

**University of Texas at Tyler**  
**Department of Health & Kinesiology**  
**Communication Sciences & Disorders**  
**COMD 2359 Speech Science**  
**Fall 2021**

**Instructor:** Ahmed M. Abdelal, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
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**Office:** 126 HPR  
**Class Meeting Time:** Monday & Wednesday 4:05-5:30 PM (HPR 251)

**Office Hours:** T 8:15-9:15 am; W 2:30-3:30 pm; R 8:15-9:15 am; R 4:00-5:00 pm

In addition to these office hours, I am available by appointment on Wednesday 2:00-4:00 pm. I am also available via email 5 days a week. I make every effort to respond to emails as soon as possible and not later than 48 hours, unless I am attending conferences.

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*This syllabus is intended for use with the online resources that are available on Canvas. I recommend that you download and retain a copy of this syllabus and assignment guidelines in case you need them in the future for graduate school purposes.*

**Very Important:**

Anatomy and physiology is a medical science course. It requires a great deal of intensive and ongoing studying and reviewing. I do not give extra credit work in this course or in any of my courses. I provide all my students with every possible tool that, if used as recommended, will help them succeed and attain their academic goals. The chance you have to do well is the chance you have now. This syllabus is our contract, and you should refer to it on a regular basis to know about assignments and their due dates. At the end of the course, please do not try to negotiate your grade with me. I do not give you grades: the grade you EARN is the grade you get.

I encourage you to ask questions, no matter how simple or “dump” they may sound to you. It is by your questions and inquiries that I can understand you better and provide you with the help you need. We will achieve the best learning outcomes when each of us (you as a student and myself as a faculty) does his/her part as they should. I am available to help you throughout the week. All you need to do is to reach out in person or via email. While the content is very small, compared to other courses, it is mostly unfamiliar and will require daily refreshment/studying.

**Course Description**

This course integrates knowledge from 3 related disciplines including anatomy and physiology, phonetics, and clinical application. As such, in addition to providing students with the required science background, the course promotes analytical skills and problem solving in speech language pathology and audiology. This course integrates the physiology of the 5 systems body that serve communication with the various clinical applications and biophysiological measures. Students will study respiratory volumes and capacities and apply them to speech production in the general population and in individuals with speech disorders. They will study the dynamics of vocal fold vibration, airflow dynamics and various instruments and measures pertaining to the functionality of vocal fold production and vocal fold pathology. The course also focuses on the unique properties of individual phonemes and their respiratory and phonatory requirements. Other major topics that are deeply explored in this course are the speech motor system and instrumentation that is used for vocal production and sound analysis.

**Required Text:**

Ferrand, Carole T. (2018). *Speech Science: An Integrated Approach to Theory and Clinical Practice, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*.

**Learning Outcomes:** *Upon completion of this course the student will:*

- Describe the sensory, motor, and neurocognitive foundations of speech production.
- Define lung volumes and capacities and analyze their roles in voice, articulation and fluency
- Connect the anatomy of the vocal folds, vocal tract and respiratory system with loudness and pitch variations; thus, building an integrated view of speech perception and production.
- Understand the role of technology in the study of speech production and perception and be familiar with Internet resources related to the study of speech and hearing science.

**Teaching Method & Course Organization:**

Students are required to read the assigned material and complete the assigned electronic quizzes ONLINE PRIOR to coming to class.

The subject matter will be explored using a systems approach focusing on the study of 5 MAJOR body systems that facilitate human communication: respiratory, phonatory, articulatory, auditory, and nervous systems. Students are required to read the assigned chapter(s), view assigned recorded lectures, and take the assigned quizzes BEFORE coming to class. Students are expected to keep a notebook where they write down questions that come up while they are studying as well as specific concepts that need to be explained. Class time will be dedicated to discussions and explanation of complex concepts. You Tube videos, videotaped presentations and individual and small group projects will be utilized. Because anatomy is like learning another language, it requires continuous exposure and frequent reviewing of the material on a DAILY basis. In addition to the new vocabulary, the class involves a lot of critical analysis and problem-solving.

**Note:** *Not reading this syllabus and implementing course guidelines on a REGULAR basis could cause you to be overwhelmed and could very well mean the difference between passing and failing the course. Students are expected to show responsibility and to thoroughly follow all course guidelines provided in this syllabus and on Canvas.*

## COURSE POLICIES

**Regular Attendance and Participation are Required and Expected:***Attendance Policy:*

Regular attendance in this course is mandatory. My classes begin exactly on time, and do not end a minute earlier. I am usually in class 10-15 minutes before class starts and I expect you to be there on time. I will start taking attendance a few minutes before class time. Attendance will close during the first 2-3 minutes of class. be taken 3 minutes before class starts, and the attendance file will be closed during the first 60 seconds of class. For students arriving late, I will not interrupt class to mark them present. *Therefore, if you have an emergency and arrive a minute or two later, it is your responsibility to remind me after class.* If you do not inform me at that time, the absence will not be removed. The best way to avoid this issue is to be there right on time.

Because attendance is mandatory, students do not earn points to be in class. Instead, they will lose points for every class missed. Missing two classes during the semester (without a WRITTEN proof of an emergency will lead to loss of 5% of the total course grade. Each additional class missed will lead to loss of an additional 5% of the total course grade.

*Class Participation:*

Students are required to engage in class discussions and to answer questions when called upon. Students who provide complete and accurate information and correct answers during class discussions will have the chance to EARN 50 participation points. However, class participation points CANNOT be made up under any

circumstance (even if the student has a legitimately excused absence). Students who miss 3 classes with a documented emergency will lose ALL 50 participation points.

- If you plan to be out for any reason, you do NOT need to notify me ahead of time. All you need is to bring in your written proof of an emergency the next time you come to class.
- *A legitimate excuse* is one that is due to an emergency (e.g., death in the family, car accident, prolonged illness, court appearance). *Students will be responsible for providing written proof of such absence (e.g., obituary, court summons, police report, doctor's letter).* I will not ask you for the proof. However, if you do not present one, your absence will NOT be excused.
- Habitual lateness or leaving before class ends will also result in lowering the student's final grade. *Missing 20 minutes of a class twice will be counted as 1 absence.* In addition to the impact on your performance, arriving late/leaving earlier is disruptive and shows lack of respect for your fellow classmates.

*Important: If you are absent for any reason, please do not ask me what you missed. This is your responsibility. You will need to find out from one of your colleagues.*

#### ***No Texting or Internet Browsing while class is in session:***

- In my classes I am very protective of class time. Every minute is precious. The only reason you are in this course is to LEARN, and the only reason I am here is to teach you and to make every class of the course worth your money, commuting, time, and effort. For this reason, engaging in texting, Internet browsing, or chatting is a very serious violation of class rules. I want you to succeed and will do everything I can to enable you to succeed, but you MUST do your part and follow class rules:
- Laptops are allowed ONLY for note taking.
- Please silence your phones. If there is a situation where you must text, it is perfectly okay to step out of the room quietly and send your message or make your call. If you have a serious situation that requires your phone to be on, you can put it on vibrate. However, you will need to inform me in advance.

#### **Class Cancellation**

In the event of class cancellation (due to inclement weather or an emergency), please refer to the UT TYLER website for announcements. In the event of an emergency campus closure, a video recording of the lecture will be available online. You will view it and take notes. Any assignments due during that week will NOT be affected by the campus cancellation, as all assignments are submitted online.

*Cancellations will be determined by the UT TYLER policy, and I will make no special announcements. It is your responsibility to check the UT TYLER website for weather-related announcements.*

#### **Course Assignments: *Very important***

- *You are required to keep word copies of each written assignment you submit until the very end of the course.*
- *All assignments MUST be submitted in Word format and ONLY in the designated folders on Canvas.*
- *All assignments submitted for this course MUST be ORIGINAL and must be ONLY written for this course and ONLY for this semester. Any assignments submitted in previous courses or previous semesters will receive zero credit.*
- Absolutely **NO** emailed assignments. Assignments must be submitted on CANVAS, in their designated folder and by the due date (which is listed in the course schedule grid at the end of this document).
- All written assignments must follow APA Style: i.e., they must be in Word Document form, in double-space, and in Times New Roman font # 12. To learn how to use APA style documentation, please go to Purdue OWL: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>. Also, there on CANVAS (course menu) you will find a folder titled "APA Resources." In this folder you will find a videotaped lecture explaining step by step how to use APA. Following these steps will help you avoid losing points.

#### ***Completing Assignments PRIOR to Class***

Students are expected to read ALL assigned materials, view any assigned videos, and complete ALL other assignments before coming to class. The class will focus on (a) expanding your understanding of the content, answer your questions about the material; and explain any concepts that you may need more help with. You are responsible for the information in class presentations, discussions, chapter summaries, articles, and any videotaped lectures, You Tube videos, articles, material discussed in class, cases, etc. All of these are content for exams. The professor reserves the right to assign additional readings upon his discretion.

All written assignments must follow APA Style: i.e., they must be in Word Document form, in double-space, and in Times New Roman font # 12. To learn how to use APA style documentation, please go to Purdue OWL: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>.

**Late Assignment & Rewrite Rule:** This course involves a series of assignments that need to be submitted on time in order to get maximum credit. *Students who fail to submit an assignment by the deadline will have 6 days to submit it; however, 21% will be deducted due to missing the deadline. Assignments that are more than 6 days overdue will NOT be accepted for credit.* Likewise, if the submitted assignment does not meet the basic criteria (or falls below 50%), the student will be given the option to re-write it, but 21% will be subtracted. The rewrite must be submitted within 3 to 6 days (depending on the situation and nature of the assignment). Again, please keep in mind that I do not give any extra credit work or any chance to retake exams. *The best way to avoid this scenario is to keep up with assignments, to plan ahead, and not to wait until the last minute.*

- *Important: **Please do not ask me to edit or your work or “look it over” prior to submitting it.** You are welcome to seek editing support help from the Writing Center (at the Student Success Center). You are welcome to ask me any specific questions about the assignment, but **I do not edit or read them before grading them.***

### **Submitting Assignments:**

Absolutely NO emailed assignments. Assignments must be submitted on CANVAS, in their designated folder. If the folder is not visible or accessible for any reason, please inform me and I will look into it immediately.

All assignments must be submitted online and are expected by the due dates, unless a student has an EXTENDED emergency (including hospitalization, death in the family, court duty, accident). In that case, the student MUST present written evidence. A student wishing to submit an assignment after the deadline can do so within 6 days; however, that assignment will lose 21%. For example, if the late assignment is worth 100 points, the maximum grade possible will be 79/100. Any points lost due to mistakes will be taken off the 79%. The best way to avoid this scenario is to be proactive, plan ahead and NOT wait until the last minute to submit assignments. In addition to the possible negative impact on the grade, procrastination cause the procrastinator a great deal of stress.

To submit assignments, please go to the Course Assignment folder on Canvas (course menu). In this folder you will find links for submitting each assignment. You will also find guidelines and grading rubrics pertaining to each assignment. All written assignments must be submitted as WORD Docs and as ATTACHMENTS. Please do NOT copy and paste. If you do, this will change your format and may make your entire assignment unreadable. Also, before uploading the assignment, please verify that you are submitting the right file. Any wrong assignments, or assignments not submitted in the designated folder, will receive a zero grade.

### **Description of Assignments**

#### **Article Review (150 Points):**

This assignment consists of 3 steps: writing a research article review; editing and critiquing a review by a colleague; and presenting the review in class during a 15-minute Power Point presentation. Students will locate a scholarly article pertaining to the content of the course and will write a summary of it. Detailed guidelines and a grading rubric will be provided. This assignment will be submitted in Two locations. First,

students will submit the assignment on the Discussion Board. Then, each student will read the assignment of 1 colleague and provide detailed feedback. The student then implements the feedback and posts the assignment in the Assignment folder for grading. Finally, the student will prepare a 15-minute Power Point presentation to be given in class.

### **Case Studies and Critical Analysis Activities (200)**

Case studies will be posted online. For every case, students will write a critical analysis of it and will refer to the assigned chapter and find information that supports their conclusions. Then, the case will be discussed in class. The points allocated for the class discussions of cases cannot be made up, even if the students has a excused absence.

### **Exams (650 points)**

Students are responsible for the information in the class presentations and discussions, chapter summaries, articles, any videotaped lectures, You Tube videos, articles, material discussed in class, cases, etc. All of these are content for exams. The professor reserves the right to assign additional reading materials or new research upon his discretion. There will be an exam following each of the first 3 systems (respiration, phonation, and articulation). Each exam is worth 150 points. The last 2 systems (auditory and nervous systems) will be addressed in the final exam, which is worth 200 points. Makeup exams are allowed only when a student produces a written document proving that s/he missed the exam due to a DOCUMENTED emergency or court duty.

Exams will be taken at a computer lab during regular class time. On exam days, please go directly to the lab, and be there 10-15 minutes in advance. This will give you time to log in and deal with any unexpected log in issues. Exam time will not be extended for any student who arrives late.

As for the content of exams, each exam will consist of 2 segments (a) a multiple-choice segment and (b) a short answer segment. Students will start at the regular class starting time and time will NOT be extended for students who arrive late. Students will be able to work on both parts of the exam at the same time during the allocated time. Students who with a learning disability and require extended exam time, must present an official letter from the Student Success Center at the beginning of the course. Also, prior to each exam, they must make arrangements with the Student Success Center to take the exam there.

### **General Written Assignment Guidelines**

- The writing must be clear, and the information must be paraphrased in your own words.
- Assignments must have paragraphs. Each paragraph should focus on a single idea. Papers consisting of long blocks of words will lose 10% of the total assignment grade.
- If you take 2 words or more that are attached to each other from a reference, you must use quotation marks and cite the source and page number at the end of what you take. Failure to do so will imply that the wording is your own, which will be an act of **plagiarism**.
- Your paper should be double-spaced, and in a 12, Times New Roman font. This is the standard font for academic research.
- Please refer to Purdue OWL website (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>) for details on how to write in APA style. Also, an example paper in APA style is available at: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090212013008\\_560.pdf](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090212013008_560.pdf)
- For this assignment, no abstract is needed.

### **Accessing Course Materials on Canvas:**

Class Power Point Slides and additional content and resources will be available online at least one day in advance. Please download them before you arrive in class. This will help you minimize note-taking and free more brain energy for taking in more new information.

**Note:** You are required to keep track of all of assignment grades, in case of any technology problems. You are also **REQUIRED** to keep electronic copies of any and all written assignments that you submit throughout the duration of this course.

**Grading:** *This course is based on 1000 points. This is to ensure that you get every fraction of a point that you deserve, and that if you make a few mistakes in exams or assignments, your grade will not suffer as much. For example, if you miss 10 questions in one exam, you will still have the chance to score within the “A” range. Meanwhile, if you earn one thousandth of a point, it will be added to your grade.*

### Grade Distribution and Grading Key

<i>Final Grade Itemization</i>		<i>Grading Scale</i>			
3 Unit Exams (150 each)	450	A	100-94.00%	C+	79.99-77.00%
Final	200	A-	93.99-90.00%	C	76.99-74.00%
Article Review	150	B+	89.99-87.00%	C-	73.99-70.00%
Case Studies	200	B-	83.99-80.00%	F	<60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>				

### Course TENTATIVE schedule

*(Tentative means likely to change)*

Week	Topic	Text Reading	Assignment Due Dates
<b>Week 1</b> 8/30 9/021	Course Overview Respiratory System	Syllabus Ch 2	
<b>Week 2</b> 9/06 9/08	Respiratory System	Ch 2	
<b>Week 3</b> 9/13 9/15	Respiratory System	Ch 3	<b>Email title of your article by 10 pm 9/12</b>
<b>Week 4</b> 9/20 9/22	<b>Exam 1</b> Phonatory System	Ch 4	<b>Exam at computer lab</b>
<b>Week 5</b> 9/27 9/29	Phonatory System	Ch 4 & 5	<b>Article review due on DB by 10 pm on 9/26</b>
<b>Week 6</b> 10/04 10/06	Phonatory System	Ch5	
<b>Week 7</b> 10/11 10/13	<b>Exam 2</b> Articulator System	Ch 6	<b>Exam at computer lab</b>
<b>Week 8</b> 10/18 10/20	Articulator System	Ch 6 & 7	<b>Final draft of article review due in assignment folder by 10 pm 10/05</b>
<b>Week 9</b> 10/25 10/27	Articulator System	Ch 6 & 7	
<b>Week 10</b> 11/01 11/03	<b>Exam 3</b> Nervous System	Ch 10	<b>Exam at computer lab</b>

<b>Week 11</b> 11/08 11/10	Nervous System	Ch 11	
<b>Week 12</b> 11/15 11/17	Speech Motor Planning, Execution, and Control Recorded Lecture Due to ASHA Convention	Ch 11 & Additional content	
<b>Week 13</b> 11/22 11/24	<b>Thanksgiving Break- No classes</b>		
<b>Week 14</b> 11/29 12/01	Speech Motor Planning, Execution, and Control	Ch 11 & Additional content	
<b>12/07</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>5:00-7:00 pm at Computer Lab</b>

### University Policies

A. **UT Tyler Honor Code:** 1. Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

B. **Campus Carry:** 1. We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

C. **UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University:** 1. All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

D. **Academic Honesty Policy:** Students will adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. Anyone caught cheating will earn a “0” for that assignment and will be subject to academic and disciplinary action. Plagiarism (the use of written and oral words or ideas of another person, including another student, without the expressed acknowledgment of the speaker’s or writer’s indebtedness to that person) will not be tolerated. This includes the use of papers or other materials previously submitted to instructors in other classes, as well as video and audio recordings. Students caught plagiarizing will fail this class and be subject to academic and disciplinary action.

E. Student Standards of Academic Conduct 1. Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

a. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- i copying from another student’s test paper;
- ii using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- iii failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;

- iv possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes.” The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- v using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- vi collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- vii discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination; viii divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student; ix substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- x paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- xi falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit; xii taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of the University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- xiii misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

b. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

c. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty. d. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

Additional Examples of academic dishonesty and plagiarism:

-Copying part or all of a colleague’s assignment and submitting it as if it were your own work. In this situation both students will be penalized.

-Putting information from a book, article, etc. into a written assignment without clearly attributing the information to the source and documenting the source in the body of the assignment.

-Copying, printing or sharing online quizzes

-Submitting assignments that were previously used for another course.

-Sharing information about exams and/or quizzes with other students

These are just examples of acts of dishonesty that lead to failing the course and further disciplinary action.

Assignments will be submitted via the Safe Assign anti-plagiarism online system, which will immediately trace any words a student plagiarizes from any source out there. Any violations will be taken very seriously.

2. **The U-T Tyler Writing Center** provides professional writing tutoring for all students in all disciplines. If you wish to use the Writing Center, you should plan for a minimum of two hour-long tutorials per assignment: the first to provide an initial consultation and drafting plan, and the second to follow up. Be prepared to take an active role in your learning, as you will be asked to discuss your work during your tutorial. While Writing Center tutors are happy to provide constructive criticism and teach effective writing techniques, under no circumstances will they fix, repair, or operate on your paper.  
Location: BUS 202. Appointments: 903-565-5995.

3. **Disability/Accessibility Services:**

a. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application.

b. **The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR)** office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

#### 4. **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies:**

a. Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

b. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

c. The Census Date (Sept. 10th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- i Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- ii Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- iii Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- iv Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- v Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

5. **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy:** a. Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). b. Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

6. **Student Absence due to Religious Observance:** a. Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

7. **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities:** If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time, the instructor will set a date and time when

make-up assignments will be completed.

**8. Social Security and FERPA Statement:** It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically. 10.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation:** a. Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**F. UT Tyler Resources for Students:**

1. UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
2. UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
3. The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021 (This is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses).
4. UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)