

## Technical Help

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#### 1. Getting started on the website:

You will need:

- A fast Internet connection (see TIPS)
- **Adobe Reader**: materials are provided in pdf format so they will be readable on Mac and PC
- **Microsoft Office Suite** (or open access equivalents)

#### 2. Discussions:

- The **discussion tool** on eCampus guides asynchronous dialogue, for give and take about the topics in each Learning Module . Note that there are some toggle buttons that help view the entire threads so you can read the previous dialogue and respond to others.
- Sometimes the word “discussion” is confusing, because we have asynchronous graded learning activities using the eCampus discussion tool (one for each of 5 modules)...but we also have synchronous weekly verbal discussions in the blended classroom (213N/phone/SKYPE) during which you can earn Participation points.
- Use the eCampus discussion forum “**Participation**” to sign up for the “discussant” role in 3-4 weekly meetings in the blended classroom chats (meets course objective “**PARTICIPATE/COMPREHEND**”).
- Use the eCampus discussion tool forum “**Module 1**” to earn your 12 points for each module (meets course objective “**SYNTHESIZE**”)
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#### TIPS:

If you have a slow Internet connection, email instructor to request course materials on a flash drive or access to dropbox.com. Explore options in your area, such as a library or internet café.

On eCampus, each learning module has a link to a binder of adobe pdf files with all the materials you will need for that module. This will be helpful if you need to work offline.

#### TIPS:

For Adobe Reader, go to [www.adobe.com/downloads/](http://www.adobe.com/downloads/)

“Asynchronous” means you do not have to be on the web at the same time as the instructor & peers


### 3. e-Campus:

- If you've never used e-Campus, go to the tutorial at <http://eCampus.tamu.edu>
- Perform a browser check-up to ensure compatibility between your computer and the e-Campus website.
- You will find the Learning Modules on the left menu bar. When you open each module, it will have a sequential list of learning activities and the relevant links.
- Explore the tools on the left menu for links to: calendar, email, discussion, assessment, assignment, chat, grades

### 4. Library:

- The library website is: [www.tamu.edu/library](http://www.tamu.edu/library)
- Use the Web of Science search engine
  - 1) Go to the TAMU Library homepage: <http://library.tamu.edu/>
  - 2) Find [Popular Databases], select "Web of Science"
  - 3) When the interaction window asks for your sign on information, type in your TAMU NetID and password; this will give you access to all articles through [text at TAMU] a feature that is not available if not signed in
  - 4) Type in keywords and "search"
  - 5) Select a paper and review the abstract
  - 6) To gain full access to the appear, use the [ADD TO MARKED LIST] and [Find Text @TAMU] options
  - 7) You may directly export your marked list to a program that helps you sort references and cite as you write, such as EndNote

### 5. Additional Resources (ikon indicates availability only for registered TAMU students):

-  "Get it for me" You can request articles and some monographs through the library via "get it for me"
  - a) If you locate a paper through Web of Science but the University does not have access to it, you may request it by selecting the "get it for me" button and then submitting the request on the next page.
  - b) If you need a paper that you have not located through the library, you may still request it.

#### Endnote

- 1) Go to <https://software.tamu.edu>

#### TIPS:

If e-Campus is still not working after you've followed all the "Help" link suggestions, call the University Help Desk at 979-845-8300

#### TIPS:

Web of Science has many advantages over Google Scholar. Within Web of Science, you have access to many articles that are "download for a price" through Google Scholar. If you sign in and access Google Scholar through the library link, you will also get access to articles otherwise blocked.

When using Web of Science, you may search within your results by entering an additional keyword in the search box to the left of the screen. For example, if you search "wolf" and have 1,457 results, you could then enter "Timberwolf" in the box, and any paper that is related to Timberwolves would be displayed.

Google Scholar gives you the older sources Web of Science is better for peer-reviewed newer articles. Be sure and use the [find similar] tab. It will yield the best results for you.

- 2) Select “endnote” from the list of available software and proceed to the payment page (TIP: endnote is free but you will still need to enter payment information)
- 3) Once you confirm your order, Endnote will be e-mailed to you with instructions for installing

Sources\_for videos (optional supplements for essays)

<http://www.dropbox.com> (if you have an account, ask instructor to be invited to a shared folder with video files)

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

<http://birdcinema.com>

[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)