

# MKTG 4670

## Advanced Professional Selling

Dr. Scott Koenig

**Fall 2025**

Tues, Thurs 11:00-12:50

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**Office/Students' Hours:**

By appointment

### Course Introduction

This class, as part of the UNT B2B Professional Selling Program, offers you the student a unique set of opportunities. Each of you has made an academic/career decision to become part of the B2B Professional Selling Program at UNT – either as a major or minor area of study. Presumably, you have done this because you see yourself in a professional selling-related career after graduating with your bachelor's degree from UNT.

As you know, two of the goals of the B2B Professional Selling Program at UNT are:

- (1) To secure an appropriate professional selling internship for each student in the Program
- (2) To ensure that each student in the Program receives one or more quality professional selling job offers before graduation

What this means is that we, your Professional Selling Program faculty, must strongly endorse your candidacy for both internship and employment opportunities. We can't do this alone. It is up to each student to demonstrate the motivation, diligence, and learned skills throughout your time with us so that we can recommend you as a very high-quality applicant to potential employer firms.

Three (3) credit hours: This course focuses on building lasting customer partnerships through advanced professional selling practices. Emphasis is placed on consultative selling strategies and joint problem solving to create superior customer value. Students learn through a combination of classroom discussions, industry presentations, and sales call simulations.

### Course Objectives

Students will learn the foundations of consultative selling to understand how to uncover and solve customer problems. This approach includes:

1. Understanding foundational selling theory and being able to apply it to selling scenarios
2. Exploring and understanding the customer's situation
3. Discovering the implications of any current problems faced by the customer,
4. Delivering that solution and responding to any post-purchase development

### Teaching Philosophy

My role as your instructor is three-fold:

1. **Instructing** students in the customer-centered, value-selling process in order to prepare students with well-developed, transferable selling skills that lead to success in the professional selling environment
2. **Coaching** students on their sales call role-play to ensure students' ability to demonstrate customer value that overcomes objections and finetune the communication skills required to secure and build long-term customer relationships

3. **Mentoring** students on the interviewing and hiring process for both internships and full-time career positions while being the liaison between the Program and industry partners

## How to Succeed in this Course

Helping you succeed in this course is my top priority, but here are few things you could do to ensure you gain the best results from this course:

1. **Come to class with a strong desire to learn and grow.** It's all about having a growth mindset.
2. **Take an active role during class-related activity.** It reflects motivation and commitment to excellence.
3. **Challenge yourself.** Try to learn something new every class and do better with every assignment.
4. **Arrive to each class meeting on time.** Be prepared for that day's scheduled activities, just as you would in a career employment situation.

## Class Communications

Canvas supports the class administratively as well as delivers the majority of the course content. I will do my best to be available to all students. You may email or text me. I also set up a Dr. Koenig Cohort 24 Group Me. This will be the way I communicate with you about all things pertaining to 4670 this semester and 4570 next semester. I encourage you to have your Cohort 24 GroupMe and/or text thread so that you can communicate with each other for all things pertaining to the program – regardless of the class or professor. I will also check Canvas diligently and reply to all messages within 24 hours.

## Teaching Philosophy

Preparing my students for the world by empowering them to be the best version of themselves is a core value and fundamental leadership behavior I hold dearly. It starts from day one and is manifested throughout the semester via in-class activity, group discussions and assignments, all of which leads to building positive habits that fulfill students' natural curiosity and drive to learn. For students to build and retain knowledge, they need the opportunity to discover for themselves and apply skills in realistic situations. To that point, building and harnessing an inclusive learning environment is very important to me and I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. That means all class discussions should be respectful and civil. Although debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please let me know. We are all on a learning journey.

## Textbook

### ***Customer Centered Selling***

2nd Edition, Robert L. Jolles, 2009 Free Press (Simon and Schuster)

### ***Fanatical Prospecting***

First Edition, Jeb Blount, 2016 (Wiley)

These books are not textbooks, per se. However, in this class, both books will serve as the required text and the basis for a large amount of material covered in the class. Both books will be used next semester in MKTG 4570. They are required as it will be difficult to pass the class without them. As a bonus, these are books that are used by several companies as part of their training programs.

**Note:** Any additional course materials will be made available to students via the course Canvas website. Since this course is continually updated, the course Canvas website will be under continual development and modification throughout the semester. Please be both patient and diligent in regularly checking the course Canvas site for updates.

## Course Main Components & Grading

The ordering of the topics and book chapters for the course is found on the final page of this syllabus. This format is subject to change, sometimes frequent change, to respond to emerging circumstances throughout the semester. Any changes will be announced in advance, in class, sent via broadcast email, or posted as a message on the class Canvas site. It is each student's responsibility to become aware of such modifications.

The core of the course is a series of formal sales role-plays (sales call simulations) throughout the semester. The details of these role plays (e.g., format, location, etc.) will be determined as the semester progresses. There may also be telephone role-plays (prospecting and lead generation) with other students and alumni.

### Weekly Reflections/Attendance/Participation

We will take attendance and grade participation in this class via a weekly reflection video that you will create by responding to a weekly prompt that I provide to you. While the actual prompt will change each week, part of the reflection will be to state whether you attended class and, if not, whether your absence should be considered an excused absence. Your reflection grade is based on whether you attended class (or have an excused absence) and how well you participated. The reflection video serves another purpose. It allows you to practice explaining something in a short, clear, and concise way – a very important attribute for a sales professional. There is also an element of the reflection assignment where you listen to and respond to your classmate's reflection. The learning objective here is learning from your classmates and being able to extend a conversation in a brief, clear, and concise manner.

### Group Project

Working with another member of the class, you will be presenting some of the principles from *Customer Centered Selling* or *Fanatical Prospecting* to your classmates. More information on this assignment can be found on Canvas. You will be graded on content, application, and presentation (both the visual aspect and your own presenting style).

### Resume Review, Mock Interview and Worksheet

Early in the semester, you will be updating your resume, completing a Q&A mock interview worksheet, and then participating in a mock interview with your faculty mentor. Details of this assignment are available on Canvas. Your faculty mentor sends the grade to me, and I will record whatever grade and feedback they tell me to give you. You will, however, need to submit something in the submission box so that I know it was completed.

### Industry Partner Days

Participation in Industry Partner Days will benefit you in tremendous ways for both a full-time job and an internship. Due to its importance, you will be graded on your participation. Your grade is determined by your attentiveness, attitude, preparation, and dressing professionally. This is subjective and will be determined in consultation with all three of the faculty members. You will be given guidance on how to achieve a perfect score for this assignment.

### Role Plays

There are several role plays for this course. They are worth over half of the points in the class. You will be given specific instructions on how to succeed in these role plays. While there are opportunities to put your own voice/spin into the role plays, there are some principles that you need to demonstrate your understanding and ability to apply. Think of these assignments as the exam portion of the course – i.e. how well can you demonstrate that you understand the principles we discuss and apply it.

Please review Canvas for specifics of topics, readings, and assignments due. The following provides a summary of the assignments and the point value / % of total points. Note, the actual dates may vary. Please check Canvas for updates. What you see on Canvas supersedes anything in this syllabus schedule.

## **Ordering of Topics, assignments, and Projects for Fall 2025 (Subject to Revision)**

*Weekly material, including topics covered, readings, assessments, and assignments, is found on Canvas. I will send a weekly email/announcement with specifics for the upcoming week.*

## **Course Policies**

### ***Academic Integrity Policy***

The G. Brint Ryan College of Business takes academic honesty seriously. Ethics and integrity are important business values, essential to building trust and adhering to both professional and legal standards. Academic dishonesty destroys trust, damages the reputation and the value of the degree and is unacceptable.

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions from admonition (a warning) to expulsion from the University.

Some of the most common examples of academic integrity violations include plagiarism or cheating, such as unauthorized assistance on examinations, homework, research papers or case analyses. Your work must be entirely your own. When working on assignments, you should not discuss your work with others unless approved by the course instructor. Group assignments should only be discussed with members assigned to your group, and all group members may be held accountable in some way for known academic integrity violations in a group assignment.

Another example of academic dishonesty relates to improper attribution. When preparing your assignments, you must cite all outside sources in the manner requested by your instructor. Copying or using material from any source prepared by or previously submitted by others, at UNT or other institutions, or downloaded from the Internet, is plagiarism. Unless directed otherwise in an assignment, large scale “cutting and pasting” from other sources, even if properly footnoted, is not appropriate. You should synthesize this material in your own words and provide a footnote.

Your instructor will specify what materials, if any, may be used on the tests and exams. Using materials other than those permitted, talking with other individuals during the exam, individuals exchanging information about an exam when one has taken the exam and the other has not, or copying or using material from another individual's exam is academic dishonesty and will result in a meeting to discuss academic integrity violations and potentially issue sanctions mentioned above, and may result in ineligibility for academic scholarships. The use of online assistance, such as sites commonly used for finding homework solutions, group chat, cell phones, smart watches, and similar tools during exams is not allowed for any reason unless specifically permitted. No portion of an exam may be copied or photographed without permission.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's status as an institution of higher education. A student is responsible for responding to a request to discuss suspected academic dishonesty when issued by an instructor or other University official. If a student fails to respond after a proper attempt at notification has been made, the University may take appropriate academic actions in the absence of the student's participation.

### ***Attendance & Participation***

Excused absences are excused. Unexcused absences are not. What is the difference? Excused absences include university-approved events, illness, and other events outside of your control.

Think of it this way, if a reasonable employer would it excuse it, so would I. If you have a question about whether an absence is excused or not, discuss it with me.

### ***Grading Challenge Policy***

This Instructor strictly follows the guidelines set forth in the current Undergraduate Catalog for grade appeals, changes, and the awarding and removal of an 'Incomplete'. Should you believe there is a grading error for a particular activity, you may make a grade "challenge". This grade "challenge must be made in writing to your instructor no more than 48 hours (two days) after the grade is posted and should specify why you believe the grade is incorrect. Challenges made after this time will not be accepted and your grade will stand as recorded.

### ***Late Submissions***

You are expected to turn in assignments on time. Please pay attention to the deadlines.

### ***Americans with Disabilities Act***

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu).

### ***Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)***

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### ***Student Perception of Teaching***

Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey is available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. Feedback from students helps to improve this course. I consider SPOT to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

### ***Emergency Notification and Procedures***

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.