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/ to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.
Note that, much like an actual marketing project, resourcefulness is required and encouraged for this class. Given the uniqueness of each project in this class and unless otherwise indicated, you will need to access outside resources. This is acceptable provided that:

- All analysis, recommendations, and deliverables are prepared solely by the students.
- Any information from sources other than class discussion and assigned materials is clearly and completely attributed.

Any other use of outside resources is considered a violation of the academic integrity standards for this class and is subject to the maximum penalties.

All class discussion material, exams, quizzes and other materials used in this class are copyrighted. Additionally, some class material is covered by non-disclosure agreements with client companies. Reposting or distributing class material is heavily punishable independent of the University of Texas Honor Code.

TEACHING MODALITY INFORMATION

Unless otherwise specified, all scheduled class meetings will be in-person. There will be no alternative to in-person attendance for these class meetings. Instructor meetings, office hours and other activities as specified will generally be conducted synchronously on Zoom.

CLASS RECORDING PRIVACY

Any class recordings are reserved only for students in this class for educational purposes and are protected under FERPA. The recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Violation of this restriction by a student could lead to Student Misconduct proceedings.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students’ learning needs be addressed, and that the diversity that students bring to this class can be comfortably expressed and be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit to all students. Please come to me at any time with any concerns.

SHARING OF COURSE MATERIALS IS PROHIBITED

No materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, lecture hand-outs, videos, assessments (quizzes, exams, papers, projects, homework assignments), in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets, may be shared online or with anyone outside of the class without explicit, written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized sharing of materials promotes cheating. It is a violation of the University’s Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty. The University is well aware
of the sites used for sharing materials, and any materials found on such sites that are associated with a specific student, or any suspected unauthorized sharing of materials, will be reported to Student Conduct and Academic Integrity in the Office of the Dean of Students. These reports can result in sanctions, including failure of the course.

MCCOMBS CLASSROOM PROFESSIONALISM POLICY

The highest professional standards are expected of all members of the McCombs community. The collective class reputation and the value of the Texas BBA experience hinges on this. You should treat the Texas BBA classroom as you would a professional corporate environment. Faculty are expected to be professional and prepared to deliver value for every class session. Students are expected to be professional in all respects. The Texas BBA classroom experience is enhanced when:

• Students arrive on time. On-time arrival ensures that classes are able to start and finish at the scheduled time. On-time arrival shows respect for both fellow students and faculty and it enhances learning by reducing avoidable distractions.

• Students display their name cards. This permits fellow students and faculty to learn names, enhancing opportunities for community building and evaluation of in-class contributions.

• Students are fully prepared for each class. Much of the learning in the Texas BBA program takes place during classroom discussions. When students are not prepared, they cannot contribute to the overall learning process. This affects not only the individual but their peers who count on them, as well.

• Students respect the views and opinions of their colleagues. Disagreement and debate are encouraged. Intolerance for the views of others is unacceptable.

• Students attend the class section to which they are registered. Learning is enhanced when class sizes are optimized. Limits are set to ensure a quality experience and safety.

• Technology is used to enhance the class experience. When students are surfing the web, responding to e-mail, instant messaging each other, and otherwise not devoting their full attention to the topic at hand, they are doing themselves and their peers a major disservice. Those around them face additional distractions. Fellow students cannot benefit from the insights of the students who are not engaged. Faculty office hours are spent going over class material with students who chose not to pay attention, rather than truly adding value by helping students who want a better understanding of the material or want to explore the issues in more depth. Students with real needs may not be able to obtain adequate help if faculty time is spent repeating what was said in class. There are often cases where learning is enhanced by the use of technology in class. Faculty will let you know when it is appropriate.

• Phones and wireless devices are turned off. We’ve all heard the annoying ringing in the middle of a meeting. Not only is it not professional, but it also cuts off the flow of discussion when the search for the offender begins. When a true need to communicate with someone outside of class exists (e.g., for some medical need) please inform the professor prior to class.
RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence as far in advance as possible to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

BEHAVIOR CONCERNS

If you have concerns about the safety or behavior of fellow students, TAs or Professors, call BCCAL (the Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line): 512-232-5050. Your call can be anonymous. If something doesn’t feel right – it probably isn’t. Trust your instincts and share your concerns.

TITLE IX REPORTING

Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. UT Austin is committed to fostering a learning and working environment free from discrimination in all its forms. When sexual misconduct occurs in our community, the university can:

1. Intervene to prevent harmful behavior from continuing or escalating.

2. Provide support and remedies to students and employees who have experienced harm or have become involved in a Title IX investigation.

3. Investigate and discipline violations of the university’s relevant policies.

Faculty members and certain staff members are considered “Responsible Employees” or “Mandatory Reporters,” which means that they are required to report violations of Title IX to the Title IX Coordinator. **I am a Responsible Employee and must report any Title IX-related incidents** that are disclosed in writing, discussion, or one-on-one. Before talking with me or with any faculty or staff member about a Title IX-related incident, be sure to ask whether they are a responsible employee. If you want to speak with someone for support or remedies without making an official report to the university, email advocate@austin.utexas.edu For more information about reporting options and resources, visit the Title IX Office or email titleix@austin.utexas.edu.

CLASSROOM SAFETY AND COVID-19

- For any illness, students should stay home if they are sick or contagious, not only to stop the spread, but also to promote their personal wellness.
- The university will continue to provide rapid antigen self-test kits at distribution sites throughout campus. Students can receive up to four tests at a time.
• The university will provide symptomatic COVID-19 testing on campus for all students, faculty and staff.
• UHS maintains up-to-date resources on COVID, which can be found at:
  o https://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/coronavirus.html
  o https://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/coronavirus_exposure_action_chart.html

CAMPUS SAFETY
The following are recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767,
• Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus must evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.
• Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
• Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.
• In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.
• For more information, please visit emergency preparedness.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS
DISABILITY AND ACCESS
The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Disability & Access (D&A). Please refer to the D&A website for more information: http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/. If you are already registered with D&A, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, avoiding drugs and alcohol, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and
cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone. There are many helpful resources available on campus and an important part of the college experience is learning how to ask for help. Asking for support sooner rather than later is often helpful. If you or anyone you know experiences any academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings like anxiety or depression, we strongly encourage you to seek support. A Counselors in Academic Residence (CARE) Program is available in each college from the Counseling and Mental Health Center.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES (UHS)
Your physical health and wellness are a priority. University Health Services is an on-campus high-quality medical facility providing care to all UT students. Services offered by UHS include general medicine, urgent care, a 24/7 nurse advice line, gynecology, sports medicine, physical therapy, lab and radiology services, COVID-19 testing and vaccinations and much more. For additional information, visit https://healthyhorns.utexas.edu or call 512-471-4955.

SANGER LEARNING CENTER
Did you know that more than one-third of UT undergraduate students use the Sanger Learning Center each year to improve their academic performance? All students are welcome to take advantage of Sanger Center’s classes and workshops, private learning specialist appointments, peer academic coaching, and tutoring for more than 70 courses in 15 different subject areas. For more information, please visit Sanger Learning Center or call 512-471-3614 (JES A332).

STUDENT EMERGENCY SERVICES
UT’s Student Emergency Services provides assistance, intervention, and referrals to support students navigating challenging or unexpected issues that impact their well-being and academic success. If you need to be absent from class due to a family emergency, medical or mental health concern, or academic difficulty due to crisis or an emergency situation, please register with Student Emergency Services. SES will verify your situation and notify your professors.