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Section Information: FINA3315-001 Investments introduces principles governing the proper investment of personal and institutional funds, information sources, security analysis, exchanges and regulations. Formerly FINA 4313; credit will be granted only once. Prerequisite: ECON 2306, ACCT 2302, and 60 credit hours.

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Face-to-Face (F2F), Tuesday and Thursday 7:00pm-8:20pm, Texas Hall 105 (TEX105); All classes will go on-line after Thanksgiving.

Description of Modality – This class will be face-to-face (F2F) in which all class lectures and midterm exam are on-campus face-to-face(F2F) on specified dates and times (specified in course schedule). After Thanksgiving, virtual meetings will be held synchronously in “Canvas Conference”. For complete details on class meetings, refer to the course timeline. All classes will go on-line after Thanksgiving.

Description of Course Content: Course content covers the principles governing the proper investment of personal and institutional funds, information sources, security analysis, exchanges, regulations, and ethics.

Course content will be provided in several formats in order to provide maximum flexibility to students who are still adjusting to online classes.

• First, all required course content is available through the online e-text and the CFA website. Links to both of these are provided on Canvas. The textbook and materials from the CFA website are the only mandatory sources of content. The options that follow are all supplementary for those students who would like more explanation, discussion, and context of the course material.
• Lecture slides summarizing the course content from each chapter of the e-textbook are posted in Canvas.
• Each chapter will be summarized and explained by the instructor in weekly synchronous online meetings that will also be recorded and posted on Canvas.
• Additional supplementary resources such as YouTube and other 3rd party videos and news articles will be posted on Canvas and within the weekly discussions.

This course will be offered in 2 modalities.

1) On campus F2F: Classrooms will be used allowing for social distancing and masks are required while in class. All class meetings will be specified in syllabus timeline.

2) On-line synchronous: After Thanksgiving, all class sessions will occur online. Class sessions will be held synchronously in “Canvas Conference”. There are no requirements for students to come to campus in this modality.
**Synchronous**

Class sessions occur during the scheduled course day and time. Students and instructors will meet in real time virtually. Students will log into a conference through Canvas to attend class. Students need to attend synchronous online sessions at the scheduled day and time – dates for synchronous class sessions will be specified in the syllabus.

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

After completing the course, students should be able to:

CLO 1: Understand investment environments in the U.S. and abroad.

CLO 2: Understand, quantify, and apply valuation techniques for common stocks, bonds, options, and futures.

CLO 3: Understand and apply asset pricing theories.

CLO 4: Understand and describe the empirical behavior of security prices and the efficient market hypothesis.

CLO 5: Develop and apply skills for portfolio management.

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**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

1. **Required Text and MyFinanceLab:** You will need access to both a textbook (digital eText is required) and the publisher’s online platform: MyFinanceLab. Textbook and MyFinanceLab descriptions are available at MyPearsonStore. *MyLab Finance* with Pearson eText ISBN# is: 0134083938 / 9780134083933


2. CFA Ethics videos and associated content are available through Canvas.

3. **Financial Calculators (optional):** TI BAII (Plus)/Professional or HP 12C financial calculators;

4. **Non-graded assignments and additional materials:** Lecture videos, supplemental videos, slides, spreadsheets, and additional readings can be found on the class Canvas website;

5. **UTA Canvas:** Canvas is the only teaching platform to be used for this course. More information about Canvas could be found [https://www.uta.edu/provost/Canvas/Home.php](https://www.uta.edu/provost/Canvas/Home.php). If you have questions or need technical support of Canvas please contact UTA’s IT services at [https://ithelp.uta.edu](https://ithelp.uta.edu);

6. **Electronic Devices:** A computer with webcam is required for this course. A backup device is strongly recommended in case your primary computer/device malfunctions. Online final exam is timed and extensions/makeups due to device failure will not be granted;

7. **Internet Access:** Quality internet access is required. Online final exam is timed and extensions/makeups due to poor internet access will not be granted;

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**Technical Requirements:**

Course materials are online via Canvas. Students should have adequate internet access and computer resources to stream online video files and to read or print materials from Canvas. This course will also make use of the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet program. It is essential for students to possess basic competency with this program in order succeed in the class. If you are not comfortable with excel then there are a multitude of videos and tutorials available online that you can practice with prior to the beginning of the course.

The technology required in this course includes:
- a computer to access the course
- speakers or headphones to listen to lectures
- a word processing software, such as Microsoft Word
- a data processing software, such as Microsoft Excel

Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome are the recommended and supported browsers for this course. The course also has the following options for system requirements:
- Windows Vista or higher
- Mac OSX 10.6 or higher

When meeting in online office hours, if you wish to talk instead of type, you will also need a microphone.

In order to succeed in this course, there are some technical skills you must have. These include:
- Using email and other forms of electronic communication.
- Creating and using files in Microsoft Excel. Help with Excel can be found at the Microsoft support site, or here [http://www.excel-easy.com/] and there are numerous tutorial videos at YouTube. We will be using the financial functions in particular so it would be useful to practice those.

Canvas Resources:
For an introduction to the Canvas interface, please watch this Canvas Overview video. For help with other features of Canvas, see Getting Started as a Student or the more comprehensive Canvas Student Guide. You can access Canvas from a web browser or by downloading the free Canvas Student app on Android (Google Play) and iOS (iTunes) devices. If you run into any technical problems this semester, you can reach Canvas support from within Canvas by clicking on the Help icon (question mark) on the bottom of the left menu and selecting “Chat with Canvas Support (Students)” or “Canvas Support Hotline (Students)”.

Assessment:
Financial analysis skills will be assessed through homeworks, quizzes, and exams. Homeworks and quizzes are available through Pearson’s MyFinanceLab.

Exams:
There will be one on-campus F2F mid-term exam and an online comprehensive online final exam. All exams will be multiple-choice and cover conceptual information only; there will be no calculations, so calculators and other computing devices are not allowed.

One midterm exam will be held on campus F2F (See course schedule for midterm exam date) in Texas Hall 105. Students will be required to present a picture ID to receive a question booklet. Scan-Tron form 882-ES (available at bookstore) must be supplied by the student along with the required #2 pencils and erasers.

Final exam is comprehensive and will be held online in Canvas on Tuesday, December 15th, from 8:15pm to 10:45pm. Final will require the Respondus Lockdown browser with webcam.

Homeworks:
Each topic (approximately one to two textbook chapters over one to two weeks) will have one graded homework assignment in MyFinanceLab. Homeworks will each have 10 questions, are take-home and open-book, and allow unlimited attempts. There will be a total of 11 homeworks. Homework #11 will be through the CFA Institute’s online module.

Quizzes:
Each topic (approximately one to two textbook chapters over one to two weeks) will have one graded quiz in MyFinanceLab. Quizzes will each have 10 questions, are take-home and open-book, and allow only one attempt. There will be a total of 11 quizzes. You must complete the homework for each chapter before you can start the quiz. The last quiz is embedded within the CFA Institute’s ethic module.
Discussions:
Each topic (approximately one to three textbook chapters over one week) will have one graded discussion assignment in Canvas. For the discussion, you are required to post one meaningful comment pertaining to this week's content, and one meaningful reply to a peer's post about each week's content. These two weekly discussion posts are worth a total of 5 points together. To get full credit, your posts must each:

- Be at least 3 sentences and 50 words in length.
- Be clearly related to the content of this week's module.
- Be accurate and/or consistent with the information presented on Canvas, the textbook, and the instructor about this week's module.
- Be appropriate and respectful to classmates and the instructor.
- Be written in clear and correct language without mistakes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or wording.
- Be original or with proper credit given to any references.

Some examples of good posts are:

- Your personal and professional experience with the topic of the weekly module. If you work in the investments industry, then any non-confidential experiences from your job would make great posts to share with the class.
- Your comments, reactions, and interpretation of news articles on the weekly module topic. If references a news article then please attach a PDF of the news article, a working link to the article, and/or a formal APA-format citation to the article. Articles should be from reliable financial sources such as the Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, or the Economist. Please take care to see that your article are accessible, to the extent that this is feasible.
- Suggestions and links to reliable outside resources on each module topic. Some good places to look for outside resources are YouTube, Yahoo! Finance, Khan Academy, and Investopedia. Tutorials and examples of financial calculations in excel can be particularly useful for this course. Be careful to evaluate the reliability of outside resources. There is a lot of useless information about finance out there on the internet. If you are unsure about a source’s reliability then try to see if their information is consistent with what is already presented for this course on Canvas and in the textbook. Please also take care to see that your outside sources are accessible, to the extent that this is feasible.

Both discussion posts are due by midnight on Sunday each week.

Grading:
Course performance will be evaluated as:

- Homework Total: (11x10=110 points) 12%
- Quiz Total: (11x40=440 points) 49%
- Discussions: (11x5=55 points) 6%
- Midterm Exam: (100 points) 11%
- Final Exam: (200 points) 22%
- Course total: 905 points 100%

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels. The grading scale will be: A = 90% and above; B = 80%-89%; C = 70%-79%; D = 60%-69%; F = below 60%. Pearson grades should be available immediately in Pearson following homeworks, and quizzes. The Final Exam grade should be available immediately in Canvas. CFA Ethics grades will be available within one week of completion. For any problems with grades please contact the instructor and/or Pearson, as appropriate.

Deductions from Grades:
At the instructor’s discretion, points may be deducted from assignments for the disruption of class or disrespect towards the instructor or other students in class. The most common reasons for this would be inappropriate online etiquette or distractions during online meetings. All of these activities distract and/or impede the learning of other students.
In general, any points for extra credit or deductions from grades will be tallied up at the end of the semester and then applied to one of your quiz grades (it does not make a difference for your final grade to specify which quiz grade is adjusted).

**Make-up Work**

Make-up exams will be scheduled at the instructor’s discretion for students who contact the instructor at least one week prior to the scheduled exam date with a valid reason. Late work and make-up work will not be allowed for the homeworks and quizzes.

**Grade Grievances:** Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. For undergraduate courses, see http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext; for graduate courses, see http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#graduatetext. For student complaints, see http://www.uta.edu/deanofstudents/student-complaints/index.php.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:**

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**Attendance:**

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the following attendance policy: Students enrolled in this course are expected to attend each class with homework and reading assignments completed. Any student who must miss a class is responsible for securing all class materials and assignments for coursework missed. Students are required to maintain class attendance at least at an acceptable level.

**Course Policy:**

1. During class meetings non-class activities are refrained in the classroom. These may include, but are not limited to, silencing cell phones, etc.
2. In case the instructor is late for more than 15 minutes, please leave the classroom quietly;
3. Students should check your UTA e-mail account for any important updates from the instructor.
4. UTA IDs must be presented in exams.
5. Students must bring their own Scantron form 882-ES for on-campus midterm exam.
6. The instructor may relocate students in the exam room.
7. Academic honesty is a must in this course. Any misconducts or dishonesties might result in an automatic F and/ or appropriate disciplinary action.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with
Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: 

**The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

> I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

> I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at [https://www.uta.edu/conduct/](https://www.uta.edu/conduct/).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at [http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php](http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php).

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/](http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/).
Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

Etiquette expectations (sometimes called “netiquette”) for online discussions, email, and other forms of communication

When creating and replying in the discussion forum, you must follow the below guidelines:

- Review your work before you post.
- Make sure to present your ideas in a clear, logical order and in a non-threatening tone.
- To help convey tone, use popular emoticons such as 😊 (smiley face). But, be careful not to overuse them.
- Avoid writing in all capital letters as this conveys shouting.
- Use appropriate and non-offensive language. Additionally, slang, sarcasm, and abbreviations can be misunderstood.
- Respect others and their opinions. Disagree respectfully.
- Adhere to copyright rules and cite your sources.

When emailing your instructor or academic coach, you must follow the below guidelines:

- Always include the course name in the subject of your email
- Use appropriate language – no slang or abbreviations
- Emails are professional in manner, so no emoticons

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. Evacuation plans may be found at http://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/fire/ Evac_Maps_Buildings.php. In the event of an evacuation of the College of Business building, when the fire alarm sounds, everyone must leave the building by the stairs. All those in the North tower side of the building should proceed to the fire escape stairs located on the East and West sides of that wing. With the current fire alarm system, the elevators will all go to the first floor and stay there until the system is turned off. For Disabled Persons: Please go to the Northeast fire stairs. There is an evacuate track chair located on the 6th floor stairwell. There are people trained in the use of this chair and there will be someone who will go to the 6th floor to get the chair and bring it to any lower floor stairwell to assist disabled persons. Should this be a real emergency, the Arlington Fire Department and UTA Police will also be here to help. Students should also be encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at https://mavalert.uta.edu/ or https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php

https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php
Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php.

University Tutorial & Supplemental Instruction (Ransom Hall 205): UTSI offers a variety of academic support services for undergraduate students, including: 60 minute one-on-one tutoring sessions, Start Strong Freshman tutoring program, and Supplemental Instruction. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm. For more information visit www.uta.edu/utsi or call 817-272-2617.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers FREE tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in, or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center offers FREE tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at https://uta.mywconline.com. Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza

Course Schedule (Tentative)

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<td>Th</td>
<td>Ch. 12: Mutual Funds and ETFs</td>
<td>F2F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/6/2020</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Last day to drop</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>11/10/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Ch. 14: Options</td>
<td>F2F</td>
<td>Homework 9, Discussion 9 and Quiz 9 due at night: Ch.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/12/2020</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Ch. 15: Futures</td>
<td>F2F</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Ch. 15: Futures</td>
<td>F2F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>11/19/2020</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Ch. 14: Mutual Funds and ETFs</td>
<td>F2F</td>
<td>Homework 10, Discussion 10 and Quiz 10 due at night: Ch.14 and 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>CFA Ethics</td>
<td>F2F</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26/2020</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Thanksgiving, No class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>12/1/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Review for final exam</td>
<td>Online meeting in Canvas Conference</td>
<td>Homework 11, Discussion 11 and Quiz 11 due at night: CFA Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/3/2020</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Review for final exam</td>
<td>Online meeting in Canvas Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>12/8/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Review for final exam</td>
<td>Online meeting in Canvas Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>12/15/2020</td>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>Online Final Exam (8:15-10:45PM)</td>
<td>Online with Respondus Lockdown browser</td>
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</table>

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial **911**. Non-emergency number **817-272-3381**