



**POSC 3354-P01 International Politics
Fall 2024**

Course Information	This course in International Politics satisfies a Political Science requirement.
Instructor:	Dr. Jeremy Matthew Berkowitz
Section # and CRN:	Section: P01 CRN: 11718
Office Location:	Woolfolk 204
Office Phone:	(936) 261-3775
Email Address:	jeberkowitz@pvamu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30 AM -12:15 PM & 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM
Mode of Instruction:	In-Person
Course Location:	Hobart Thomas Taylor Sr Hall 2B210
Class Days & Times:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 PM – 4:40 PM
Catalog Description:	The basic problems of international politics, focusing on the power competition among states and other transnational institutions, are the major focus of this course.
Prerequisites:	N/A
Co-requisites:	N/A
Required Text(s):	Frieden, Jeffery, David Lake, and Kenneth Schultz. 2022. <i>World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions 5th Edition</i> . W.W. Norton, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-39367-513-9

All other course readings will be provided to students digitally via Ecourses at the beginning of the semester.

Recommended Text(s): It is highly recommended that students are familiar with recent history and current events relating to international politics. I strongly encourage students to regularly read (weekly, if not daily) one or more formal news sources, focusing on international politics, conflict, and economics.

Please note: Although I will not recommend or endorse any specific news source, I strongly recommend taking care to ensure the accuracy of your news consumption. Established newspapers or 24-hour news channels are far more likely to be accurate than a little-known online website or a semi-anonymous post on social media.

Course Learning Objectives

In this course, students will acquire a general understanding of the nature and study of international politics and familiarize themselves with world events, the functioning of the global system and its actors' interactions. Major parts of the course cover such topics as the dynamics of conflict and cooperation, the processes of foreign policy decision-making, major international economic issues, international norms and human rights, the functioning of international organizations, and future trends in global politics. The course will provide an overview of the core concepts and primary perspectives of the field as well as analytical skills appropriate for examining contemporary issues in international politics, including hypothesis testing. The overall objective is to provide students with sufficient awareness of the political interactions in the international realm, with a special emphasis on the ability to apply theoretical knowledge to specific cases and to permit a critical appreciation of the contemporary international environment and ways of thinking about the future.

The course goals and learning outcomes align with the Political Science Program's Student Learning Outcome #4, which states: Students can demonstrate critical thinking skills regarding major theories and issues in international relations.

Major Course Requirements

Method of Determining Final Course Grade: The Final Course Grade is ONLY accessible through Panthertracks and Pvpanther. All grades will be posted on Ecourses, and there will be a live-updating estimate of your overall grade on the Ecourses page, but students should not solely rely upon that for evaluating their course grades. I strongly encourage students to calculate their own course grades using the grade calculator below.

Course Grade Requirement	Total (value of grade)
1) Exam One (drop lowest Exams 1-2)	20%
2) Exam Two (drop lowest Exams 1-2)	20%
3) Exam Three	20%
4) Classroom Participation	05%
5) Response Paper	20%
6) Hypothesis Testing Paper Proposal	05%
7) Hypothesis Testing Paper	25%
8) Academic Integrity Certification	05%
Total Percentage:	100%

Grading criteria and conversion: A=90→100; B=80→89; C=70→79; D=60→69; F=below 60

If a student has stopped attending the course (i.e., “stopped out”) at any point after the first day of class but did not officially withdraw from the course and has missed assignments and exams and performed below the grade level of a D, a grade of FN (failed for non attendance) will be assigned for the final course grade to ensure compliance with the federal Title IV financial aid regulations. In contrast, if the student has completed all assignments and exams, but performed below the grade level of a D, a grade of F will be assigned for the final course grade.

Detailed Description of Major Assignments: (Consult the Calendar below for all due dates!)

- 1. – 3. Exams**
(40% of final course grade) **Each exam will contain a mixture of multiple-choice and short answer questions.** These exams will be held online in the form of an eCourses quiz and will require you to have a consistent internet access. Detailed instructions for each exam will be provided at the start of the Exam. These exams are **NOT** open-book or cooperative.
- If you do not have access to a computer or internet connection during the exam period, there are computers available in the following locations: JB Coleman Library (rooms 210 and 210B and the Student Success Center on the third floor), MSC (1st floor main lab), Farrell Hall (1st floor main lab), Delco (room 301), Hobart Taylor (room 1A109), and E.E. O’Banion (“New”) Science (room 123).
- Exams 1 and 2 will be held during the semester, while Exam 4 (Final Exam) will be held during Finals Week. Exams must be taken as scheduled in the Semester Calendar. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). The lowest score between Exams 1 and 2 will be dropped from your final grade, but the Final Exam grade will not be dropped.
- 4. Classroom Attendance**
(5% of final course grade) Students will be required to attend class regularly, and are expected, but not required to read all class materials and engage with the in-class lecture and discussion questions. Students will be expected to sign a participation sheet at the end of the lecture. Each class

will count equally towards the final participation grade. Excused absences (see absence policy) will not be penalized.

5. Response Paper (20% of final course grade)

Students will submit a 3-4 page response paper assignment during the course of the semester. This assignment will require students to select one of three prompts that will be provided one week prior to the assignment due date and respond to that prompt, using materials covered up to that point in the semester.

Content and Format Requirements

1. **The response paper MUST have an original argument that engages with and answers the prompt the student selected.** This argument must be grounded in international relations concepts that have been covered in the class prior to the point in the semester that the prompts are provided. The argument should reflect your own opinion and views, but must be supported by factual information and details.

2. **The response paper MUST incorporate at least two readings** (articles and/or textbook chapters) that the class has covered prior to the point in the semester that the prompts are provided. Students are expected to briefly summarize each reading, but the original argument cannot be copied from the assignment.

3. The response paper must show a sufficient level of writing and grammatical skill, based on the level of the class. You are encouraged to use Grammarly or another spelling/grammar checker to ensure sufficient communication skills. However, use of artificial intelligence is not permitted for the assignment, and will be penalized if discovered.

4. **You MUST submit your paper via Turnitin**, which will evaluate the originality of the paper.

5. **You MUST cite all sources you use in the paper**, regardless of whether they are covered in class or not. If you do not, you will be penalized 10%. You may use any citation format you wish, provided it is clear, consistent, and concise. I have included a link to the [Chicago Manual of Style's](#) parenthetical citation style if you wish to use it. Quotation should be minimal, and be essential to the advancement of your argument. Academic Dishonesty of any form, including plagiarism, is not permitted for the assignment, and will be penalized if discovered.

6. **You MUST submit the assignment prior to the due date, or your paper will be penalized by 5% per day.** The only exception is if you have a prior arranged accommodation or extension with me, which must be arranged at least 24 hours before the due date

6. Hypothesis Testing Paper Proposal (5% of final course grade)

Students will submit a brief, 1-page proposal for your Hypothesis Testing Paper. This assignment due date is listed in the Course Calendar below. The proposal must describe a testable hypothesis. The proposal must also provide a brief explanation for why you believe your claim is correct. I strongly recommend reading the article and lecture materials in Week 9 prior to writing your proposal.

Proposals which I am confident will assist you in successfully completing the Hypothesis Paper will receive a "pass" in the assignment. If I am not confident your proposal will assist you in completing your final paper, you will receive instructions on how to make adjustments, thereby having your grade changed to "pass." **You will be required to turn the Hypothesis Testing Paper Proposal in via Turnitin.** I will return comments on these proposals within two weeks of the due date.

7. Hypothesis Testing Paper
(25% of final course grade)

Students will submit, as the final project for the class, a research paper that is between 5-10 pages. The content requirements of the research paper are detailed below. Your paper is required to cover a topic related to international politics. The assignment will be discussed in class at several points, particularly during Week 9. The due date for the research paper will be during the final week of the classes.

CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Outline and describe a testable hypothesis
2. Have a clear and straightforward theoretical explanation (model) for why you believe your hypothesis will be correct
3. Outline a possible way that you could test your hypothesis using real-world information
4. In your conclusion, offer one possible explanation for why your hypothesis might not be supported, and what that would mean for your model.

FORMAT REQUIREMENTS:

1. A title is required, but a separate title page is not necessary.
2. The research paper must show a sufficient level of writing and grammatical skill, based on the level of the class. You are encouraged to use Grammarly or another spelling/grammar checker to ensure sufficient communication skills. Use of artificial intelligence is not permitted for this paper, and will be penalized.
3. You **MUST** submit your paper via Turnitin, which will evaluate the originality of the paper. Cases of plagiarism will be handled through the University's academic honesty policy, without exception, and will result in, at minimum, a score of 0 on the assignment.
4. You **MUST** cite all sources you use in the paper, regardless of whether they are covered in class or not. If you do not, you will be penalized 10%. You may use any citation format you wish, provided it is clear, consistent, and concise. I have included a link to the [Chicago Manual of Style's](#) parenthetical citation style if you wish to use it. Quotation should be minimal, and be essential to the advancement of your argument.

You **MUST** submit the assignment prior to the due date, or your paper will be penalized by 5% per day. The only exception is if you have a prior arranged accommodation or extension with me, which must be arranged at least 24 hours before the due date

8. Academic Integrity Library Online Course Certification (5% of final course grade)

To complete this assignment, you must register for and attend the PVAMU Academic Affairs Academic Integrity Library Online Course, which can be signed up for through the [John B. Coleman Library Online Workshops page](#) or by visiting the John B. Coleman Library. You can complete the Course at any time during the semester prior to the due date on the course calendar. Upon successfully completing the course, you will receive an emailed notification, which you will upload to a Turnitin assignment on Ecourses to receive credit for the assignment.

Writing Center Extra Credit Assignment (3% extra added to final course grade)

Schedule an appointment with the [Writing Center](#) to review your paper for the Hypothesis Testing Paper with them (the full paper, not the Proposal). Turn in proof that you visited the Writing Center in order to receive extra credit. This appointment must be made prior to the due date of the Hypothesis Testing Paper and the assignment must be submitted prior to the last day of classes.

Course Procedures or Additional Instructor Policies

Political Science Program Policy on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic crime, and the Political Science Program has a strict, rigorous enforcement policy for students who commit plagiarism. In general, plagiarism is using another person's or artificially generated program's words, statistics, and/or ideas as if they were your own. Plagiarism, which is formally defined in the University Rules and Procedures section of this syllabus, can come in many forms, such as directly quoting a source without quotation marks, taking another student's work, directly quoting a source without giving a reference citation, paraphrasing a source without giving a reference citation and so forth. It is incumbent on students to seek help from the instructor or other University resources to avoid even the appearance of plagiarism in their work. If in doubt, CITE THE SOURCE! Any student caught committing ANY type of plagiarism in a Political Science course will receive one OR MORE of the following punishments, depending on the severity of the offense and in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct:

1. Grade Penalty (an F for the assignment or for the course) in addition to cancellation of any extra credit points
2. Letter of Reprimand
3. Probation
4. Suspension
5. Dismissal from Academic Program
6. Expulsion from the university.

Students must consult the University's Code of Conduct for other forms of academic dishonesty and punishments.

Electronic Communication Policy: Notes and other course materials are posted on eCourses, which is available at <http://ecourses.pvamu.edu>. You are expected to use this website as a resource for the class. The University also maintains an email account for you. For security purposes, **I will not respond to emails sent to me from addresses that do not come from your official PVAMU email address. I expect you to check your Prairie View A&M email account at least once a day.** If you have problems accessing your account, call (936) 261-2525. Not having access to your Panther Email is not an excuse for missing important information.

Make-up Policy: You will only be allowed to make up an exam or assignment if you have a valid excuse obtained by following the Absence Verification Process described on p. 11 below. **If granted a make-up, you have a period of three (3) class days to schedule your make-up assignment or exam. After that point, the grade becomes a zero.** Student athletes must notify me **BEFORE** they attend an event to represent the school and **MUST** be proactive in getting their assignments completed. Make up exams may be an essay/short answer test or a modified version of the original exam. Any assigned extra credit cannot be made up.

Grade Groveling Policy: Students concerned about their grades should endeavor to attend all class sessions and complete all work to the best of their ability. Students **earn** high grades, based on demonstrating mastery of the subject matter and not based on what they want or need for their overall GPA. Therefore, no grade groveling will be entertained and no "do-overs" allowed.

Attendance Policy: For this class, students are allowed three unexcused absences **BEFORE** the mid-term, after which the mid-term course grade will be reduced by a full letter. Students are then allowed three additional unexcused absences **AFTER** the mid-term, after which **the final course grade will be reduced by a full letter.** Students can monitor their attendance records through the Attendance link in eCourses. Please do so.

Late Policy: Attending class on time is important. Class will start at the scheduled time and will end at the scheduled time. If you come to class more than 9 minutes late (in the 10th minute or later), you will be asked to leave class and you will be counted absent.

16 Week Semester Calendar, Fall 2024

Prior to Week 1	Please review Syllabus prior to First Day of Class
Week One: 8/26 – 9/1: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Introduction and Chapter 1 Late Registration: 8/26 – 8/31
Week Two: 9/2 – 9/8: The Evolution of the Modern State	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 2 No In-Person Class 9/5
Week Three: 9/9 – 9/15: War as a Rational Choice	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 3 Class Census Date: 9/11 Last Date to Withdraw without Academic Record: 9/11
Week Four: 9/16 – 9/22: The Domestic Politics of International Conflict	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 4 Eisenhower, Dwight D. 1961. “Farewell Address to the Nation.” Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyBNmecVtdU
Week Five: 9/23 – 9/29: International Institutions	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 5 Exam One Review
Exam One	Exam One Available from 9/27 – 9/30
Week Six: 9/30 – 10/6: Civil War and Terrorism	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 6
Week Seven: 10/7 – 10/13: The History of International Trade	Reading: Krasner, Stephen. 1976. “State Power and the Structure of International Trade.” <i>World Politics</i> , Vol. 28 (3): 317-347. Guest Lecture: Amoraes Times 10/8
Response Paper	Response Paper Prompt Available 10/4 Response Paper Due 10/10
Week Eight: 10/14 – 10/20: International Trade	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 7
Week Nine: 10/21 – 10/27: Hypothesis Testing in Political Science	Reading: Charles Lave and James March. 1993. <i>An Introduction to Models in the Social Sciences</i> . Chapters 1-3. Midsemester Grades Submitted 10/23
Week Ten: 10/28 – 11/3: International Financial and Monetary Relations	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 Exam Two Review
Exam Two	Exam Two Available from 11/1 – 11/4
Academic Integrity Library Online Course Certification	Certificate Due 11/1 at 11:59 PM
Week Eleven: 11/4 – 11/10: Economic Development	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 10

	Collier, Paul. 2004. "Development and Conflict." Centre for the Study of African Economies, Oxford University No In-Person Class 11/5
Hypothesis Testing Paper Proposal	Hypothesis Testing Paper Proposal Due 11/8 at 11:59 PM
Week Twelve: 11/11 – 11/17: International Laws and Norms	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 12 Human Rights Council. 2018. "Report of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar." Human Rights Council, Thirty-Ninth Session, September 2018. Darusman, Marzuki. 2019. "Statement to the 42nd Session of the Human Rights Council." September 17, 2019.
Week Thirteen: 11/18 – 11/24: Environmental Politics	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 13
Week Fourteen: 11/25 – 12/1: The Future of International Politics	Reading: Frieden, Lake, and Schultz Chapter 14
Hypothesis Testing Paper	Hypothesis Testing Paper Due 11/26 at 11:59 PM
Thanksgiving Holiday: 11/28-11/30	No Classes (11/28)
Finals Period	Exam Three Available During Finals Week

Student Support and Success

John B. Coleman Library

The John B. Coleman Library's mission is to enhance the scholarly pursuit of knowledge, to foster intellectual curiosity, and to promote life-long learning and research through our innovative services, resources, and cultural programs, which support PVAMU's global mission of teaching, service, and research. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. [Library Website](#); Phone: 936-261-1500.

Academic Advising Services

Academic Advising Services offers students various services that contribute to student success and lead toward graduation. We assist students with understanding university policies and procedures that affect academic progress. We support the early alert program to help students connect to success early in the semester. We help refer students to the appropriate academic support services when they are unsure of the best resource for their needs. Faculty advisors support some students in their respective colleges. Your faculty advisor can be identified in PantherTracks. Advisors within Academic Advising Services are available to all students, located across campus. Find your advisor by academic major on the [advising website](#). Phone: 936-261-5911.

The University Tutoring Center

The University Tutoring Center (UTC) offers free tutoring and academic support to all registered PVAMU students. The mission of the UTC is to help provide a solid academic foundation that enables students to become confident, capable, independent learners. Competent and caring staff and peer tutors guide students in identifying, acquiring, and enhancing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to reach their desired goals. Tutoring and academic support are offered face-to-face in the UTC and virtually in online sessions. Other support services available for students include Supplemental Instruction, Study Breaks, Academic Success Workshops, and Algebra Study Jam. Location: J. B. Coleman Library, Rm. 307; Phone: 936-261-1561; Email: pvtutoring@pvamu.edu; [University Tutoring Website](#).

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides well-trained peer tutors to assist students with writing assignments at any stage of the writing process. Tutors help students with various writing tasks from understanding assignments, brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, researching, and integrating sources. Students have free access to Grammarly online writing assistance. Grammarly is an automated proofreading and plagiarism detection tool. Students must register for Grammarly by using their student email address. In addition, students have access to face-to-face and virtual tutoring services either asynchronously via email or synchronously via Zoom. Location: J. B. Coleman Library, Rm. 209; Phone: 936-261-3724; [Writing Center Website](#); [Grammarly Registration](#).

Panther Navigate

Panther Navigate is a proactive system of communication and collaboration between faculty, academic advisors, and students that is designed to support student success by promptly identifying issues and allowing for intervention. Panther Navigate helps students by providing a central location to schedule advising appointments, view campus resources, and request assistance. Students who recognize that they have a problem that negatively affects their academic performance or ability to continue school may self-refer an academic early alert. To do so, students will log in to Canvas and click on Student Alerts on the left sidebar within a course. Students also have the option to download the Navigate Student app. Phone: 936-261-5902; [Panther Navigate Website](#).

Student Counseling Services

The Student Counseling Services offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and assists students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Owens Franklin Health Center, Suite 226; Phone: 936-261-3564; [Health & Counseling Center Website](#)

Mental Health Telehealth Resources

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



Office of Testing Services

The Office of Testing Services serves to facilitate and protect the administration of educational and professional exams to aid students, faculty, staff, and the community in their academic and career goals. We provide proctoring services for individuals who need to take exams for distance or correspondence courses for another institution, exams for independent study courses, or make-up exams. In order for a proctored exam to be administered by our office, the instructor of the course must first submit the online PVAMU Testing Services – Test Proctoring Form (this form can only be completed by the instructor) to the Office of Testing Services 72 hours prior to the first exam being administered. Once the Test Proctoring Form has been submitted, the instructor will inform their testers so they can then register for an appointment with our office on one of the selected proctored exam test dates within the testing window for the exam and pay the applicable fees. To access the OTS – Test Proctoring Form, to schedule a proctored exam appointment, or to find more information about our proctoring services, please visit the [OTS – Proctoring Service website](#). Location: Wilhelmina Delco, 3rd Floor, Rm. 305; Phone: 936-261-3627; Email: aetesting@pvamu.edu; [Testing Website](#)

Office of Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for people with disabilities. This legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodations of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability and need an accommodation, please visit the [Accommodate](#) online platform to register and submit the necessary documentation. Location: Owens Franklin Health Center, Rm 222; Phone: 936-261-3583; [Disability Services Website](#)

Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services (CIITS)

Distance Learning, also referred to as Distance Education, is the employment of alternative instructional delivery methods to extend programs and services to persons unable to attend classes in the traditional manner. CIITS supports student learning

through online, hybrid, web-assist, and 2-way video course delivery. For more details and contact information, visit [CIITS Student Website](#). Phone: 936-261-3283 or email: ciits@pvamu.edu.

Veteran Affairs

Veteran Services works with student veterans, current military, and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: Evans Hall, Rm. 102; Phone: 936-261-3563; [Veteran Affairs Website](#)

Office for Student Engagement

The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development, and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center, Rm. 221; Phone: 936-261-1340; [Student Engagement Website](#)

Center for Careers & Professional Development

This center supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The center provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the center website for information regarding services provided. Location: Anderson Hall, 2nd floor; Phone: 936-261-3570; [Center for Careers & Professional Development Website](#)

Hilltop Reserve

The Hilltop Reserve is an emergency resource center that provides currently enrolled students access to free resources to assist with food insecurity, housing insecurity, and other basic needs. Students must complete the required online [Intake Form](#) to receive resources provided such as free food, casual/business casual clothing, personal hygiene items, and referrals to community resources for housing, childcare, etc. Location: Owens Franklin Health Center, Basement 025; Phone: 936-261-1419; [Hilltop Reserve Website](#)

Student Health

Students have access to medical care by appointment Monday – Friday from 8 am – 5 pm. The clinic closes daily for lunch from 12 pm-1 pm. The clinic offers women’s health, sexual health, physicals, and other ambulatory care. Students also have access virtually to behavioral and physical health support, 365 days 24/7, via [Timelycare](#). Timelycare can be used on the weekends, after hours, while traveling, and back home while on break. Location: Owens Franklin Health Center, 1st floor; Phone: 936-261-1410; [Health Services Website](#)

University Rules and Procedures

Academic Misconduct

Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating or dishonesty that has the effect or intent of interfering with any academic exercise or fair evaluation of a student's performance. The college faculty can provide additional information, particularly related to a specific course, laboratory, or assignment.

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with the *University Administrative Guidelines on Academic Integrity*, which can be found on the [Academic Integrity webpage](#). Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures. As listed in the *University Administrative Guidelines on Academic Integrity*, the University Online Catalog, and the Student Code of Conduct, the following are examples of prohibited conduct. This list is not designed to be all-inclusive or exhaustive. In addition to academic sanctions, any student found to have committed academic misconduct that is also a violation of criminal law may also be subject to disciplinary review and action by the Office of Student Conduct (as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct).

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:

1. **Cheating:** Deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not learned, giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations. Examples:

unauthorized use of notes for a test; using a "cheat sheet" on a quiz or exam; any alteration made on a graded test or exam which is then resubmitted to the teacher;

2. **Plagiarism:** Careless or deliberate use of the work or the ideas of another; representation of another's work, words, ideas, or data as your own without permission or appropriate acknowledgment. Examples: copying another's paper or answers, failure to identify information or essays from the internet and submitting or representing it as your own; submitting an assignment which has been partially or wholly done by another and claiming it as yours; not properly acknowledging a source which has been summarized or paraphrased in your work; failure to acknowledge the use of another's words with quotation marks;
3. **Collusion:** When more than one student or person contributes to a piece of work that is submitted as the work of an individual;
4. **Conspiracy:** Agreeing with one or more persons to commit an act of academic/scholastic dishonesty; and
5. **Multiple Submission:** Submission of work from one course to satisfy a requirement in another course without explicit permission. Example: using a paper prepared and graded for credit in one course to fulfill a requirement and receive credit in a different course.

PVAMU's General Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools in the Classroom

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI), specifically foundational models that can create writing, computer code, and/or images using minimal human prompting, are increasingly becoming pervasive. Even though ChatGPT is one of the most well-known GAIs currently available, this statement includes any and all past, current, and future generations of GAI software. Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) expects that all work produced for a grade in any course, be it face-to-face or virtual, will be the sole product of a student's endeavors to meet those academic goals. However, should an instructor permit their students to use artificial intelligence as a resource or tool, students must not substitute the substance of their original work with the results of using such GAI tools. This clearly violates the [University's Administrative Guidelines on Academic Integrity](#) and its underlying academic values.

Nonacademic Misconduct

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. The Office of Student Conduct will adjudicate such incidents under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual Misconduct

Sexual harassment of students and employees at PVAMU is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating the university's sexual harassment policy will be subject to disciplinary action. In accordance with the Texas A&M University System guidelines, your instructor is obligated to report to the Office of Title IX Compliance (titleixteam@pvamu.edu) any instance of sexual misconduct involving a student, which includes sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual harassment, about which the instructor becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. The faculty and staff of PVAMU actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes respect that is free from sexual misconduct, discrimination, and all forms of violence. If students, faculty, or staff would like assistance or have questions, they may contact the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Zakiya Brown, at 936-261-2166 or titleixteam@pvamu.edu. More information can be found at [Title XI Website](#), including confidential resources available on campus.

Protections and Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Students

The U.S. Dept of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) enforces, among other statutes, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance. This protection includes those who may be pregnant and parenting. Title IX states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy or parenting should contact the Office of Title IX for information, resources, and support at titleixteam@pvamu.edu or visit the office's [Pregnancy & Parenting Student Resource Page](#). Additional information and/or support may be provided by the Office of Disability Services or the Office of the Dean of Students.

Non-Discrimination Statement

PVAMU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity in its programs and activities. The University is committed to supporting students and complying with The Texas A&M University System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you experience an incident of discrimination or harassment, we encourage you to report it. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are individuals who can meet with you. The Director of Equal Opportunity has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and can be reached at Harrington Science Building, Suite 109, or by phone at 936-261-1744 or 1792.

Class Attendance Policy (See the University Online Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)

PVAMU requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports the full academic development of each learner, whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or the Internet. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in the assignment of a grade of "F." Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms. Each faculty member will include the University's attendance policy in each course syllabus.

Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences

PVAMU recognizes that there are a variety of legitimate circumstances in which students will miss coursework and that accommodations for makeup work will be made. If a student's absence is **excused**, the instructor must either provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam, or other work contributing to the final grade or provide a satisfactory alternative by a date agreed upon by the student and instructor. Students are encouraged to work with instructors to complete makeup work before known scheduled absences (University-sponsored events, administrative proceedings, etc.). Students are responsible for planning their schedules to avoid excessive conflicts with course requirements.

Absence Verification Process

All non-athletic absences (e.g., Medical, Death/Funeral, Court/Legal-related, etc.) for which a student seeks to obtain a valid excuse must be submitted to the Dean of Students/Office of Student Conduct, with supporting documentation, for review and verification. Please use the [Online Reporting Forms](#) to access/complete/submit the *Request for a University Excused Absence* form for an excuse. Upon receipt, a staff member will verify the documentation and provide an official university excuse, if applicable. The student is responsible for providing the official university excuse issued by the Office for Student Conduct to the professor(s). Questions should be directed to the Dean of Students via email: deanofstudents@pvamu.edu or phone: (936) 261-3550 or Office for Student Conduct via email: studentconduct@pvamu.edu or phone: (936) 261-3524.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rest with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the University Online Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

Technical Considerations

Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:

- Intel PC or laptop with Windows 10 or later version; Mac with OS Catalina
- Smartphone or iPad/tablet with wi-fi*
- High-speed internet access
- 8 GB memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15" monitor, 1024 x 768, color
- Speakers (internal or external)
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome, Safari, or Firefox

Note: Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the web browser preferences

* Some courses may require remote proctoring. At this time only Chromebooks, laptops, and desktops running Windows or Mac work with our proctoring solution, but iPads are not compatible. Most other applications will work with Android or Apple tablets and smartphones.

Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:

- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Acrobat PDF Reader
- Windows or Mac OS
- Video conferencing software (Zoom)

Netiquette (online etiquette)

Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussion boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. Do not use ALL CAPS for communicating to others AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING. Avoid slang terms such as "wassup?" and texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you." Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons. Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post, and the message might be taken seriously or sound offensive.

Video Conferencing Etiquette

When using Zoom, WebEx, or other video conferencing tools, confirm the visible area is tidy, clear of background clutter, inappropriate or offensive posters, and other distractions. Ensure you dress appropriately and avoid using high traffic or noisy areas. Stay muted when you are not speaking and avoid eating/drinking during the session. Before the class session begins, test audio, video, and lighting to alleviate technology issues.

Technical Support

Students should go to [Password Reset Tool](#) if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords and contact information if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services at 936-261-3283 or email ciits@pvamu.edu.

Communication Expectations and Standards

Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses.

Discussion Requirement

Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can occur in a seminar fashion. The use of the discussion board will accomplish this. The instructor will determine the exact use of discussion boards.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application such as Word and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, copy and paste to the discussion board.

COVID-19 Campus Safety Measures

In accordance with the latest guidelines from the PVAMU Health Services, the following measures are in effect until further notice.

- Students who are ill will be asked to adhere to best practices in public health, such as masking, handwashing, and social distancing, to help reduce the spread of illness across campus.
- Mandatory self-reporting will no longer be required by students. Students will be responsible for communicating with their professors regarding COVID, similarly to any other illness.
- There will be no mandatory isolation. Students who are too ill to engage in classroom activities will be responsible for securing the appropriate documentation to support the absence.
- Students who self-isolate will be responsible for communicating with their professors and securing an excuse from Student Conduct.
- All students will have access to [TimelyCare](#), a telehealth platform that provides virtual medical care 24/7 and by appointment in the Student Health Clinic. Students are encouraged to enroll with TimelyCare at the beginning of the semester, at timelycare.com/pvamu.

- Students will have access to COVID testing in the Student Health Clinic by appointment. Testing is for students who are symptomatic ONLY.