

Course Syllabus

Earthquakes and Volcanoes ISNS 2359.0W1-0W2 (Online)
Department of Geosciences School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
The University of Texas at Dallas

Course Information

Course Number/Section	ISNS 2359.0W1-0W2
Course Title	Earthquakes and Volcanoes
Term and Dates	Fall 2017 August 23 th – Dec 6 th 2017

Professor Contact Information

Instructor	Dr. Prabin Shilpakar, Senior Lecturer
TA	Naomi Plummer, PhM
Office Phone	(972) 883-2408
Email Address	E-MAIL FOR THIS COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED THROUGH THE MESSAGING TOOL “INSTRUCTOR EMAIL” IN E-LEARNING. ALWAYS SEND E-MAIL TO “TA” FIRST AND CC “INSTRUCTOR” TO ENSURE QUICK RESPONSE.
Office Location	ROC 2.301L
Office Hours	By appointment
Geosciences Department	972-883-2401

About the Instructor

Prabin Shilpakar is a Geoscientist/Geophysicist and has expertise in combining various geophysical tools and geologic analysis to address active tectonic processes. He has developed the acquisition and analysis protocol of Terrestrial Laser Scanner (TLS) data for geological applications. Instructional experience: Earthquakes and Volcanoes, Physical Geology, Essentials of field geologic methods, Petroleum geology, Geospatial science, and Industrial safety.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

This course provides a broad overview of the science behind earthquakes and volcanoes, insights on the architecture, processes, evolution of the earth, and their impact on humankind and other organisms. The plate tectonics model provides the central framework in which the many aspects of earthquakes and volcanoes are described. This is an interdisciplinary science course offered in an online format. A flexible approach based on programmed self-instruction, with frequent quizzes to monitor progress, substitutes for the usual lecture with infrequent exams approach used in most courses.

The course is divided into 10 sections (called Units), each of which corresponds to one or more chapters in the textbook. There is one Quiz per Unit; therefore, the course consists of 10 quizzes. Two of these quizzes are comprehensive (**quiz 4 and 10**) and are more heavily weighted in calculating the final grade.

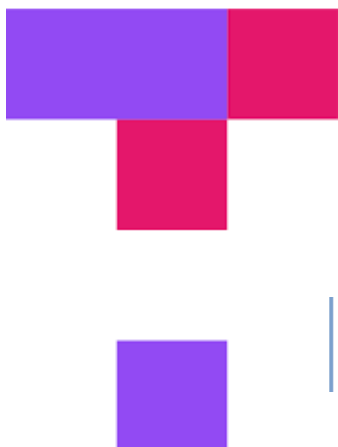
In addition, there is a **Recovery comprehensive quiz** at the end of the semester. If students missed at least one or multiple quizzes deadlines including comprehensive quizzes, then those students will be provided with an opportunity to recover their grades by taking “Recovery comprehensive quiz”. The weight of the recovery quiz will be less than comprehensive quiz 4 and 10. Check the “**grading information weights**” table for detail information on contribution of each quiz towards your final grade.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Explain the basic divisions of the earth, their compositions, and their role in plate tectonics. Recognize the types of plate boundaries and explain their relationship to crustal movement and mountain building.
Know the basics of crustal deformation and recognize geologic faults and structures.
Develop an understanding of the geology of earthquakes and volcanoes, with an emphasis on plate tectonic theory.
Discuss earthquake generation, measurement and prediction. Describe types of volcanoes, lava viscosity, composition and their relation to plate tectonics and volcano explosion.
Become familiar with the terminology used to describe earthquakes and volcanoes
Identify and understand the following classes of volcanoes: hot spot volcanoes, subduction zone volcanoes, island arc volcanoes, and mid-ocean ridge volcanoes.
Differentiate between the two different types of magmas - basaltic and granitic - and the relationship between each of them and their associated types of volcanoes.
Appreciate the relationship between human activity and geologic natural disasters with an historic perspective.
Understand the constructive and beneficial results of volcanoes.
Explore the subject of extra-terrestrial volcanism and Impacts

Required Textbooks and Materials

The required text book is *Earthquakes & Volcanoes*. 1st ed. Toronto: Top Hat, 2017.
ISBN: 978-1-77330-291-1



***Earthquakes & Volcanoes*. 1st Ed.
Prabin Shilpakar**

Top Hat

We will be using the Top Hat (www.tophat.com) online classroom platform in class. . We will be using the custom-built interactive textbook “***Earthquakes & Volcanoes*. 1st ed.**” within Top Hat for this class. You will be able to access interactive textbook, assignments, and quizzes using Apple or Android Smartphone and tablets, laptops, and Desktop. Even though Top Hat can be access via Smartphone I highly recommend you to us Desktop or your notebook to access the course to avoid any technical glitch.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

You can register by simply visiting our course website: <https://app.tophat.com/e/532061>
Note: our Course Join Code is **532061**



Very Important: Register with your UTD email account and the official name on records, to avoid any conflict when transferring grades for Top Hat to eLearning.

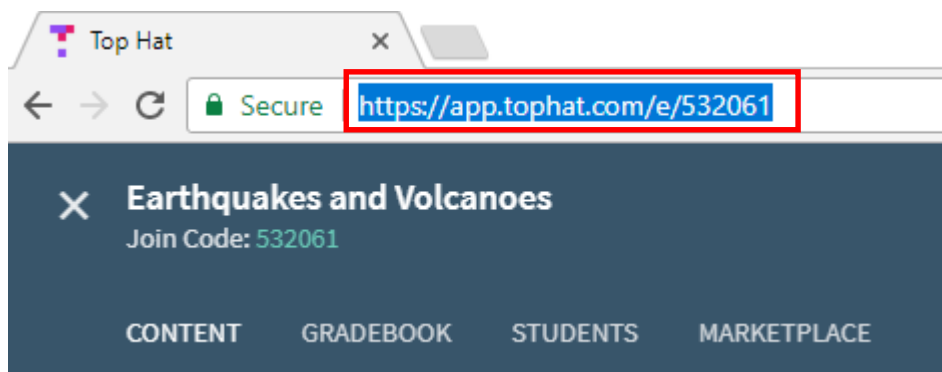
Top Hat will require a paid subscription (\$26 per semester or for four month), and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing. After you pick your subscription, your textbook will be applied at checkout for an additional \$48.

Don't worry if you don't see any content in the course right away, I will make it available to you as we progress through the semester.

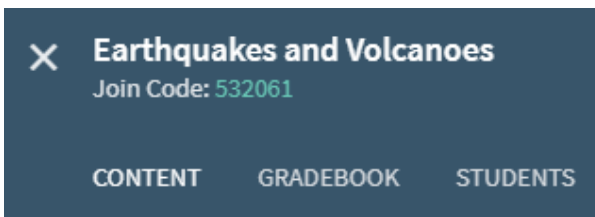
Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

Notes :

1) For your unique course URL, when logged into your Top Hat course, simply copy and paste the URL address in the address bar



2) As indicated by the image below, your Course Join Code can be found under your course name in the upper left hand corner of your course





Support

Should you require further assistance with Top Hat, Contact Support Team directly for help! You can contact Top Hat by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, the *Contact Support* button on this page, or calling us at **1-888-663-5491**.



Familiarize yourself with the functionality and features of eLearning and Top Hat as soon as possible (see further information below).

All the assessment activities will be conducted online inside “Top Hat”. You can use your own computer at your home or in the computer Labs at the university

ASSESSMENTS: Reading assignment and Quizzes

Reading assignment: It is an interactive learning system designed to help students learn faster, study more efficiently, and retain more knowledge for greater success. This assignment contains reading section, along with short video that will help students to understand the topic. Then, the practice questions related to each section of the chapter. You have to go through answering 10 questions for which you will receive maximum of **10 points** if you answer all of them correctly. This in-text reading assignment’s point will be credited towards the quiz, as an extra credit, associated with that chapter. Note, the maximum score for the quiz will not exceed **100 and remaining extra point will not be carry over to another quiz. Remember you will only get one attempt for each question. So, read the text carefully before you answer the question.** Don’t wait until last moment for the reading assignments because the quizzes are due exactly at the same time.

Unless noted otherwise, Reading assignments will be open for 2 Weeks from Wednesday to Wednesday. The opening and closing time will be simultaneously at 11:00 AM. **You will be able to review the chapters for the entire semester once they are available, but you won’t be able to access reading assignments and quizzes after the deadlines.**

Quizzes

There are two types of quizzes; 1) Quizzes that cover only 1 chapter (Quiz 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), and 2) Quizzes that cover several chapters (Quiz 4 and 10).

*Unless noted otherwise, **Type 1 quizzes** will be open for 2 weeks from Wednesday to Wednesday, opening and closing simultaneously at 11 AM. Students are allowed **30 minutes** for each quiz attempt. Only one attempt is allowed per quiz. You can see the quiz score in Top Hat, Grade Book immediately after completion. The final quiz grade will be the quiz score and the extra credit point you earn from reading assignment, which will be posted in eLearning during the **Mid-Term** and **after the Final**.*

Type 2 quizzes are comprehensive and cover several chapters, comparable to a Midterm or Final exam. They also run for 2 weeks, Wednesday to Wednesday at 11AM. Quiz 4 covers chapter 1,

2, 3, and 4. Quiz 10 covers chapter 5, 6,7,8,9, and 10. Students are allowed 45 minutes per attempt and only one attempt is allowed per quiz. Same as type 1 quizzes, the final quiz grade will be the quiz score and the extra credit point you earn from reading assignment.

Please review the academic calendar below for the Reading assignment and quiz times. Note that the due date for a Reading assignment and a quiz for each chapter are exactly the same. In addition, the time period for the chapter quizzes overlap (i.e. Quiz 1 is available from August 30th – September 13th, Quiz 2 from September 6th – September 20th etc.). This is to allow students the maximum flexibility to complete the requirements for this class inside busy schedules. However, it is strongly recommended that students do not wait until the last hours/minutes to take quizzes because it will take at least an hour to complete the Reading assignment before you start the quiz. In addition, unforeseen internet and computer problems can interfere with the online test. Computer and connection problems are not a valid excuse to miss a quiz. UTD keeps the supported computer labs open around the clock that should solve problems with personal computers that you may encounter.

On rare occasions, internet crashes can occur while taking on-line quizzes causing Top Hat to automatically submit a score for an incomplete quiz. If this occurs, contact Top Hat customer support group to verify any issue with the server or the problem with your PC. Customer support will provide a case number for the issue. Email your TA regarding the matter through the eLearning course e-mail with appropriate subject and case number. In most of these cases the quiz can be reset to allow another attempt. Messages receive 24 hours or more before the end of the quiz period (i.e. before Tuesday 11 AM for a quiz period ending on Wednesday 11 AM), will be addressed. No guarantee of response is given for messages received after Tuesday 11 AM for a quiz period ending the following Wednesday.

The Final Grade is calculated as explained below.

Student Assessments

Grading Information Weights

Quizzes 1, 2 ,3 , 5, 6 ,7 ,8 ,and 9 (8.75% each)	70%
Quizzes (4 and 10) (15% each)	30%
Total	100 %
Recovery comprehensive quiz (Only if you miss at least one or more quizzes)	8.75%

Grading Scale

Based on 10 Quizzes grades,

Scaled Score (%)	Letter Equivalent
97.1 -100	A+
93.1-97	A
90.1-93	A-
87.1-90	B+
83.1-87	B
80.1-83	B-
77.1-80	C+
73.1-77	C
70.1-73	C-
60.1-70	D
Less than 60	F

Accessing Grades

Grades will be posted to your grade book automatically in Top Hat for each reading assignment and quiz. Your final score for each quiz, which is combination of the quiz score and the extra credit point you earn from reading assignment, will be posted in eLearning during the **Mid-Term** and **after the Final**.

Students can check their grades by clicking “My Grades” under Course Tools inside eLearning.

Note: Again the grades on eLearning will be only available to view in the Mid-Term and after the Final. You can check your course progress and scores in Top Hat immediately after the completion of assignments and quizzes.

Computer and connection problems are not a valid excuse to miss a quiz, particularly, if you choose to do your quiz during the last hours/minutes of the Testing period. In case of computer/connection malfunctions, remember UTD keeps the supported computer labs open around the clock.

Recovery comprehensive quiz

You can recover some of the points by taking a comprehensive recovery quiz at the end of the semester. Again, this is not for improving the score for the quiz that you already attempted. This provide a chance to recover a full **type 1 quiz** score for students, who missed the deadline of some quizzes due to unexpected situation. Missed quiz will be graded with zero marks.

Academic Calendar

You can access Assessments by clicking the proper icon on the designated Unit Folder.

Unit LS assignment and **quiz** will start at 11:00 AM Wednesday and close two weeks later also on Wednesday 11 AM. This is a way to allow you to plan your testing time better, but be careful don't wait until the deadline.

Unit Quizzes: Please read the onscreen instructions carefully, once it starts you will have 30/45 minutes to complete a quiz. **Quizzes are based on the text book, however right answers may require elaboration of the information no just mere repetition.** Each quiz is timed 30 minutes or 45 minutes (comprehensive quiz) and only attempt one time within the scheduled time window. Late submission is not allowed and will not accept any excuses.

Unit	ADDED CHAPTER	Topic	Quiz Availability Dates ¹	Assignments and Assessments
Syllabus		Syllabus	August 23 – August 30 (One Week)	Read the syllabus carefully; check all necessary plug-in in your computer; Register for Top Hat; Familiarize yourself with the functionality and features of eLearning and Top Hat.
1	1	Introduction Chapter 1 Introduction to Earth processes and geologic hazard	August 30 – September 13 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 1 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 1. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.

Unit	ADDED CHAPTER	Topic	Quiz Availability Dates ¹	Assignments and Assessments
2	2	Chapter 2 Origin of the Earth and Internal energy	September 6 – September 20 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 2 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 2. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
3	3	Chapter 3 Plate tectonics and the rock cycles	September 13 – September 27 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 3 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 3. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
1, 2, 3 and 4	4	Chapter 4 Crustal deformation and earthquakes + Chapters 1- 3	September 20 – October 4 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 4 in textbook, In addition, review chapter 1, 2, and 3. Once complete reading assignment take Quiz 4. 1 attempts only. 45 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
5	5	Chapter 5 Earthquakes and their origins	September 27 – October 11 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 5 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 5. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
6	6	Chapter 6 Earthquakes forecasts and mitigation	October 4 – October 18 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 6 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 6. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
7	7	Chapter 7 Tsunami	October 11 – October 25 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 7 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 7. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
8	8	Chapter 8 Volcanoes: Tectonic process and eruptions	October 18 – November 1 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 8 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 8. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
9	9	Chapter 9 Volcanic hazards and mitigations	October 25 – November 8 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 9 in textbook, Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 9. 1 attempts only. 30 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
5, 6, 7, 8,9 10	10	Chapter 10, External energy: Impact on the Earth surface + Chapters 5- 9	November 1 – November 15 (Two Weeks)	Read Chapter 10 in textbook, In addition, review chapter 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. Once you complete reading assignment take Quiz 10. 1 attempts only. 45 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.
Recovery comprehensive quiz		Chapter 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, and 10	November 15 – December 6 (Three weeks) Nov 22 – Fall Break	Recovery period. Students who missed at least one or more quizzes including comprehensive quizzes are allowed to take this quiz. This is not for improving grades of attempted quizzes. 1 attempts only. 45 minutes allotted for quiz attempt.

1 – Quizzes will be available from 11 AM on the start date until 11 AM on the end date listed. Unless otherwise noted, tests begin and end on Wednesday.

Class Participation

Students are required to log in regularly every week to the online class site; there is a new unit with fresh assessments every week -Wednesday at 11:00 AM. The Schedule included on this syllabus will be strictly followed unless further notification or announcement is posted on the main page (ELearning) of this class. **Always make sure to check the class announcement for new updates and changes.**

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual class room environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the instructors. The course website on eLearning has a discussion forum, feel free to post questions and answers on common problems. The forum is monitored, please do not post, test answers or any offending material.

NOTE: Do NOT use the eLearning mail system to post mass-emails to the entire class.

USE the monitored discussion forum instead

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The university is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UTD eLearning Help Desk: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>, 1-866-588-3192. The instructor and the UTD eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Requirements

Students shall:

- have regular access to a computer that meets the specifications outlined.
- have regular access to a reliable Internet connection.
- access eLearning three times per week (minimum).

Knowledge/Attitude/Skills

The online student must be:

- proficient using a computer
- disciplined to comply with deadlines
- a self-starter with intrinsic motivation to read, write, and learn
- able to manage time effectively
- able/willing to work independently
- willing to devote approximately 12 hours a week to a 3-credit course
- committed to academic honesty
- willing to contact the instructor immediately if a problem with course content should arise
- willing to contact technical support immediately should a technical issue arise

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience.

Course Access and Navigation

This course is developed using a web course tool called e-Learning. It is to be delivered entirely online. Students will use their UTD Net ID account to login to the course through UTD Galaxy: [Net ID Login](#) or directly at <http://elearning.utdallas.edu>.

UTD provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. The UTD user community can also access the support resources such as self-help resources and a Knowledge Base. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Support Center: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>.

Communications

This eLearning course has built-in communication tools which will be used for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email may also be used

Interaction with Instructor: The instructor will communicate with students mainly using the Announcements and Discussions tools. Students may send personal concerns or questions to the instructor using the **INSTRUCTOR EMAIL tool**. The instructor will reply to student emails within 2 working days, less under normal circumstances. My office phone is 972-883-2408 to be used only for unusual circumstances. **In addition, try to avoid using instructor's UTD email address for the communication related to the course, unless the issue is urgent.**

Student Resources

The following university resources are available to students:

McDermott Library: Distance Learners (UTD students who live outside the boundaries of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Rockwall, or Tarrant counties) will need a UTD-ID number to access all of the library's electronic resources (reserves, journal articles, eBooks, interlibrary loan) from off campus. For UTD students living within those counties who are taking online courses, a Comet Card is required to check out materials at the McDermott Library. For more information on library resources go to <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/distlearn/disted.htm>.

Scholastic Honesty

The University has policies and discipline procedures regarding scholastic dishonesty. Detailed information is available on the [UTD Judicial Affairs](#) web page. All students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility with respect to academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. Precise and detailed tracking of all online activities is a characteristic of the e-Learning system. Anything you do while log on the system is recorded.

University Policies

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, the University of Texas System, Part I, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether

such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a

written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, and Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.