INFO 4223 Introduction to Metadata

SYLLABUS (Summer 10W 2020)

Last updated May 8, 2020

NOTE: this document (section 2.6) includes the Course Schedule which contains complete listing of course topics and activities, along with due dates.

Course Teaching Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Oksana L. Zavalina, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email (preferred mode of communication)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Oksana.Zavalina@unt.edu">Oksana.Zavalina@unt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone/Voicemail</td>
<td>(940) 565-3776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Mary Burke, M.S. in Linguistics, doctoral student in UNT Information Science PhD Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:MaryBurke@my.unt.edu">MaryBurke@my.unt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office hours:</td>
<td>By appointment – arrange via email (see above): online in Dr. Zavalina’s personal meeting room in UNT Zoom videoconferencing tool <a href="https://unt.zoom.us/j/8589281608">https://unt.zoom.us/j/8589281608</a></td>
</tr>
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Course Meetings

| Meeting Regularity: | 6 online meetings (weeks 1,3,5,7,9, and 10: June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, and August 4) |
| Meeting Location: | Online through UNT Zoom videoconferencing tool: “Summer 2020 INFO 4223” class meeting room https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554 |
| Meeting Duration: | 2 hours |
| Meeting Time: | Tuesdays, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm US Central time |

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1.1. Course Description

Introduction to representation and organization of different kinds of information resources using various forms of metadata. Introduction to examination and use of key metadata schemes, data and content standards, and tools for representing and organizing information resources in the digital environment.

1.2. Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

In this course, students will learn to:

1. Define and identify the components – structure, elements, syntax, and semantics – of metadata scheme.
2. Retrieve metadata standard documentation for key item-level metadata standards (e.g., Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1, MODS) and related controlled vocabularies and interpret guidelines for practical implementation.

3. Apply the knowledge of key metadata standards, follow standard guidelines and create item-level metadata in Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1 and MODS metadata schemes.

4. Understand Extensible Markup Language (XML) and its use for encoding metadata.

5. Apply the knowledge of XML syntax to encode in XML the item-level metadata created according to Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1 and MODS metadata schemes.

6. Identify metadata quality criteria and the ways to measure metadata quality.

7. Apply the knowledge of metadata quality to evaluate the quality of item-level metadata in Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1 and MODS metadata schemes, encoded in XML.

7.2. Prerequisites

- UNT course INFO 4203 Indexing and Abstracting (can be taken in the same semester with INFO 4223) or equivalent, or
- an introductory information organization course from UNT or other institution, or
- consent of course instructor.

7.3. Course Format

This is a fully online course with regular synchronous class meetings.

Most course interaction will occur via:

- UNT Zoom video conferencing application, where the course meetings will be held in the “Summer 2020 INFO 4223” class meeting room [https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554](https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554), and
- Canvas course site, which provides a central focus for online course materials and class communications. For registered students, the Canvas course site is accessible starting at 12:01 am Central of the first day of the semester.

7.4. Course Organization

This course is organized into the following six (6) learning modules (each module contains required readings and instructor’s presentation, as well as an exercise):

0. Introduction to the course content and requirements
1. Metadata Basics
2. Major Metadata Schemes: Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1
3. Major Metadata Schemes: MODS
4. Representation of Metadata in XML
5. Metadata Quality Considerations.
8. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

2.1. Effort Expected

For a 3-credit-hour course offered in a long semester (Fall or Spring), students should plan to spend approximately 9 hours a week (or 3 hours per week for each credit hour) for 16 weeks on readings, assignments, online activities, learning software, etc. Because Summer 10 Week semester is significantly shorter than Fall or Spring semester, students taking a 3-credit-hour course in Summer 10 Week semester should plan to spend approximately 15 hours a week on readings, assignments, online activities, learning software, etc. By maintaining this level of effort throughout the semester, students are likely to develop full comprehension of the subject matter and be successful in the course.

2.2. Course Meetings and Communication Protocol

Students are expected to EITHER attend **six (6)** online class meetings to be held on **in weeks 1,3,5,7,9, and 10 (June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, and August 4)** on Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 pm Central OR promptly (by the end of the next day after the missed meeting) review posted meeting materials for each of the missed class meetings. See the semester schedule (section 2.6 of this document) for details.

**Attendance and active participation in class meetings is not required but is highly recommended and encouraged through extra credit of 1% towards a semester grade for each class meeting.**

Students are responsible for reading all posted materials and should check the course site regularly (at least several times a week), for announcements, messages, course materials, and discussions postings. Between the live class meeting and during regular class meeting times the **remaining weeks (weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8)** students are expected to work independently on course assignments, readings, etc.

2.3. Technology

Students should have substantial computer experience. It may be necessary to upgrade your computer system to work well with the Canvas and Zoom.

**Reliable and high-speed Internet access is required.** Because browsers may interact differently with different web resources, it is strongly recommended to have at least **two different web browsers** installed on your computer:

- Firefox (note that Firefox blocks older unsecure Java versions; if you have this problem, to get Java working again, see [http://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/update-and-unblock-java](http://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/update-and-unblock-java)).
- Google Chrome
- Internet Explorer or Safari for Mac OS.

In addition, you will need:

- to access course materials available as PDF, the latest version of free Adobe Acrobat Reader ([http://get.adobe.com/reader/](http://get.adobe.com/reader/)) or any other alternative reader of PDF files
- to participate in class meetings, speakers (or headphones) and microphone
- to create XML documents (with .xml or .txt file name extensions), an XML editor of your choice (see, for example this list at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_XML_editors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_XML_editors)). The instructor's
preferred tool for coding overall, including XML, is Sublime Text, with free trial version available (https://www.sublimetext.com/)
• to create, edit, and submit documents in .doc / .docx file formats, the MS Word or equivalent.

2.4. Readings

There is no required textbook for this course. However, there are other required readings provided via the course site free of charge for registered students. These required readings are of two types:
• Class meeting materials: slide sets with introductions to each learning module’s topic and video recordings of Class meetings with transcript automatically created by Zoom -- posted for student review after the end of each meeting
• Relevant standards and articles from scholarly and professional literature (included in the course site for each learning module).

2.5. Assignments and Participation

**Learning Module Practical Exercises:** This activity constitutes 84% of the final course grade. For each learning module, students will complete a practical exercise. These practical exercises are worth between 15% and 20% of semester grade each. Please see below for description of practical exercises.

• **Metadata Building Blocks Exercise:** In this practical exercise, students will learn about components of a metadata scheme. This assignment, aligned with course **Student Learning Outcomes no.1 and 2**, is worth 15% of semester grade. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are provided in a separate assignment instructions document.

• **Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1 Exercise:** In this practical exercise, students will learn to create Dublin Core item-level metadata using Dublin Core Metadata Element Set 1.1. This assignment, aligned with course **Student Learning Outcome no. 3**, is worth 15% of semester grade. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are provided in a separate assignment instructions document.

• **MODS Metadata Scheme Exercise:** In this practical exercise, students will learn to create MODS item-level metadata. This assignment, aligned with course **Student Learning Outcome no. 3**, is worth 18% of semester grade. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are provided in a separate assignment instructions document.

• **Metadata in XML Exercise:** In this practical exercise, students will learn to represent Dublin Core and MODS metadata records in XML syntax. This assignment, aligned with course **Student Learning Outcomes no. 4 and 5**, is worth 18% of semester grade. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are provided in a separate assignment instructions document.

• **Metadata Quality Exercise:** In this practical exercise, students will learn to evaluate the quality of metadata records. This assignment, aligned with course **Student Learning Outcomes no. 6 and 7**, is worth 18% of semester grade. Detailed instructions on how to complete this assignment are provided in a separate assignment instructions document.

**Participation:** This activity constitutes 16% of the final course grade and includes:
• A post to **Course Introductions** discussion forum by the deadline specified in semester schedule
• **Syllabus Quiz** (completion by the deadline specified in semester schedule, and the points earned by student in this quiz).
• Posting discussions of your readings for Topic 1 and Topic 5 by the deadline specified in semester schedule.

All students are expected to submit their assignments by the due date. This prevents students from getting too far behind in the course. Please consult sections 2.6 and 2.7 of this document for details on due dates and assignment grading.

### 2.6. Semester Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks(^1)</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Submission deadlines</th>
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| Week 1  
June 1-7, 2020 |  
- Review materials posted in Learning Module 0.  
- **Attend 1st class meeting in UNT Zoom**  
  (Tuesday, June 2, 5:30-7:30 pm Central, [https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554](https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554))  
- Read **Topic 1 Learning Module (Metadata Basics)** required readings and review instructor’s presentation for Topic 1.  
- Work on the Metadata Building Blocks Exercise.  
|  
- Post a message about yourself in the **Course Introductions** discussion forum. Due: Monday, June 1, 11:55 pm (US Central Time).  
- Complete the **Syllabus Quiz**. Due: Tuesday, June 2, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |
| Week 2  
June 8-14 |  
- Complete reading **Topic 1 Learning Module (Metadata Basics)** required readings and instructor presentation and prepare discussion post.  
- Work on the Metadata Building Blocks Exercise.  
|  
- Post in the **Learning Modules: Topic 1** discussion forum. Due: Tuesday, June 9, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |
| Week 3  
June 15-21 |  
- **Attend 2nd class meeting in UNT Zoom**  
  (Tuesday, June 16, 5:30-7:30 pm Central, [https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554](https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554))  
- Complete the work on the Metadata Building Blocks Exercise.  
- Read **Topic 2 Learning Module (Major Metadata Schemes: Dublin Core)** online readings and review instructor’s presentation for Topic 2.  
- Work on the Dublin Core Metadata Exercise.  
|  
- Submit Metadata Building Blocks Exercise. Due: Tuesday, June 16, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |

\(^1\) Dates for weeks below are from Monday through Sunday.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>June 22-28</th>
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|        | • Complete reading **Topic 2 Learning Module (Major Metadata Schemes: Dublin Core)** online readings and instructor’s presentation for Topic 2.  
|        | • Work on the **Dublin Core Metadata Exercise.** |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>June 29-July 5</th>
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</table>
|        | • **Attend 3rd class meeting in UNT Zoom** (Tuesday, June 30, 5:30-7:30 pm Central, https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554)  
|        | • Complete the work on the **Dublin Core Metadata Exercise.**  
|        | • Work on the **MODS Metadata Exercise.** |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>July 6-12</th>
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|        | • Complete reading **Topic 3 Learning Module (Major Metadata Schemes: MODS)** online readings and instructor’s presentation for Topic 3.  
|        | • Work on the **MODS Metadata Exercise.** |

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<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>July 13-19</th>
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|        | • **Attend 4th class meeting in UNT Zoom** (Tuesday, July 14, 5:30-7:30 pm Central, https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554)  
|        | • Complete the work on the **MODS Metadata Exercise.**  
|        | • Read **Topic 4 Learning Module (Representation of Metadata in XML)** online readings and review instructor’s presentation for Topic 4.  
|        | • Work on the **Metadata in XML Exercise.** |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>July 20-26</th>
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|        | • Complete reading **Topic 4 Learning Module (Representation of Metadata in XML)** online readings and instructor’s presentation for Topic 4.  
|        | • Work on the **Metadata in XML Exercise.** |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>July 27-August 2</th>
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</table>
|        | • **Attend 5th class meeting in UNT Zoom** (Tuesday, July 28, 5:30-7:30 pm Central, https://unt.zoom.us/j/96255273554)  
|        | • Complete the work on the **Metadata in XML Exercise.**  
|        | • Read **Topic 5 Learning Module (Metadata Quality Considerations)** online readings and review instructor’s presentation for Topic 5.  
|        | • Work on the **Metadata Quality Exercise.** |

|        | • Submit **Dublin Core Metadata Exercise.** Due: Tuesday, June 30, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |
|        | • Submit **MODS Metadata Exercise.** Due: Tuesday, July 14, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |
|        | • Submit **Metadata in XML Exercise.** Due: Tuesday, July 28, 11:55 pm (US Central Time).  
|        | • Post in the "Learning Modules: Topic 5" discussion forum. Due: Sunday, August 2, 11:55 pm (US Central Time). |
## 2.7. Due Dates

To facilitate timely grading, **assignments must be submitted on time.** One-half grade (i.e., 5 points out of 100) will be deducted for each day an assignment is late (i.e., not submitted by the date/time specified). For example, for an assignment that would earn a grade of 98 on a 100-point scale (A+) if submitted on-time, the grade will be reduced to 78 (C+) if the assignment is submitted 4 days after the due date (98 - 5 X 4 = 78). An exception can be made if a student cannot meet the deadline for a serious reason AND notifies the course teaching team before the due date.

**Students who are having trouble with assignments are strongly encouraged to contact the course teaching team as soon as possible for personal advising.**

## 2.8. Assignment Grades and Course Grades

Grades indicate the degree to which a student completes assignments according to stated requirements. Grades for assignments, as well as semester grade are determined on a 100-point scale, where:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 points and below</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grade of A signifies superior work beyond basic requirements, B signifies adequate work in response to the requirements, and grades C, D, and F signify that student’s work does not meet the basic requirements.

## 2.9. UNT Course Evaluations

The purpose of the UNT Course Evaluations is to produce valid scores for measuring teaching effectiveness and overall course quality to help in continuous improvement of UNT courses. Your feedback on the INFO 4223 course is very important and highly appreciated so please make sure to complete the survey which will be available in the last several weeks of the semester at this website [https://unt.iasystem.org/survey](https://unt.iasystem.org/survey). The direct link to the INFO 4223 UNT Course Evaluations survey will be sent to each student’s UNT email address in the message from the organization that administers survey. Participation in this survey is highly encouraged by the teaching team and an extra credit (2% of semester grade) is given to everyone in the class if the overall response rate reaches at least 80% of students.
3. IMPORTANT UNT POLICIES

3.1. Grade of Incomplete

The UNT Graduate Catalog describes and explains grading policies. The UNT Registrar office website (http://registrar.unt.edu/grades/incompletes) explains UNT policy regarding a grade of Incomplete. In addition, the UNT Registration Guide on UNT Registrar Office’s website, (http://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide for Fall semesters, http://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide for Spring semesters, and http://registrar.unt.edu/registration/summer-5w1-10w-and-8w2-sessions for 10W Summer semester lists specific deadlines regarding the grade of Incomplete. A grade of Incomplete will be given only for a justifiable reason and only if the student is passing the course as of the date when a grade of Incomplete is requested. The student is responsible for contacting the instructor to request a grade of Incomplete and discuss requirements for completing the course. If a grade of Incomplete (I) is not removed within the period agreed to by instructor and student, the student may be assigned a grade of Fail (F).

Please note that a student who simply stops attending class may receive a final course grade of F (Fail).

3.2. Withdrawal


- the last day to withdraw from a course with an automatic grade of Withdraw (W);
- the last day to drop a course with a grade of Withdraw (W) or Withdraw-Failing (WF) when a grade of W or WF must be decided by instructor depending on a student’s attendance record and grade earned.

Please note that a student who simply stops attending class and does not file a withdrawal form may receive a final course grade of F (Fail).

3.3. Acceptable Student Behavior

Students are expected to be engaged with the course throughout the semester. Teaching team members will be available by appointment, and online via the learning management system.

In class discussions, students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior. This means interacting in a supportive and tactful manner based on mutual respect for each other’s ideas and approaches.

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the
classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether
the student's conduct violated the *Code of Student Conduct*. The university's expectations for
student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom,
labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The *Code of Student Conduct* can be found at
https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

3.4. Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism and other unethical and illegal activities.
Penalties range from reducing the grade for a test or assignment to revoking an academic
degree already granted. Specific policies, penalties, and the appeals process are explained in
UNT's *Code of Student Conduct* and Discipline, Graduate Catalog, and the Policy Manual. The
instructor of this course abides by and enforces the UNT policies on academic misconduct.
Students should be particularly aware of the risks of plagiarism.

The term "**cheating**" includes, but is not limited to

- the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations;
- dependence upon the aid of sources specifically prohibited by the instructor in writing
  papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
- the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a
  faculty or staff member of the university.

The term "**plagiarism**" includes, but is not limited to:

- the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another
  person without full and clear acknowledgement;
- the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in
  the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

**Plagiarism**

UNT instructors have a **zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism**. Plagiarism is a serious violation
of the UNT policies. The instructor assumes you have read and understood the UNT's
Student Standards of Academic Integrity Policy
(http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-
Academic_Integrity.pdf)

**Penalties for Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is illegal, unethical, and unacceptable. Any instances of plagiarism in student
work will result in the following penalties:

- **First offense**: Final course grade reduced by one complete grade (e.g., if a
  student otherwise earns a B in the course, the semester grade is reduced to a
  C).
- **Second offense**: Final course grade reduced to F (Fail).

Any instance of plagiarism is also reported to UNT Dean of Students Office, which can
impose additional penalties including suspension from UNT.

3.5. Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault
UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources). UNT’s Student Advocate can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

### 3.6. Disability Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You 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. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters of accommodation during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu). You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

### 3.7. F-1-Visa-Related Policy (for International Students)

**Federal Regulation**


(G) For F1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F1 student's course of study is in a
language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within 1 week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Advising Office. The UNT International Advising Office has a form to be used for this purpose: On-campus Component Reporting Form for Online Courses https://international.unt.edu/sites/default/files/files/Online%20Course%20Form.pdf.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about their need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, they should contact the UNT International Advising Office (telephone (940) 565-2195 or email international@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

SYLLABUS REVISION

This syllabus may be revised during the semester. If the revisions are made, students will be promptly notified.