Instructor: Dr. Gina Fe G. Causin

Course Time & Location: M: 10:00-10:50am/201 HMSN; W: 10:00am-1:20pm/The Fredonia Hotel or 201 HMSN

Office: 106A HMSN

Office Hours: Mondays: 11:30am-1:30pm; Tuesdays & Thursdays: 2:00-3:30 pm

Office Phone: (936) 468-1411

Credits: 3 credit hour

Other Contact Information: 4502

Email: causingf@sfasu.edu via Brightspace by D2L (preferred)

Prerequisites: HMS 302; Junior standing or school permission

I. Course Description:

Senior management techniques required to operate a lodging facility applying strategic and critical-thinking and work-site experiences in the management of rooms, guests, services, sales, financial issues, security and personnel. Course fee $40.

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

The mission of the College of Education is to prepare competent, successful, caring and enthusiastic professionals dedicated to responsible service, leadership, and continued professional and intellectual development. The goals of this course support the goals of the COE by:

- Preparing leaders in the hospitality and tourism field. As one of the largest industries in Texas, the hospitality industry needs competent and skilled leaders. The students will become familiar with the different aspects of the lodging industry in the course.

- Provide a variety of teaching venues incorporating the latest technologies to a range of diverse student interests, backgrounds, and aspirations. Students will be exposed to online resources such Knowledge Matters, NBC Learn, webinars and others that are relevant to the course.

- Collaborate with external partners to enhance students’ knowledge, skills, and dispositions, and to influence the ongoing exchange of ideas for mutual benefit. Outside resources will be utilized to enhance the curriculum of this course through the utilization of guest speakers.

- Engage in outreach services. Each student will have an opportunity to contribute to the hospitality field through service learning component activities. Activities can be
events around town and/or university where students are to work 6-hour shifts of service learning activities to fulfill the requirements.

- Conduct research to advance knowledge and to contribute to the common good. This will be done through case studies, research and reflection papers.

**Hospitality Administration Program Learning Outcomes**

**PLO 1 – Resource Development:** The students will demonstrate the use of appropriate technology and sustainability in the hospitality industry.

**PLO 2 – Professional Behavior:** The students will exhibit the professional behavior (strong communication skills, a professional image, a good work ethic, and adequate preparation for employment in his/her specific discipline) expected in the field of Human Sciences and Hospitality.

**PLO 3 – Key Ratios:** The student will calculate, interpret and understand key ratios, financial statements and budgets, related to the hospitality industry.

**PLO 4 – Service Attitude:** The student will demonstrate a positive service attitude.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

At the completion of this course students will be able to:

- Take on the role of hotel general manager for a newly opened hotel.
- Set room rates for multiple room types.
- Plan a marketing program for a lodging operation.
- Staff the front desk.
- Set key policies for the hotel.
- Sell banquets and meetings.
- Hire staff to successfully execute banquets and meetings.
- Plan housekeeping based on number of guests.
- Create and price a dinner menu for the hotel restaurant.
- Achieve a specific goal on their “balanced scorecard.”
- Embody professionalism when working with other employees.

**III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology:**

**Course Participation**

It is the student’s responsibility to keep up with assignments, activities and online readings for the class. Part of this course is doing a hands-on activity at The Fredonia Hotel. When the students are doing their activities at the hotel, they are required to wear black pants, non-slip black shoes and purple shirts with SFA Hospitality Administration logo. Wearing a uniform will distinguished the students’ affiliation being representatives of the hospitality administration program of the School of Human Sciences at Stephen F. Austin State University. The professor will collect the names and shirt sizes of the students and will submit it to the bookstore for ordering. The purple shirt can be purchased from the SFA Bookstore by the students. The cost of the shirt ranges from $27.00 to $35.00.
Instructional Strategies:
Lectures, hands-on activity, simulation, interactive open discussions, videos and guest speakers will comprise the presentation of course content. Students will be called on to answer questions, explain material and provide relevant examples. Content includes pre-test, reading materials, reading quiz, math quiz, simulation exercises and the Hotel Mogul Project.

Virtual Business Hotel
In this course project, students take on the role of hotel general manager for a newly opened hotel. They must set room rates for multiple room types, plan a marketing program, staff their front desk, set key policies, sell banquets and meetings, staff to successfully execute banquets and meetings, plan housekeeping based on number of guests, create and price a dinner menu for the hotel restaurant, and more. Students are challenged to achieve a specific goal on their “balanced scorecard.” The balanced scorecard combines profitability versus budget with customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction. After meeting the goal, the student’s grade is finalized, but they can return to the simulation and continue to manage their hotel.

Brightspace by Desire2Learn
Brightspace by D2L will be used for the content of the course, to post grades, to post notes and assignments, and to make any announcements/notifications. Your success in this course will depend upon your ability to check D2L regularly for any updates and announcements.

Hands-on Activities at The Fredonia Hotel
The students will work at The Fredonia Hotel once a week. Each student will be assigned in different departments every week for 3 hours and 20 minutes to experience how that department operates. A supervisor provided by the hotel will be in-charge of giving tasks to the student. At the end of the shift, the student will give a sheet of paper to the supervisor for the supervisor to record the performance of the student, sign the paper and the professor will get the paper from the supervisor. This is a graded activity.

IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):

Determination of Grade:
In general, students can determine their standing in the course throughout the semester by keeping track of points on each assignment. Students can also access their grade and points for assignments by using their SFASU D2L account. If a student has questions regarding an earned grade on an assignment or need clarification regarding a grade, they should come to see the professor during office hours or should make an appointment to see the professor to discuss their questions. Grades will not be discussed during class hours.

If there is an opportunity to complete extra credit, the professor will announce it during class time to give opportunity to all students to be able to get an extra credit.

Pre-Test/Reflection (40 points)
A pre-test/reflection on course content will be required for course completion.
Attendance and Professionalism (200 points)
Attendance will be taken every class period. For every missed class period, a student will lose attendance and professionalism points. When a student misses class, it affects the professionalism grade. Excused attendance includes: ailment with Dr.’s Note; death in the family; participation in conferences/trips approved by the school; and other official school travels. There is no make-up for missed attendance and professionalism points. Students are expected to be professional and respectful in the classroom environment. Discourteous or offensive behavior directed toward the professor/instructor, students or others will not be tolerated. Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Bullying or berating others
- Physical or verbal intimidation, such as shouting or angry outbursts directed toward others
- Derogatory verbal or physical behavior, such as name-calling
- Directing profanity toward others
- Behavior that has the effect of humiliating others
- Mobbing
- Other unprofessional or inappropriate behavior

Discourteous or offensive behavior also includes written or electronic communication, as well as group behavior (e.g. “mobbing”) which has a negative impact on the classroom and/or on others [https://www.pcc.edu/hr/contracts/behavior.html](https://www.pcc.edu/hr/contracts/behavior.html).

It is not enough to merely attend class, but participation in class activities, projects, and discussions are required. Participation is expected of all students in this class. And, it is expected to be active, enthusiastic, regular, intelligent, and with a highly visible role by the student. This is a major course which will require you to get-involved, analyze cases, work in small groups, regularly challenge others around you, and constructively make lodging operations “come to life.” Everyone is expected to pull his or her weight in terms of class participation. Excessive absences, lack of participation in class, lack of regular contribution to in-class discussions based on readings in advance, etc. will all negatively affect your grade.

Getting to class on time is also important for a positive classroom environment. Please note that disruptive behavior, tardiness, tone and positive/negative comments will be a component of your attendance/professionalism grade. It is not enough to “come to class”- be involved and help yourself and others to learn.

Lab/Application Activities: The Fredonia Hotel (210 points).
Students are required to do hands-on activities at The Fredonia Hotel property. Students are assigned to different areas in the hotel to work and supervised by the hotel staff. These areas include housekeeping, laundry, banquet, maintenance, front office and others as needed. To work at The Fredonia Hotel, students are REQUIRED to wear black pants, non-slip black shoes and purple shirt with SFA logo. The shirts can be purchased at the SFA Bookstore. The price is $27.00 SM – XL, add $2.00 for 2XL and $3.00 for 3XL. No proper uniform gets zero!

Virtual Business Hotel – In-Class & Online (200 points)
In this capstone project, students take on the role of hotel general manager for a newly opened hotel. They must set room rates for multiple room types, plan a marketing program,
staff their front desk, set key policies, sell banquets and meetings, staff to successfully execute banquets and meetings, plan housekeeping based on number of guests, create and price a dinner menu for the hotel restaurant, and more. Students are challenged to achieve a specific goal on their “balanced scorecard.” The balanced scorecard combines profitability versus budget with customer satisfaction and employee satisfaction. After meeting the goal, the student’s grade is finalized, but they can return to the simulation and continue to manage their hotel.

**Exams (150 points):**
Students’ performance will be evaluated through 3 exams. Paper-based or Internet-based Exams will be given on the date on the syllabus unless prior approval is received by the professor due to emergency situations. No make-up exams will be given with the exception of serious illness or emergency. The professor must be contacted regarding such an emergency prior to the exam, and will follow SFASU policies regarding if the situation was indeed of a warranted, serious nature. All situations will be subject to proof of acceptable documentation from the student to the professor.

A make-up exam is not guaranteed and is subject to the above-mentioned review by the professor and, if necessary, the administration. If an exam is not taken, the student will receive a zero on that exam. There will be no make-up exams given for unexcused absences. Excused make-up exams will be given on the day scheduled by both professor and student right after the student comes back to class.

There will be three exams. All exams may be multiple choice, true/false, or short answer in format. Cell phones will not be allowed to be used as a calculator for the exams…please bring a 4-function calculator on exam days to use it for the exam, in case it is needed.

**Service Learning Component (must complete 6 hours of volunteer work to fulfill requirement = 50 points)**
To prepare competent professionals for a global society, the faculty of the hospitality program had implemented a service learning component across multiple courses. Students are required to sign up for APPROVED events outside of class time to fulfill this component. Hours will be documented by both the student and the approved site supervisor. Failure to complete six hours of service learning will result in no points awarded. This is an “all or nothing” assignment.

Students must document all the hours that they have completed, verified and signed by the supervisor using the log sheet provided by the professor in D2L. Once the students have completed 6 hours of service learning activities, scan the completed log sheet and submit it to D2L Dropbox.

Additional information will be given in class for specific event times and dates. This service learning opportunity will expose students to the important cross-cutting themes within the Body of Knowledge of Human Sciences. These themes include: communication skills, critical thinking, diversity, global perspectives, professionalism, independence and community development.

**Extra Credit: Hotel Mega Mogul (50 points)**
This extra-credit project extends the concepts from the Hotel Mogul project. Students manage a much larger hotel, with 500 rooms. This is two and a half times the size of the hotel in the Hotel Mogul project. They learn what additional marketing, sales, and staffing are needed to run a major hotel. Because this is an extra-credit project, there is no specific goal given. Students are free to run their hotel for as long as they like.

**Lab Performance**

Lab/The Fredonia Hotel performance consists of an individual student’s punctuality, uniform and policy adherence, effort, and attitude during any given shift.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infraction</th>
<th>Point Deduction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each minute late to lab</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each violation of required uniform standards</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell phone usage during service hours</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexcused Absence</td>
<td>Loss of ALL lab points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Loss of ALL lab points if not rescheduled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct, effort, attitude</td>
<td>Professor/Lab Supervisor determination based on severity of offense</td>
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**NOTE:**

Since this is a 300-level course, it is assumed that you are to write in the professional manner with correct grammar, sentence usage and spelling. For every paper/project that you submit, points will be deducted for any violations.

Tutors are available for assistance through academic Assistance and Resource Center (AARC) located in the Steen Library.

**Netiquette:** All work, including emails, assignments, and discussion boards must abide by “netiquette” rules. Professional and appropriate language, grammar, spelling and syntax must be used in all communications. Be respectful to your classmates and professor. **Do not use “IM-style” writing at ANYTIME.** Grades will reflect your level of professionalism.

ALL e-mails must contain grammar, spelling, and sentence structure. No ALL CAPS, run-on sentences, texting-type or IM-type of writing will be accepted. Improper e-mails will be returned, unanswered. This is a university-level course and students must use professional emails in preparation for future management positions.

**Grading Requirements**

- Exams (2 x 50 points) 50 points 6.25%
- Final Exam 50 points 6.25%
- Attendance & Professionalism 200 points 25.00%
- Pre-Test Virtual Business Hotel/Reflection 40 points 5.00%
- Service Learning 50 points 6.25%
- Application Activities: The Fredonia Hotel 210 points 26.25%
Virtual Business Hotel (Online)  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>200 points</th>
<th>25.00%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>800 points</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
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**Extra Credit:**  
Hotel Mega Mogul – 50 points

**Grade Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>720-800 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>640-719 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>560-639 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>480-559 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Less than 480 points</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are enough assignment and exam points to GREATLY impact your grade. The grade you receive is the grade you will have earned. **This is a university course and will be graded as such.**

**Guidelines for Evaluating Students in the Hospitality Administration Program**

**What is an “A” Student?**

- Consistently goes above and beyond what is required in the experience
- Displays initiative
- Looks up information on own before asking questions of staff
- Contributes meaningfully to the faculty
- ACTS enthusiastic, even if he/she does not feel that way at the time
- Is open to criticism without getting defensive
- Does not like a “know it all”
- Displays maturity
- Is proactive – does not wait to be told to do everything; takes care of things before they become problems.
- Has good verbal and written communication skills
- Is willing to risk failure to learn something new
- Displays common sense
- Has strong “people skills”
- Is flexible
- Stays until the job is done – is NOT a “clock watcher”

Every student should not expect an “A”! It is the people who display the above characteristics, AS WELL AS HAVING SOUND TECHNICAL ABILITY AND THEORETICAL KNOWLEDGE who receives the “excellent” grade.

- A grade of “B” or “C” should not be perceived as failure.
- A grade of “B” means “good” and a grade of “C” means “average”. Not everyone is an “outstanding” student.
- A grade of “D” or “F” is appropriate when a student does not perform, does not know basic information or display basic skills, or if a student has a “real” attitude problem.
V. Tentative Course Outline/Calendar: *Note: Changes in the course outline are possible with the discretion of the professor.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS WEEKS</th>
<th>MEETING DATES &amp; TOPICS</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| WEEK 1      | January 23: Review of Syllabus; Course Information, Materials  
Knowledge Matters Discussion |
| WEEK 2      | January 28: Knowledge Matters Virtual Business – Hotel Simulation (In-Class/Online)  
Pre-Test Assignment Due (Online)  
January 30: 10:00 am-1:20 pm; Meet at The Fredonia Hotel Overview, Assignment and First Day of Work Assignment |
| WEEK 3      | February 04: Pricing and Revenue Management  
Assignment 1: Pricing and Revenue Management (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
February 06: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 4      | February 11: Group Sales  
Assignment 2: Group Sales (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
February 13: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 5      | February 18: Marketing and Public Relations  
Assignment 3: Marketing and Public Relations (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
February 20: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 6      | **February 25: 10:00 am – 10:50 am; EXAM 1 (ONLINE)**  
Customer Service: Front Desk (Online)  
Assignment 4: Customer Service: Front Desk (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
February 27: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 7      | March 04: Customer Service: Social Media Feedback  
Assignment 5: Customer Service: Social Media Feedback (Online)  
– Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
March 06: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 8      | March 11: Operations: Restaurant and Culinary  
Assignment 6: Operations: Restaurant and Culinary (Online)  
– Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
March 13: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 9      | **March 16-24: SPRING BREAK/NO CLASS** |
| WEEK 10 | **March 25**: 10:00 am – 10:50 am; EXAM 2 (ONLINE)  
Operations: Banquets and Meetings (Online)  
Assignment 7: Operations: Banquets and Meetings (Online)  
– Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
March 27: The Fredonia hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 11 | **April 01**: Operations: Housekeeping  
Assignment 8: Operations: Housekeeping (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
April 03: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 12 | **April 08**: Financial Reports  
Assignment 9: Financial Reports (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
April 10: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 13 | **April 15**: Monitoring Competitors  
Assignment 10: Monitoring Competitors (Online) – Quizzes and Simulation Exercise  
April 17: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 14 | **April 22**: Hotel Mogul Project (Online) – Simulation Activity  
April 24: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm |
| WEEK 15 | **April 29**: Extra Credit Hotel Mega Mogul Project (Online) – Simulation Activity  
May 01: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm  
May 03: Hospitality Shindig Fundraising Event; The Fredonia Hotel |
| WEEK 16 | **May 06**: Class Wrap-up  
**May 08**: The Fredonia Hotel Lab; 10:00 am – 1:20 pm (Final Assignment) |

**May 13: 10:30 AM – 12:30:00 PM: FINAL EXAM (Comprehensive) - ONLINE**

VI. Readings (Required and recommended—including texts, websites, articles, etc.):

**Course Access/Required Textbook:**  
Students are required to purchase the book/simulation access via Knowledge Matters Virtual Business Hospitality at [https://vb.knowledgematters.com/](https://vb.knowledgematters.com/).  
Course Key: **To be provided by the professor.**

**FEM Statement:**  
*This course does NOT use FEM.* In this course, you must purchase and activate the LiveText add-on, Field Experience Module (FEM), PRIOR to your first day of field experience/clinical teaching. Failure to purchase and activate the account and/or submit the required assignment(s) within the FEM system may result in course failure. FEM must be purchased from www.livetext.com for a fee of $18.00 for a multiple year subscription.

**LiveText/Watermark Statement:**
This course does NOT use LiveText/Watermark. LiveText/Watermark data management system is used to collect critical assessments for students who are Perkins College of Education majors (undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral) or majors in other colleges seeking educator certification through the Perkins College of Education. Students who do not have an existing LiveText/Watermark account will receive an access code via the SFA email system within the first week of class. You will be required to register your LiveText/Watermark account, and you will be notified how to do this via email. If you forward your SFA e-mail to another account and do not receive an e-mail concerning LiveText/Watermark registration, please be sure to check your junk mail folder and your spam filter for these e-mails.

If you have questions about obtaining or registering your LiveText/Watermark account or any technical questions, call 936-468-7050 or e-mail LiveText@sfasu.edu. Failure to activate the account and/or submit the required assignment(s) within the LiveText/Watermark system may result in course failure.

VII. Course Evaluations:

It is a must that students complete the course evaluations as scheduled by the university. Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the Perkins College of Education 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!

In the Perkins College of Education, 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 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.

**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, 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.

**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. 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 policy 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 [http://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**Additional Information:**

**Code of Ethics for the Texas Educator:**

The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the progress of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen. The Texas educator, in fulfilling responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. This chapter shall apply to educators and candidates for certification.


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

1. Candidates must undergo a criminal history background check prior to clinical teaching and prior to employment as an educator. The public school campuses are responsible for completing the criminal background check. A person who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a State Board for Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program or planning to take a certification examination may request a preliminary criminal history
evaluation letter regarding the person's potential ineligibility for certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

A Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation is a non-mandatory, non-binding evaluation of an individual's self-reported criminal history. In addition, the agency obtains your name-based Texas criminal history information. The service is provided to the requestor for a non-refundable fee. The requestor will receive an evaluation letter by email from agency staff advising of potential ineligibility for educator certification.

You are eligible to request a Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation if:

- You enrolled or planning to enroll in an educator preparation program or
- You are planning to take a certification exam for initial educator certification, and
- You have reason to believe that you may be ineligible for educator certification due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

You are not eligible for a preliminary evaluation of your criminal history if you do not have a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

In addition, you must complete the fingerprinting process when you apply for certification. Participation in the evaluation does not preclude you from submitting to a national criminal history review at the time you apply for your educator certification. Your criminal history will be reviewed and you may be subject to an investigation based on that criminal history, including any information you failed to submit for evaluation.

Additional information can be found at [https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/Preliminary_Criminal_History_Evaluation-FAQs/](https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/Preliminary_Criminal_History_Evaluation-FAQs/).

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, driver’s license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at [http://www.tx.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html](http://www.tx.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html). 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 Martin at 936-468-1740 or snyderke1@sfasu.edu.

IX. Other Relevant Course Information:

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
1. Students should prepare themselves adequately for each semester. Professors are not able to provide effective student critique when student work is unavailable for review or student effort is lacking.

2. Students should exhibit professional courtesy and conduct. Examples include a positive work attitude, sensitivity to others, attentiveness, and cooperation.

3. Faculty are committed to provide information and prompt response to students on the web, return student work in a timely fashion, honored posted office hours, provide feedback on student progress, and work with field supervisors.

4. If student dissatisfaction arises, the student’s request for a private conference/phone call with the professor serves as the first step toward resolution.