Department of Kinesiology and Health Science
HSC 436 001 - Environmental Health
Fall 2018

Instructor: Derek Cegelka PhD MPH CHES
Office: HPE 217
Office Phone: (936) 468-2353
Email: cegelkad@sfasu.edu

Course Time: 9:30-10:45
Course Location: Shelton Gym 241
Office Hours: MW 10AM-12PM; T 11AM-12PM

Prerequisites: 9 hours of HSC; 4 hours of BIO

About the Professor: After being a student of my own for quite some time, I have come to realize that every student learns in their own way. Traditional lecturing methods have been proven ineffective with retention rates and after some research, I have found that a student learns most when they’re active in the learning process. The “active” classroom allows students to engage their learning strategies by incorporating group-work, visual aids, and discussion into the lectures. My goal for this course is to show you that environmental health can be educational. I like to laugh and hope to get you laughing at LEAST once this semester. I want you to finish this semester and say “This class was fun, but I learned something too.” I look forward to teaching this course and having you as my students.

I. Course Description: This course examines factors in the built environment that impact human health. This course is designed to explore the ways in which mankind may control the built environment in order to minimize deleterious effects on health and quality of life.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives (Program/Student Learning Outcomes):

    This course links with SFA’s Envisioned Goal 2: Our students will be engaged and empowered.
    This course links with SFA’s PCOE Goal 1: We will provide transformational experiences for our students.
    This course links with SFA’s Envisioned Goal 5: We will be an innovative university.
    This course links with SFA’s PCOE Goal 5: We will provide academic and co-curricular innovations.

Program Learning Outcomes (Community Health):
1. The student will be able to plan and evaluate a community/classroom-based health lesson (NCHEC I, II, IV).
2. The student will construct professional documents (resume and cover letter) to be used as a personal career-marketing tool for employment opportunities (NCHEC VII).
3. The student will demonstrate the knowledge and skills to search for and write a grant proposal to address a specific health-issue (NCHEC I, II, IV, VII).
4. The student will be able to communicate health information (NCHEC VI).
5. The student will design and implement a health behavior change plan that they will monitor for the semester (NCHEC I, II, III).

Student Learning Outcomes - The student will be able to:

- Identify components of a built environment
- Describe the general relationship between the built environment and people’s health
- Describe the basic requirements of a healthy built environment
- Provide examples of social and economic conditions that adversely affect health
- Understand the role of macro-structural forces (beyond the individual) – especially those which span broad spatial and temporal boundaries – in shaping the built environment and health outcomes
**Course Policies:**

1. Late Work: I do not accept late work. Please read that phrase again – I do not accept late work. Late assignments turned in or posted after a deadline will not be accepted unless I have granted you an official extension prior to the deadline.

2. Make Up Exams/Tests/Quizzes: Students who are absent on test days without advance, person-to-person communication with me shall receive a zero for the exam and shall forfeit the opportunity of taking a “make up” test. Make up tests/exams/quizzes will not be permitted (unless you have a legitimate medical emergency or personal problem and have been granted an official extension prior to the exam/test/quiz.)

3. Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7. Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. **Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.**

I do not take attendance but rather provide positive incentives for attending class (see # 5 below.) As a future professional in your field that will represent Stephen F. Austin State University and me, I expect you to exhibit professionalism in all areas. This means that I expect you to attend every class meeting. I view class attendance as outward sign of how much you value your education and personal growth. True professionals in any field are prompt, reliable, and faithfully report to work when scheduled. Therefore, it is my expectation that you will be prompt, reliable, and faithful to attend class. If you must be absent from class, I expect the professional courtesy of a telephone call or e-mail notifying me in advance.

**See Professionalism and Civility under section III: Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology** regarding class attendance and tardiness policy.

4. Excused Absences: If I do not receive advance communication (i.e. prior to class) from you via phone or in writing regarding an absence, it will be considered an “unexcused” absence. In contrast, excused absences are for specific, unavoidable situations such as:

* personal emergencies, including, but not limited to, illness of the student or of a dependent of the student [as defined by the Board of Trustees’ Policy on Family and Medical Leave], or death in the family;

* religious observances that prevent the student from attending class;
participation in University-sponsored activities, approved by the appropriate University authority, such as intercollegiate athletic competitions, activities approved by academic units, including artistic performance, R.O.T.C., functions, academic field trips, and specific events connected with coursework;

* government-required activities, such as military assignments, jury duty or court appearances; and any other absence that the professor approves.

If the absence is communicated to me in advance and approved by me as an “excused absence,” students shall be given the opportunity of completing course work or exam that was due during the excused absence. I alone determine whether an absence is excused or not.

Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

5. University Policies and Student Handbook: As a student at SFA, you are required to know the policies described in the General Catalog and in the Student Handbook. My policies in this course are guided by the policies described in the student handbook.

6. Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes academic dishonesty. If students are uncertain about what constitutes academic dishonesty, they should seek the instructor’s advice. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarizing or representing the words, ideas or information of another person as one’s own and not offering proper documentation; Plagiarizing includes: (a) copying materials from other students from previous years or using another student’s work, (b) unauthorized collaboration in the preparation of reports, term papers or theses, and (c) adopting, paraphrasing or reproducing ideas, opinions, theories, formulas, graphics, or pictures of another person without acknowledgment.
- Giving or receiving, prior to an examination, any unauthorized information concerning the content of that examination;
- Referring to or displaying any unauthorized materials inside or outside of the examination room during the course of an examination;
- Communicating during an examination in any manner with any unauthorized person concerning the examination or any part of it;
- Giving or receiving substantive aid during the course of an examination;
- Commencing an examination before the stipulated time or continuing to work on an examination after the announced conclusion of the examination period;
- Taking, converting, concealing, defacing, damaging or destroying any property related to the preparation or completion of assignments, research or examination;
- Submitting the same written work to fulfill the requirements for more than one course, without the instructor’s permission.
Should cases of academic dishonesty be found among students, the instructor may choose any of the following actions:

* The instructor may provide a verbal warning to the student.

* The student may be assigned an F for the work in question.

* The student may be assigned an F for the course. In this case the instructor should inform the Chair of the department, the Dean and the student of this action. The Chair and/or Dean will make certain that the student receives the F grade and is not permitted to withdraw from the course.

* The student may be placed on probation or suspended for some definite period of time, dismissed or expelled by the Dean if either the seriousness of the offense or a record of repeated offenses warrants it. A notation that such a sanction has been imposed will be made part of the student’s permanent record. It is expected that the Dean will consult with the instructor and the student in making such a judgment, and that the Dean will notify the student of the sanction imposed and of the appeals procedure.

* A record of the academic dishonest will be filed with the department.

7. Academic Grievance Policy: A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3). If you have a concern or complaint about the course or about your grade, you should meet with me privately during office hours. This is the best way to resolve issues. If issues cannot be resolved between the two us, you should put your concerns in writing and follow the chain of command listed below:

> Meet with the Department Chairperson

> Meet with the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

> Meet with the Dean of the College of Education.

8. Grade Changes: If you believe that I have made an error or misjudgment in grading, you may request that I review the grade and consider a grade change. All grade change requests must be put in writing and must include a written rationale as to why you believe the grade should be changed. Verbal requests to change a grade will not be accepted. I reserve the right to make all final decisions regarding grades.

9. Drops/Incompletes: You may drop the course or withdraw from the course as long as you do it by the posted university deadline. After the deadlines have passed, I do not issue “drops” or “instructor withdraws.” If you stop attending my class without notice and do not complete the work, I will give you and “F” for failing in professional courtesy. The deadlines for dropping or withdrawing from this class are listed on the university academic calendar.

**Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5** At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work
because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

10. Email Procedures: Please use my SFA email address. Please use the examples listed below for e-mail and phone communication.

**Email etiquette (adapted from Dr. John Janowiak at UNC Chapel Hill) and Professionalism:**
When you e-mail friends, you can be as informal as you wish. However, when you write to your employer, professor, or supervisor you should use proper and polite language. By training yourself to write properly, you develop skills necessary to deal with future clients and supervisors, who are unlikely to tolerate bad e-mail manners. Please use the following guidelines when e-mailing me and other professors.

- Even telephone conversations start with “Hello” and end with “Goodbye.” Therefore, **please use a formal salutation when e-mailing professors**, such as: “Dear Dr. Cegelka,” or “Professor Cegelka,”
- When e-mailing faculty, remember that you are not communicating with a friend or relative, therefore **do not use informal language in your e-mails**.
- **If you have a request, say it politely.** You can start with “I would like to …”, “I wonder if you can …,” “May I …,” “Is it possible to …,” “Do you mind …?” DO NOT WRITE: “I want to know …,” “I want you to,” “Send this to me”, “Tell me when ….” Just adding the word “please” does not mean that you are being polite.
- **Your identity is an important clue to the context of the message.** Every semester I teach hundreds of students in numerous classes; therefore identify yourself as a student in the class you are enrolled in, such as: “Dear Dr. Cegelka, I am a student enrolled in your online HSC 216 course.” Also, **please include a brief description of the subject of your email in the subject line of the email**.
- **Be concise.**
- **Always re-read your e-mails** and check for spelling and grammatical mistakes before sending them. (Also, recommended for the assignments you submit).
- **When needing to schedule an appointment outside of my office hours, please suggest a few time slots, but always say something like** “If these times do not suit you, please feel free to let me know any other time that you prefer / that is convenient to you.” If you cannot make the date suggested, say, “I am sorry, but I cannot come to see you on [Monday].” Do not say, “I am not available on [Monday].”

**In conclusion,** if you do not use a formal salutation and my name (Dr./Professor Cegelka) or establish who you are and in what class you are enrolled, your e-mail message will not be read or responded to.

11. Writing Quality/Assignments: All assignments shall be typed using Microsoft Word. Student writing should be of the highest quality in terms of appearance, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and organization. If an assignment is poorly written, I reserve the right to return it to you and request that you visit the Writing Center.
before I issue a grade. Visiting the Writing Center to receive some good feedback and assistance with your written assignments is a good idea for all students.

12. Extra Credit: Occasionally I offer extra credit projects or assignments. If you are interested in extra credit, you must notify me before the start of the 3rd week of class. Students are responsible to notify the professor of their intentions.

13. Cell Phones: Due to the proliferation of cell phones in my classes, I have had to add this policy to all my syllabi. Please turn off your cell phone when you enter my classroom and place it inside your book bag. Please familiarize yourself with the student code of conduct (Policy 10.4).

14. Limited consumption of food or beverages is permitted in the public areas of the Steen Library. Consumption of food or beverages is prohibited in all indoor classrooms and laboratories. NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE HPE CLASSROOMS.

15. Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6 To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilitieservices/.

16. To complete Certification/Licensing Requirements in Texas related to public education and other professional settings, you will be required to:

1. Undergo criminal background checks for field or clinical experiences on public school campuses; the public school campuses are responsible for the criminal background check; YOU are responsible for completing the information form requesting the criminal background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may not be allowed to complete field or clinical experiences on public school campuses. At that point, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, drivers license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at www.texas.ets.org/registrationBulletin/). YOU must provide legal documentation to be allowed to take these mandated examinations that are related to certification/licensing requirements in Texas. If you do not have legal documentation, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

3. Successfully complete state mandated a fingerprint background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

For further information concerning this matter, contact Katie Snyder 936-468-1740 or snyderke1@sfasu.edu.
III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology:

ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION PROPOSAL (100 points) – Students will individually identify an element of the environment that should be modified to improve health outcomes and present a plan for a way to make such a change. This proposal will be in a Word document form and consist of three primary parts: 1) identification of an aspect of the environment that is problematic; 2) a discussion of why this is problematic; and 3) a plan for improving this aspect of the environment. The final version of your proposal, which integrates feedback from your classmates, will be due by noon on the last day of class. Directions and a rubric will be posted on D2L and will be discussed in class. This assignment will be submitted through a dropbox folder on D2L.

OBSERVATION REPORTS (100 points) Students will go out into the community and observe the environment. They will describe how the environment could be improved to help health outcomes of the population.

CHECKPOINTS (140 points) Class attendance and participation is required and will be reflected in the final grade. Periodic unannounced activities (quizzes, readings, online assignments/quizzes, personal reflections, guest speaker reports, group activities, etc.) will be given for the purpose of class participation and reflection.

EXAMS (180 points) – There will be a total of three exams. Each exam will be worth 60 points. Make-up exams will only be administered and scheduled for absences excused prior to the exam date! Content of tests will include, but is not limited to, materials covered in the class text, material discussed/presented in class, material presented in media format (i.e., videos or video clip segments used in presentations), material from handouts provided by the instructor, materials gathered by students to complete homework assignments, and material presented by guest speakers. Both specific content and application of content are stressed on examinations. Exams are NOT open book nor open note and are to be completed individually.

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

Assessments and Point Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modification Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observation Reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checkpoints</td>
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<td>Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office visit</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>535</strong></td>
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### V. Tentative Course Outline/Calendar:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 28</td>
<td>Class Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Introduction to the Built Environment and Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>Planning and Urban Design</td>
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<td>September 6</td>
<td>Planning and Urban Design</td>
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<td>Observation Report Due</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Transportation Policies</td>
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<td>September 13</td>
<td>Transportation Policies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Observation Report Due</td>
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<td>Office visit Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>Healthy Housing and Housing Assistance Programs</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>September 27</td>
<td>Food, Nutrition, and Food Security</td>
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<td>October 2</td>
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<td>Vulnerable Populations</td>
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<td>Mental Health, Stressors, and Health Care Environments</td>
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<td>Sustainability</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>Environmental Modification Proposal Due</td>
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<td>December 6</td>
<td>Environmental Modification Proposal Town Hall</td>
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<td>Finals Week</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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VI. Readings (Required and recommended—including texts, websites, articles, etc.):

- Readings identified during the course of the semester as part of student chapter presentations (will be made available on D2L).

VII. Course Evaluations:
Completing course evaluations is vital to ensuring that this course continually improves.

Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the Perkins College of Education (PCOE) electronically evaluate courses taken within the PCOE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including:

1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation;
2. Instruction evaluation purposes; and
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention.

As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the PCOE faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical (REQUIRED, not optional)!

In the PCOE, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.
VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information: Found at https://www.sfasu.edu/policies

Class Attendance and Excuse Absence: Policy 6.7
Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 936-468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilitieservices/.

Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.
Penalties for Academic Dishonesty
Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

Student Appeals
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

Additional Information
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6. Successfully complete state mandated a fingerprint background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.
For further information concerning this matter, contact Katie Snyder 936-468-1740 or snyderke1@sfasu.edu.