

# SYLLABUS

## University of North Texas at Dallas

### Spring 2025

<b>PSCI 2307 – Sec 0001: Research Methods 3 Hrs.</b>	
<b>Department of History and Political Science</b>	<b>School of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b>
<b>Instructor Name:</b>	<b>Professor Curtis McDowell</b>
<b>Office Location:</b>	<b>Founders Hall: Room 230</b>
<b>Office Phone:</b>	972-338-1564 ofc. (I only answer and check phone messages when I am in the office from 9am-5pm. Please communicate by official university email if you want a prompt reply.)
<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:curtis.mcdowell@untDallas.edu">curtis.mcdowell@untDallas.edu</a> (do not use Canvas for email communication)
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>Wednesdays 2 pm – 3 pm</b>
<b>Virtual Office Hours:</b>	<b>11:30 am- 12:50 pm</b>
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	<b>Founders Hall: Room 337</b>
<b>Class Meeting Days:</b>	<b>Mondays/Wednesdays</b>
<b>Course Catalog Description:</b>	
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	
<b>Required Text:</b>	<b>Required Books Please purchase the following books from the merchant of your choice:</b> <i>Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research</i> (2019), Russell K. Schutt, 9e, SAGE Publications, Inc.
<b>Highly Recommended Text and References:</b>	<b>None required</b>
<b>Access to Learning Resources:</b>	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a> UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhq.follett.com">1012mgr@fhq.follett.com</a>

**Course Goals or Overview:** This course addresses the analysis of social phenomena through the application of scientific methods. The course is designed for majors in sociology, criminal justice or behavioral sciences.

**Course Goals**

1	Enhance critical thinking through analysis and the recognition of disparate and similar research concepts.
2	Enhance written, oral and reading skills to promote communication.
7	Enhance the social responsibility of Political Science undergraduates by discussing the uses of research of diverse populations and policies.
8	The course promotes personal responsibility through discussions of ethical problems, equality, and reasoning in the public sphere.
9	Taken together, these general education objectives are designed to achieve the ultimate goal of the university, to provide a foundation and skills for students to continue learning long after they have left the university.

**Learning Objectives/Outcomes:** At the end of this course, the student will -

1	Demonstrate classification of the key elements of social science, political, policy and institutional research.
2	Demonstrate an understanding of the scope of various the scientific methods, including which types of research are appropriate in various analytical situations.
3	Analyze the goals of basic and applied research and demonstrate how each is related to the others.
4	Demonstrate competency in critically evaluating research, including the use of basic statistical concepts and the common problems in statistical analysis.

**Course Requirements**

1	Each student must regularly and promptly attend class. <i>Note:</i> Attendance will be taken. For each class past three classes that a student misses, one point will be deducted from the student's final grade for the course.
2	Class assignments must be read before class so that the student can better understand the lecture and participate in class discussion.
3	The students will participate in class by active listening, questioning, responding to the instructor's questions and keeping a notebook of class lectures.
4	The student will successfully complete a weekly writing assignment, quizzes and a final. These require the student to demonstrate an understanding of the materials used in class.

## Course Outline:

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor in class and by posting on Canvas.

TOPICS	SLOs	TIMELINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Science, Society and Social Research</b></li> <li>• <b>The Process and Problems of Social Research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 1</li> <li>○ Chapter 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 1  <b>Quiz 1</b> <b>Quiz 2</b>  <b>Discussion Question 1</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research Ethics and Research Proposals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 3</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 2  <b>Quiz 3</b>  <b>Discussion Question 3</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conceptualization and Measurement</b></li> <li>• <b>Sampling and Generalizability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 4</li> <li>○ Chapter 5</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 3  <b>Quiz 4</b> <b>Quiz 5</b>  <b>Discussion Question 4 &amp; 5</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research Design and Causation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 6 – <i>Design to Causation</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 4  <b>Quiz 6</b> <b>Discussion Question 6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Midterm 1 (chapters 1 – 6)</b></li> </ul>		Week 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Let's connect how Survey Research works</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 7 – <i>Experiments</i></li> <li>○ Chapter 8 – <i>Survey Research</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 6  <b>Quiz 7 &amp; 8</b> <b>Select teams for group project</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Data Collection – How to interpret interval and ratio data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 9 – <i>Quantitative Data Analysis</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 7  <b>Quiz 9</b> <b>Assign Project 1 – Group</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Midterm 2 (chapters 7 – 9)</b></li> </ul>		Week 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commonly used data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 10 – <i>Qualitative Methods</i></li> <li>○ Chapter 11 – <i>Qualitative Data Analysis</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 9  <b>Quiz 10</b> <b>Discussion Question 10 &amp; 11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>When two worlds collide – Qualitative and Quantitative working together</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 12 – <i>Mixed Methods</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 10  <b>Project 1 – check in</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Measurement of Constructs – developing and planning your research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chapter 13 – <i>Evaluation and Policy Research</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Week 11  <b>Quiz 11</b> <b>Discussion Question 12</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Basics of Empirical Research – Controlling the data construct</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Chapter 14 – <i>Data and “Big” Data</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1,2,3,4,5	Week 12  <b>Discussion Question 13 Project 1 – Due</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Types of Data and Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Chapter 15 - <i>Historical &amp; Comparative Data &amp; Content Analysis</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Week 13  <b>Quiz 12</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Summarizing and Reporting</b></li> <li>• Chapter 16</li> </ul>	2,3,4,5	Week 14
• <b>Review - optional class attendance</b>		Week 15
• <b>Final Exam</b>		Week 16

## Course Evaluation Methods

### 1. Discussion

- I expect serious class-preparation and thoughtful participation, which means taking notes on/thinking about the readings ahead of time. Discussions will be an important component of this course, and thus participation counts for a sizable portion of your final grade.
- I will post class discussions for purposes of evaluation. **Weekly Discussion Board:** Write a two-paragraph (10 sentences total) double-spaced statement with 2 or more takeaways obtained after reading the week’s chapter. Due every Friday on Canvas.
- This discussion should contain takeaways and opinions written in the student’s own words. Quotations should be used sparingly and when used, the text should be included in quotes followed by the author, publication date and page (example: “Text quoted” (Schmid 2002, p. 17)).

**Due: Weekly discussions should be posted no later than midnight.**

**2. Exam 1:** An exam consisting of 25 multiple-choice questions will be administered. You will be given 80 minutes to complete the multiple-choice questions.

**Due: Week 5 of class:**

**3. Exam 2:** An exam consisting of 25 multiple-choice questions will be administered. You will be given 80 minutes to complete the multiple-choice questions.

**Due: Week 9 of class (subject to change)**

**4. Final Exam:** An exam consisting of 25 - 35 multiple-choice questions will be administered. You will be given 80 minutes to complete the multiple-choice questions. An essay question may also be included which will require using a structure Research Writing contextualization.

**Due: Final Week of class**

## Projects 1:

### Due: Week 12

- These are your two projects. Your completed projects should include:
- Title Page
- Abstract
- Research Plan: What are you going to do?
  - Statement of Problem
  - Purpose of Research/Research Objectives
- Background: This section is optional, but you should include it if you feel it is necessary to elaborate on the history or social composition of the research community/subjects and place of study.
- Literature Review
- Significance: Why the project topic matters/Why it is worth doing and/or funding?
  - Description of Methods: How will you conduct the research?
  - Ethical Considerations: A paragraph on ethical considerations must be included if your research will entail participant-observation, interviewing, or surveying of people.
  - Bibliography/References Cited

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, all written assignments must adhere to the following guidelines. Failure to comply with them will result in a lowering of your assignment grades. Late assignments WILL NOT receive a grade.

- *Double spaced, one inch margins*
- *12 pt. font.*
- *Page numbers and name header on all pages.*
- *Correct citations and bibliography*
- *Proof read and spell-check Stapled*
- *2 – 4 pages in length (NOT including title and bibliography pages)*

### Objective Evaluation

- Questions on the open-book chapter quizzes will be taken from the text and from the lecture; students will receive notice of each quiz one week before the offering of the quiz. Each quiz will have approximately 20 multiple choice questions.
- Students must take quizzes when they are offered. *No make-ups will be given.*
  - If a student is unable to take a quiz or test when it is to be offered, the student must obtain my permission to take that quiz or test at another time.
  - If a student is unable to take a quiz or test when it is offered, due to some unforeseen condition, the student *must* notify me to that effect *before* the quiz or test is offered, and *no later* than on the *day* before that that quiz or test was being offered. A message can be left at my email. Supporting documentation, when available, must be provided, to support the reason for this absence.

- Failure to comply with these terms meant that the student will be allowed to take a quiz late. The maximum grade that a student can get for such an unauthorized examination is 50%.
- Students will have a closed book, multiple-question final exam after the last chapter studied in class. It will constitute 20% of the student's final grade for the course.

### Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total	Measures SLO
Midterm exam 1	15 percent	15	1,2,3,4,5
Midterm exam 2	15 percent	30	1,2,3,4,5
Assignments	35 percent	65	2,3,4,5
Final Exam	10 percent	75	2,3,4,5
Project 1&2	20 percent	95	2,3,4,5
Discussion	5 percent	5	4,5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100 percent</b>	<b>100</b>	

### Grade Determination:

- A = 400 – 360 pts; i.e. 90% or better
- B = 320 – 359 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %
- C = 280 – 319 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %
- D = 240 – 279 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %
- F = 239 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

## University Policies and Procedures

### Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letter during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at [UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu](mailto:UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu) on the first floor of the Student Center.

#### Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring that online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

### **Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

**Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>).**

### **Classroom Disruption:**

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning.

Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (**UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>**) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct,

or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

### **Course Evaluations:**

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

### **Bad Weather Policy:**

Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>.

### **Inclement Weather and Online Classes:**

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

**Technology Assistance:** In order to successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor. If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>
- Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating Systems: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>

### **Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:**

*The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.*



## **Assignment Writing Policy:**

*Assignments come in several flavors. 1. At least five readings will be assigned, with associated quiz questions that focus on reading mastery and critical thinking. These will be handed out at the start of classes and may be submitted at any time, up to the deadline noted in the syllabus. Late assignments will be penalized 20 percent per day late. 2. Each Wednesday, I will post an online quiz on current affairs drawn from major findings on the research topic covered in class for that week. You have until midnight Thursday to complete the quiz. If you do not complete the weekly quiz on time, you will get a zero for that quiz. 3. For each chapter and LAITS reading beginning with the first assignment, a quiz will be posted online. Each quiz must be complete before the due date for the reading: this means that the online quiz will close at midnight of the day the reading is due. No credit is given for missed quizzes. 4. Format and citation requirements will be included on written and posted assignments on Canvas. An American Political Science Association citation sheet provides details of bibliography and citation form, and it is posted on the class pages on Canvas under the Writing folder.*

## **Exam Policy:**

*Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>).*

## **Academic Integrity:**

*Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at [http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf) for complete provisions of this code.*

*In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:*

**On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the**

## **UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.**

*You will be required to sign the pledge to authenticate it.*

## **Course-Specific Policies**

### **Bad Weather Policy:**

*On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [www.unt.edu/dallas](http://www.unt.edu/dallas). Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.*

## **Attendance and Participation Policy:**

*The University attendance policy is substantially in effect for this course. However, you will be treated as responsible adults for most of the semester: you miss class at your own peril. Details of attendance policy will be discussed in class during the first session.*

*Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature*

of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation is essential to your ability to demonstrate proficiency in the subject.

If you must miss a single, isolated class, you need not notify the instructor, but it becomes your responsibility to obtain notes of the missed class from your colleagues. I do not post the notes of my lectures. Before you ask the professor what was missed, you should have reviewed notes for the missed class.

In the case of extended absences due to illness or crises, you are expected to inform the instructor as soon as possible about the extent of your absence, preferably before the absence occurs. You may be required to produce written evidence of the reasons for your absence.

In all cases, missing exams and other assignments requires a good-faith effort on your part to inform the instructor of your absence beforehand. Unless you have a rock-solid reason for missing the test, you will not be permitted to make it up. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>

## Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

## Optional Policies:

- **Do not attempt to communicate through the Canvas mail function.** I do not check it and I will not respond. Communicate through my official university e-mail listed at the top of this syllabus. I communicate with you by responding to whatever e-mail address you use to send your message. General notices are posted as announcements on Canvas and/or as email to your official university address. Failure to check your email is no excuse for missing changes in test dates or assignments.
- **Students are expected to attend class**, since much of the material is not drawn from the readings. The university wants instructors to take attendance (see above), so an attendance sheet will circulate at the end of class or at the beginning, varying on different days. Attendance does not enhance your grade, but failure to attend will lead to lower grades as much of the course material is not in the books. Missing class will also mean missing pop quizzes based on the readings.
- Entering class late is sometimes unavoidable. **If you enter late, you are expected to do so as unobtrusively and quietly as possible.** Please take a seat on the fringes of the class and do not disrupt the lecture by taking a first row seat. Do not attempt to hand in homework while the lecture is going on. If you must leave class, do so quietly.
- **Cell phones must be turned off.** Texting and twittering are not permitted.
- **Computers are a useful tool for taking notes in class, but these machines are often used for a number of other purposes such as emailing, web-surfing, game-playing etc. Note-taking on a computer is permitted in class, but secondary uses are not. Students who are found to be using their computers for activities other than note-taking will be banned from using the computer in class for any purpose. If we should have a guest speaker, everyone will go computer-free for that session.**
- Students are expected to have **read the assigned material before class.**
- Students are encouraged to participate frequently in discussions in class. Participation will make the instructor's calls on borderline grades easier to make.
- **There are no 'right' answers to many of the issues we will discuss**, and you will not be graded on your opinions. However, please take into account that opinions supported by facts are more persuasive than opinions supported by more opinions. Make your arguments accordingly.
- Students are expected to be considerate of others. This means silencing cell phones, arriving on time, not leaving early and being respectful of others during discussion and debate. **Flaming or intimidating fellow students will not be tolerated.** Opinions and arguments are fair game; the speaker is not. Listening courteously is a real world skill, and I have a commitment to civil discourse that I will enforce.
- I support my classes with PowerPoint presentations. However, **you will not have access to these presentations outside of class.** There are several reasons for this:
  - 1) One-time use of images and charts for teaching is fair use under current legal rulings, but were I to allow you permanent access to those images, I would have to secure formal permission from the owner of every image.

2) Some students substitute post-lecture PowerPoint downloads for attending class or note-taking. Others substitute verbatim regurgitation of PwrPt material on tests and quizzes for the thoughtful analysis that earns high grades. Studies show that note-taking does enhance student performance, so please develop that skill.

3) There is potential for an ownership dispute over course content posted online. The presentations constitute my work product, virtually all of which was assembled before I began teaching at UNTD. Many universities are now enamored with online courses, and some attempt to claim legal ownership of work prepared by individuals employed at the school or posted on university websites, whether or not the content was compiled on university time or published during university employment. My lectures were compiled by me over years of study, reading and research outside the UNTD environment and existed before I began teaching these courses. Previously assembled presentations were adjusted to fit UNT course requirements and mandated texts.

**Print Name (first, last)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sign (first, last)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student ID:** \_\_\_\_\_