Important Notice: Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students In-class At Angelo State University
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory *Facial Covering Policy* to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Course Description: How do we develop the beliefs that we lay claim to? How do those beliefs affect how we act and react to day-to-day decisions? This course will try to address those two questions. The ideas and concepts we will use to examine our beliefs come from Dave Gray’s book *Liminal Thinking*. The word liminal refers to boundaries, doors, or portals. So, liminal thinking refers to opening doors to new ways of thinking. Specifically we will examine how our beliefs are a result of our experiences, especially those experiences that we pay the closest attention to. The goal is to not only examine how we develop our beliefs but to recognize that our beliefs are constructions that need to be challenged and validated. This course will also look at “learning loops” and how beliefs influence our “actions” which produce “results” that sometimes do not meet our “needs.” By examining our beliefs we can come to a
new understanding that can help us navigate times of transition and times when our actions do not give us the results we desire.

**Core Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion, students will be able to
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication
- Locate campus resources to solve problems/answer questions
- Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to digital photography

**Course Objectives:** In an effort to help you achieve the learning outcomes above, I have prepared lessons, readings, and class assignments that will help you
- 8. Developing skills in expression oneself orally or in writing
- 9. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems
- 11. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view

**Methods of Assessing Learning Outcomes:** Core student learning outcomes will be assessed through course assignments.

**Course Participation Requirements:**
- A Summary and Two Reflection papers
- Information Literacy
- Access to ASU email on a regular bases (at least once every other day)
- Access to Bb (at least every other day)
- Access to a computer (if you do not own a computer, computers are available in the Henderson Library or in computer labs located across campus)

**Student Responsibilities:** Active participation is required in all university courses.
- Complete the homework assignments on time
- Participate in class each day and take notes
- Seek help when necessary
Course Grade:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes and In-class Exercises</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Essay One</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Reflective Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Blackboard (Bb): In an effort to make sure you have access to course materials at all times, all course materials will be posted in Blackboard. Course materials posted in Blackboard will include: course syllabus, reading assignments, videos, and quizzes. From time to time, course announcements will be delivered through Blackboard and distributed by email to all students enrolled in the class. Students are responsible for updates distributed via emails. As a result, students should check their emails on a regular basis. All student enrolled in the course are automatically enrolled in Blackboard.

Attendance: Cohort Attendance Policy

Due to the current University policy concerning Covid 19, there are restrictions on the number of students who can physically attend each class. As a result, a Cohort practice is in place. That means that each student will be assigned a specific day to physically attend class. Those who are not scheduled for that day must watch the live stream that will be made available. Students will be assigned which day (i.e. Monday, Wednesday) to attend before the semester begins, and all students are required to attend that day. You cannot change the day you are assigned. In addition, each student will be assigned a seat which you cannot change. There will also be requirements concerning cleaning your seating location (computer) you are assigned to before and at the end of each class. Strict social distancing will be required, as will wearing a face mask. This class has been divided alphabetically so that half attend physically on Mondays and the other half will physically attend on Wednesday. To account for attendance there will be a class participation policy.

Class Participation Policy

As this semester is unique in that all students will not be in physical attendance for each class, the attendance policy will also be somewhat unique. Attendance will be taken for those students who are schedule for the physical class; however, both the students who are in physical attendance and those watching the live stream the policy will must submit to Blackboard a daily verification. Random items will be given out in class. Those items are to be typed in a Word document and submitted before the end of each day of class to a link in Blackboard (there will be a 24 hour grace period for each verification). This is a pass/fail; so, those who submit the verification will receive a 100 for the Class Participation. Those who do not submit by the end of the day will receive a zero for Class Participation.
Regardless of whether you attend physically or view the live stream, you are required to daily participate in the course. If you miss your physical class date, you are still required to view the recorded class room lecture. Recording of each class will be posted in Blackboard. You can view the recorded sessions at any time, but to receive credit for Class Participation, you must submit the verifications within the time allotted.

**Attendance Exceptions**

There may be at times special circumstances that might require additional consideration on my part (such as medical emergencies). **If you come in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid 19 or you have tested positive for Covid 19, do not attend the physical class. If you have symptoms that suggest you might have Covid 19 or are sick at all, do not attend the physical class.** In any case, you need to contact me as soon as possible with an explanation. A student missing a week of classes should notify the Student Life Office and/or the dean. I will only give additional consideration when satisfactory evidence is presented that indicate a catastrophic event has occurred that warrants additional consideration.

Students who participate in sanctioned university events will be given an excused absence; however, you are still responsible for any work that is due and responsible for keeping up with assignments and work due in following classes. In any case you are still responsible for viewing the recorded lectures. You should also contact me about any upcoming absences through email.

**Academic Honesty:** “Academic integrity is taking responsibility for one’s own class and/or course work, being individually accountable, and demonstrating intellectual honesty and ethical behavior. Academic integrity is a personal choice to abide by the standards of intellectual honesty and responsibility. Because education is a shared effort to achieve learning through the exchange of ideas, students, faculty, and staff have the collective responsibility to build mutual trust and respect. Ethical behavior and independent thought are essential for the highest level of academic achievement, which then must be measured. Academic achievement includes scholarship, teaching, and learning, all of which are shared endeavors. Grades are a device used to quantify the successful accumulation of knowledge through learning. Adhering to the standards of academic integrity ensures grades are earned honestly. Academic integrity is the foundation upon which students, faculty, and staff build their educational and professional careers.”

(https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php)

“Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, violations of published professional ethics/standards, and any act or attempted act designed to give unfair academic advantage to oneself or another student”  
(Part I, section B.1 of the Code of Student Conduct).
Special Accommodations: Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, located in room 112 of the University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

- Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activates of the university, or be subjected to discriminating by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

- Student Contact: The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days: “A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention know in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.”

Course Schedule

READINGS: The reading content for this class is due the day following the assignment in the syllabus. Please do not count on me going over the reading assignment in class; rather, each student is expected to read the material and be ready to discuss the material assigned. Missing class does not excuse a student from being responsible and being prepared for the next class.

QUIZZES: All quizzes will be posted in Blackboard (Bb) and must be completed by the posted deadline date. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

SYLLABUS: The syllabus is subject to change. Any student who misses a class is well advised to find out if there were changes made in assignment schedules. Regardless of any absence, students are required to be prepared to participate in each class.
### Week One: August 17-21
- **Mon. 8/17**  
  Course Introduction: Covid 19 Protocols  
  Lecture: Blackboard & Blind Men and Elephants

- **Wed. 8/19**  
  Course Introduction: Covid 19 Protocols  
  Lecture: Principle 1—Beliefs are Models and Principle  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

### Week Two: August 24-28
- **Mon. 8/24**  
  Lecture: How College is different than High School  
  **Assignment: Information Literacy**  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

- **Wed. 8/26**  
  Lecture: Principle 2—Beliefs are Created  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

### Week Three: August 31- September 4
- **Mon. 8/31**  
  Lecture: Principle 3—Beliefs Create a Shared World  
  **Assignment: Summary**  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

- **Wed. 9/2**  
  Lecture: Principle 4—Beliefs Create Blind Spots  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

- **Fri. 9/4**  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Quiz—How is College Different than High School

### Week Four: September 7-11
- **Mon. 9/7**  
  Holiday

- **Wed. 9/9**  
  Lecture: Principle 5—Beliefs Defend themselves  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

- **Fri. 9/11**  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Summary

### Week Five: September 14-18
- **Mon. 9/14**  
  Lecture: Principle 6—Beliefs Are Tied to Identity  
  **Assignment: Reflective Essay One**  
  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification
Wed. 9/16  Lecture: Practice 1—Assume You Are Not Objective
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Week Six: September 21-25
Mon. 9/21  Lecture: Practice 2—Empty Your Cup
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Wed. 9/23  Lecture: Practice 3—Create Safe Space
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Fri. 9/25  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Reflection One

Week Seven: September 28- October 2
Mon. 9/28  Lecture: Practice 4—Triangulate and Validate
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Wed. 9/30  Lecture: Practice 5—Ask Questions, Make Connections
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Fri. 10/1  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Information Literacy

Week Eight: October 5-9
Mon. 10/5  Lecture: Practice 6—Disrupt Routines
Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Verification

Wed. 10/7  Due by the end of the day to Blackboard: Final Reflective Essay