

PLS 422, Section 741: MICHIGAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS
MGSP COURSE—HYBRID—SPRING 2022
Tues. (MI Capitol Building) & Thurs. (PAA Conference Room), 4:00-5:30 pm

I. Course Instructor:

Marty P. Jordan, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Dept. of Political Science

Michigan State University

Email: marty.jordan@gmail.com or jordan61@msu.edu *Please include PLS 422 in the subject line

Pronouns: he, him, his

Office: 346 S. Kedzie Hall

Office Hours: Wed (1:00-3:00pm) or by Appointment

(<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92461100332>) Pswd: **YesPLS**

II. Course Description and Objectives:

This course is a component of the Michigan Government Semester Program. It should afford you an in-depth exposure to the foundations, nature, and dynamics of government and politics in the American states, with a particular emphasis on Michigan. Topics covered will include the role of federalism, state constitutions, political participation, elections, political parties, state legislatures, governors, bureaucracy, judiciary, and public policy issues in the American laboratories of democracy. Moreover, you will have the opportunity to meet and interact with a diverse group of some of the most influential leaders in Michigan politics and public policy. We aim to see and study Michigan government and politics “in action.”

As such, you should leave this course with the following competencies:

- You should be able to discuss the foundations and principles for state and local government in Michigan and the United States more broadly.
- You should be able to describe the inner workings of the primary governmental branches, including executive, legislative, judicial, and administrative functions at the state and local levels.
- You should be well-versed in contemporary policy debates and how political parties, the media, and interest groups interact with political institutions to affect policy change at the state level.
- You should have an ample understanding of the factors (e.g., public opinion, political parties, the media, interest groups, campaigns, elections) that influence voters, policymakers, judges, elected officials, and bureaucrats’ decision making.
- You should be able to evaluate recent developments in Michigan and their impact on public policy in the areas of education, welfare, environment, and fiscal/economic policy.
- You should become a *critical* consumer of news, data, and social science research results and learn how to make sense of the daily deluge of data and information. You should also enhance your numerical literacy skills, understanding and questioning basic representations of data and information.
- You should become familiar with current events and understand how politics at the state and local level impacts residents in real, meaningful ways.
- You should gain insights into the careers and lives of public servants, expand your network of noteworthy leaders in state and local politics and public policy, and be able to interact with and engage policymakers and public servants in future settings.
- You should learn how to become a more active and engaged citizen and be able to articulate your perspective on a host of issues and debates. And you should improve your ability to

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express your political views both verbally and in writing. You should also develop an appreciation for civility, tolerance, and discourse, being open to political ideas and opinions in contrast to your own while simultaneously reflecting on and updating your own beliefs and positions.

III. Course Modality:

PLS 422-741's mode of instruction is IN-PERSON, including both a synchronous component and an asynchronous component. For the asynchronous format, you will prepare by reading assigned materials, listen to podcasts, and watch pre-recorded lectures. As a writing-intensive course, you will also complete weekly lecture-reading quizzes and three essay-based exams in an asynchronous environment. The online component will help you further develop a profound understanding of state and local government, politics, and public policy.

For the synchronous component, we will meet in person twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 – 5:30 pm (Eastern Time Zone). **On Tuesdays we will meet in the Senate Majority Leaders's Conference Room at the MI Capitol Building (100 N Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI 48933), and on Thursdays, we will meet in Public Affairs Associates' (PAA) Conference Room on the 10th floor (120 N Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933).**

Occasionally, however, we may need to meet via Zoom with speakers due to the persistent Coronavirus pandemic, speaker preference, or other logistical issues. In those cases, we will use the following Zoom link and passcode: (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95705518828>, Password: **MGSP**).

Our synchronous class time will be spent primarily talking with prominent guest speakers from or connected to Michigan government. Class time will supplement and enhance the readings and examine unique aspects of Michigan government and politics in a comparative context. These meetings will also allow us the opportunity to discuss course materials and content, upcoming assignments, and share about your internship experience.

Our synchronous class time will follow a seminar-type atmosphere, requiring interaction and discussion between students and speakers. Classroom discussions are an essential aspect of learning. Discussion will prioritize the topic covered, including the readings, guest speakers, and current events. Discussion and questions are not just encouraged but required. Students are expected to complete the assigned tasks, lectures, or podcasts before class. Class attendance is required. At times, it may be necessary to adjust our schedule to accommodate guest lectures and open meetings.

See the Course Requirements and Course Schedule sections for more details.

IV. Tips for Taking an Online Course:

Online courses are great for one simple reason—they afford you more flexibility in your schedule. You can participate in the course when you are available and at your pace. (And you get the added benefit of doing preparatory work while sitting in your pajamas.) But make no mistake about it—online courses are NOT easier. They are much more challenging than in-person classes. Why? Because you are left to your own devices. Of course, I'll be following up with you, trying to engage you, reminding you of due dates, and providing feedback. But an online environment makes it easier

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for you to ignore me. So, if you want to succeed in this and all of your online courses this semester, I suggest you:

- A. Make a plan for when you will do the readings, listen to the recorded lectures, complete the weekly quizzes and semester essay exams, and participate in the synchronous class meetings. What days and times are you going to do this? And don't leave it to Fridays on the days assignments are respectively due!

- B. Second, while listening to the recorded lectures, doing the readings, or taking quizzes / exams, here are some dos and don'ts:
 - Refrain from opening emails, texting, or browsing the web.
 - Choose a space where you will not encounter distractions, which could include family members, laundry, dirty dishes, or a busy street outside your window.
 - Avoid sitting on a comfortable couch or bed.
 - Ensure you have a strong connection to the internet and that your computer won't crash or update on you. Make a backup plan in case this does happen, perhaps using your phone as an alternative.
 - Don't wait until the day something is due to start it. You will engage the material much more by doing the readings and listening to online lectures days earlier, letting the information sit with you, and then engaging it during our synchronous meetings, exams, or your internship experience. And take the exams when you are freshest and can answer questions to the best of your ability.

V. Course Materials:

Please purchase, rent, borrow, or check out from the library the following two books (in hardcover or paperback):

- Klemanski, John S., and David A. Dulio. 2017. *Michigan Government, Politics, and Policy*. University of Michigan Press.
- Hanna-Attisha, Mona. 2018. *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City*. Random House Publishing Group.

There will also be additional assigned reading materials—e.g., book chapters, research articles, news reports, video links—that I will make available via the course website on D2L.

The course website is Desire2Learn (hereafter D2L): <http://d2l.msu.edu>. You can access the assigned readings and activities on D2L. Grades will be posted periodically on the course website. I will also announce schedule or course changes here. Assignments will also be due via D2L. Please check our course website regularly. If you need technical assistance with D2L at any time, you should call MSU's IT support at 517-355-2345; they provide excellent and speedy support.

Also, I have created a Michigan Government & Politics Question & Answer Discussion Forum (under the Communication, then Discussion tab). Feel free to pose general questions or answer your colleagues' questions there. This forum can be your first place to look for answers to general questions about the reading material, lectures, essay-based exams, guest speakers, your

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internships, among other topics. *You can also subscribe to this forum so that it emails you when questions are posed or answered.*

VI. Course Requirements:

WEEKLY LECTURE-READING QUIZZES: (10% TOTAL). Each week, students will be asked to complete a short quiz (e.g., 3-5 questions) on the week's assigned lecture, readings, or other materials. The questions may be multiple-choice or short answer. Students will simply receive full credit for completing these quizzes. Correct answers will be shown to students upon submitting their quizzes. The purpose of these quizzes is to test your comprehension of the week's assigned materials and your ability to apply and synthesize the course content. They are a low-stakes opportunity to ensure that you are understanding some of the key concepts of state and local government, politics, policymaking, and the law. Quizzes should be completed no later than 5:00 pm each Friday.

THREE ESSAY EXAMS: (15% EACH, 45% TOTAL). There will be three essay exams administered throughout the semester (see the course schedule for the details). These tests will be administered online via D2L and are "open-book" and "open-note" exams (but that is different than "open-source" exams). You will have two hours to complete four essay questions (selecting out of six possible questions) and you can take the test at any time that fits your schedule between Monday at 9:00 am and Friday at 5:00 pm that week. The exams, however, **MUST** be started and completed by the deadline. The format for the tests will be described in the forthcoming class sessions, but, in general, the exams will consist of essay questions that require in-depth answers (three to five paragraphs each), applying knowledge gained and examples compiled from our meetings with guest speakers, course readings, assigned materials, and your internship experiences. The essays are not necessarily cumulative, but information from the beginning of the semester will undoubtedly apply as we discuss content from the latter portions of the class.

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE: (45% TOTAL). The other portion of your grade is based on your ability and willingness to contribute to our class during our twice-weekly virtual meetings. What does this require of you? It requires (1) Preparation, (2) Regular and Punctual Attendance, and (3) Meaningful Participation.

(1) Preparation: I expect you to watch the assigned lectures and complete the assigned readings and other materials for each week as scheduled, and come prepared to answer questions or discuss. You should know that D2L allows instructors to see which and how much of assigned activities were tackled by each student.

I also encourage you to stay abreast of current events by browsing or subscribing to one or several of the following Michigan-focused publications every day:

- "MLive" <https://www.mlive.com/politics/>
- "Bridge." <http://bridgemi.com/>
- "BridgeDetroit." <https://www.bridgedetroit.com/>
- "Michigan Public Radio." <http://michiganradio.org/#stream/0>

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- “Lansing State Journal.” <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/>
- “Detroit Free Press.” <http://www.freep.com/>
- “The Detroit News.” <http://www.detroitnews.com/>

(2) Regular and Punctual Attendance: You are required to attend our twice-weekly virtual sessions, be on time, and participate in our class discussions. Remember, our guest speakers are taking precious time out of their schedules to meet with you; the least we can do is have the courtesy to show up on time and actively engage in conversation. You will not do well in this course if you do not show up and engage in the material.

Each student will be allowed THREE absences during our synchronous meetings for excused or unexcused events. This will cover doctor’s appointments, illness, car accidents, missed alarms, needing a mental health day, and all other excused or unexcused events. Beginning with the 4th absence, students will lose 5 percentage points of their participation and attendance grade for each subsequent absence (out of 45% total). Students do not get to use three unexcused absences and then request three more absences for excused purposes. Use your three absences wisely and sparingly. If you miss a class, you bear the responsibility of getting notes, information about assignments, or changes to the syllabus from a classmate. See the section below on how to deal with Late Work, Make-Ups, Missed Assessments. Tardy class attendees, especially repeat habitual offenders, will also be deducted attendance and participation points.

(3) Meaningful Participation: Meaningful participation comes in several forms: asking questions of our guest speakers, asking questions to clarify course topics, answering questions that I pose in class, drawing connections between course topics and policy issues, and offering comments during class. I expect everyone to participate in asking questions of our guest speakers. This does not mean that you have to ask a question each class period, but you should be asking a stimulating, insightful question each week (*at the least*). I will keep a record of who asks questions during each class session.

Meaningful participation is also respectful participation. I expect of everyone a high level of respect for one another (and especially our guest speakers), a willingness to listen, and tolerance of opposing viewpoints. I expect respect for individual differences and alternative points of view to always be maintained in this course. One’s words and use of language should be tempered and within acceptable bounds of civility and decency.

Meaningful participation is not checking your cellphone, surfing the web, or chatting with your neighbor during class conversations or activities. In other words, good participation is merely being a good member of our class community. Everyone’s experience in this course is enhanced by regular attendance and active participation; conversely, everyone’s experience suffers if individuals do not attend and participate. Remember that a sincere question often adds as much (if not more) to our understanding of the course material. Don’t be afraid to speak up or seek help if you do not understand course content! I also encourage you to participate in the MI Government & Politics Question & Answer Discussion Forum on D2L, asking and answering relevant course questions.

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Your participation grade will be evaluated halfway through the semester (to give you a sense of how I think you are doing) and at the end of the semester.

VII. Student Evaluation and Grading:

Grading Weights—your point total will be determined using the following weights:

- Weekly Lecture-Reading Quizzes (15) 100 points (10%)
- Essay Exams (3): 450 points (45%)
- Participation and Attendance: 450 points (45%)
- TOTAL: 1000 points (100%)

Grading Scale:

4.0	90 – 100	2.5	75 – 79	1.0	60 – 64
3.5	85 – 89	2.0	70 – 74	0.0	Below 60
3.0	80 – 84	1.5	65 – 69		

*This is the grade scale that I will use to guide my grading decisions. If you earn the percentage listed above, you are assured at least that grade. However, I reserve the right to curve the final grades upward should I deem it necessary.

VIII. Course Outline & Schedule:

The outline below is subject to changes as necessary to account for the unique dynamics of our course. If changes are made, they will be announced with notice via email and documented on D2L.

Week	Topic	Assigned Readings, Activities, & Due Dates
1. Jan. 10 – 16	Introduction to State Government and Foundations of State Government	Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chps. 1 – 2 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Prologue – Chps. 3 Read: Portraits of Michigan History, and Facts on Michigan Read: Constitution of State of Michigan, 1963 Watch: State Gov. Intro Lecture (30 min) Watch: State Constitutions Lecture (30 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min) Tues, Jan. 11: Tour of MI Capitol @ 4:00 pm Thurs, Jan. 13: MGSP Alumni Group (via Zoom)
2. Jan. 17 – 23	State Legislatures	Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 7 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 4 – 6 Read: A Student's Guide to the Legislative Process Watch: State Legislatures Lecture (40 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min) Tues, Jan. 18: Intro Class / Expectations (via Zoom) Thurs, Jan. 20: Speaker (via Zoom)

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<p>3. Jan. 24 – 30</p>	<p>State Governors</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 6 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 7 – 9 Listen: NPR: How Outrage is Hijacking Our Culture & Our Minds Watch: State Governors Lecture (40 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, Jan. 25: Speaker (via Zoom) Wed, Jan. 26: State-of-the-State Address (Tentative) Thurs, Jan. 27: Speaker (via Zoom)</p>
<p>4. Jan. 31 – Feb. 6</p>	<p>State Courts</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 8 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 10 – 12 Read: A Journalist's Guide to Covering MI State Courts Read: How to Read the Mind of a Sup. Court Justice Watch: State Judiciary Lecture (35 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, Feb. 2: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, Feb. 4: Speaker (at PAA) Due: Essay Exam #1, Fri. Feb. 4 @ 5:00 pm</p>
<p>5. Feb. 7 – 13</p>	<p>Federalism</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 3 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 13 – 15 Read: "Kludgeocracy in America." (D2L) Watch: Federalism Lecture (30 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, Feb. 8: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, Feb. 10: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
<p>6. Feb. 14 – 20</p>	<p>Local Governments</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chps. 4 & 15 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 16 – 18 Read: Yes, this is real: Michigan just banned banning plastic bags. Listen: Stop the Presses! Newspapers Affect Us Watch: Local Govs. Lecture (40 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, Feb. 16: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, Feb. 18: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
<p>7. Feb. 21 – 27</p>	<p>State Bureaucracies</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 5 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 19 – 21 Listen: This American Life-Nothing in Moderation Watch: Bureaucracy Lecture (30 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, Feb. 22: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, Feb. 24: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
<p>8. Feb.28 – March 6</p>	<p>Political Parties & Interest Groups</p>	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 9 Read: What the Eyes Don't See, Chps. 22 – 24 Read: Why Democrats and Republicans Don't Understand Each Other</p>

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		<p>Take: Perception Gap Quiz (https://perceptiongap.us/) Skim: MI Dept. of State “Lobby Manual” Watch: Political Parties & Interest Groups Lecture (45min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, March 1: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, March 3: Speaker (at PAA)</p> <p>Due: Essay Exam #2, Fri. March 4 @ 5:00 pm</p>
9. March 7 – 13	Spring Break	SPRING BREAK --- NO ASSIGNMENTS DUE
10. March 14 – 20	Elections, Campaigns, and Political Behavior	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chps. 10 & 11 Read: What the Eyes Don’t See, Chps. 25 – Epilogue Listen: NPR: Facts Aren’t Enough-The Psychology of False Beliefs Watch: Elections/Behavior Lecture (65 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, March 15: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, March 17: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
11. March 21 – 27	Fiscal / Budgetary Policy	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 13 Read: MI Budget Process Read: MI Econ Future, Chps. 5 & 6 Watch: Fiscal Policy Lecture (50 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, March 22: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, March 24: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
12. March 28–April 3	Economic Development Policy	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 14 Read: MI Econ Future, Chps. 4 & 7 Watch: Econ. Dev. Lecture (30 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, March 23: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, March 25: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
13. April 4 – 10	Education Policy	<p>Read: MI Government, Politics & Policy, Chp. 12 Read: MI Econ Future, Chp. 2 Watch: Education Policy Lecture (50 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p> <p>Tues, April 5: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, April 7: Speaker (at PAA)</p>
14. April 11 – 17	Environmental Policy	<p>Read: MI Econ Future, Chp. 3 Review: Environment Michigan (http://www.environmentmichigan.org/) Watch: Environmental Policy Lecture (40 min) Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min)</p>

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		Tues, April 12: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, April 14: Speaker (at PAA)
15. April 18 – 24	Miscellaneous Oral/Written Testimony Project Practice	Read: Two Texas Congressmen’s Cannonball Run Read: Women Are the Only Adults Left in Washington Listen: The Age of “Mega Identity” Politics Podcast Take: Reading – Lecture Short Quiz (15 min) Tues, April 19: Speaker (at Capitol) Thurs, April 21: Practice Oral Testimony (at PAA) Due: Essay Exam #3, Fri. April 22 @ 5:00 pm
16. April 25 – May 1	Final Oral/Written Testimony Project	Tues, April 26: Final Oral Testimony (at Capitol) Thurs, April 28: MGSP Reception (5:00 – 6:30 pm)
17. May 2 – May 6		No Final Exam

IX. Course Policies and Procedures:

Intellectual Property of Course Content: My lectures, notes, handouts, quizzes, essays, assignments, and displays are protected by state common law and federal copyright law. They are my own original expression or have been borrowed from colleagues who have given prior consent. Students are authorized to take notes in my courses; however, this authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use. You may not copy course material, make commercial use of them, or upload any course material to online study sites without prior permission from me.

Expected Civil Decorum: Politics can be controversial. And you will engage in controversial issues from time to time. I desire to create a space where meaningful and constructive dialogue is encouraged, and your opinions are shared. However, this requires mutual respect, a willingness to listen, and tolerance of opposing viewpoints. I expect that you will maintain respect for individual differences and alternative points of view in this course and at your internship site. One’s words and use of language should be tempered and within acceptable bounds of civility and decency.

Late Work or Make-up Assessments: I expect students to make every effort to turn in assignments and activities on time and as scheduled. The only exceptions that will be made pertain to medical emergencies experienced by you or someone in your immediate family that necessitate your absence, participation in a College-sponsored event or activity, or observance of a religious holiday. If you know in advance you will miss or be late for a course requirement, you must notify me in advance. If you are ill or other extenuating circumstances cause you to miss a required graded activity, notify me as soon as possible and provide appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor’s note) that allows me to verify your claim.

Please note that for those assignments or activities turned in after a deadline (that do not meet the aforementioned exceptions), I will apply a 25% penalty to your assignment grade for every 24-hour period beyond the due date and time.

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Internet Access: I understand that internet accessibility is an important consideration for this online course. Given this, I understand if you are inadvertently disconnected from our Zoom synchronous classes. I encourage you to try to reconnect or to call into the Zoom meeting using your telephonic device. I also understand if you would prefer not to show your video to preserve bandwidth. Zoom meetings will be recorded in case you encounter technical difficulties. If you encounter an internet outage during a timed exam, please let me know as soon as possible via email. In the United States, hotspots are available for a low price and often carry one month of free internet connection. Some assistance might also be available through the Office of Financial Aid or Student Services, because connectivity will effectively become a requirement for the course. A map of free hotspots in Michigan is available here:

<http://cngis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0d69accbb5ff422a82ecce2c9101b69d>.

Communication with the Instructor: I care about you and your success during the internship, in this course, at Michigan State University, and beyond. I welcome suggestions, comments, questions, and conversations about your internship experience, the course, policy studies, political science, graduate school, or the professional arena outside academia. Feel free to participate in my virtual office hours (office hours are listed above), set up an appointment, call, or email me. I will try to respond to all emails within 24 hours, although it may take longer on the weekends. I will also use email and our D2L site to frequently communicate with you about course assignments, activities, and any changes to the course schedule or syllabus.

Grade Appeals or Challenges: I am not infallible and make grading errors, including grading miscalculations, from time to time. If you have a question or concern regarding your performance on an assignment or your standing in the course, I am happy to discuss this with you.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and other academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. I expect all work to be original and not previously or simultaneously turned in for credit in another course (unless you get explicit permission from me beforehand). All students at MSU are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policies of this institution. Violations of this policy may include cheating, plagiarism (including “patchwriting”), aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. Students that violate the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member (including but not limited to a zero for the assignment and/or course, being reported to the Dean’s office) and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to probation, suspension, or expulsion from the university).

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD): Michigan State University and I are committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at www.rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation (“VISA”) form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or one week before the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.

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Religious Observation Policy:

<http://www.hr.msu.edu/documents/facadhandbooks/facultyhandbook/religiousobservance.htm>

Sexual Harassment or Assault: Michigan State University and I are committed to fostering a culture of caring and respect that is free of relationship violence and sexual misconduct, and to ensuring that all affected individuals have access to services. For information on reporting options, confidential advocacy and support resources, university policies and procedures, or how to make a difference on campus, visit the Title IX website at www.titleix.msu.edu.

I am available if you would like to speak to me about an incident of sexual harassment or assault that occurred while you are a student at MSU. However, it is essential to note that all MSU faculty members (and teaching assistants) are mandatory reporters through Title IX (the law that prohibits sex discrimination, including harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking). If you speak to me about a personal experience, I am required to report my knowledge of the incident to the Title IX coordinator.

You may want to call MSU's 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line **(517) 372-6666** or visit <https://centerforsurvivors.msu.edu/>. An additional resource to consider if you need one-on-one crisis support outside of MSU is the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence's Voices4 Hotline. The Hotline provides confidential and anonymous support for all victims/survivors, their significant others, and those professionals who serve them in the state of Michigan 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These services are secure and available in real-time. You can reach the Hotline via phone, chat, text, or TTY (Teletypewriter).

Hotline: [1-855-VOICES4](tel:1-855-VOICES4) (1-855-864-2374)

TTY: [517-381-8470](tel:517-381-8470), Text Line: [1-866-238-1454](tel:1-866-238-1454)

Chat Line: <https://mcedsv.org/hotline/hotline-chat/>

Mental Health Services: Students often experience issues that may interfere with academic success, such as academic stress, sleep problems, juggling responsibilities, life events, relationship concerns, or feelings of anxiety, hopelessness, or depression. If you or a friend is struggling, we strongly encourage you to seek support. Helpful resources are available on campus, and most are free of charge.

- Drop by Counseling & Psychiatric Services (CAPS) main location (3rd floor of Olin Health Center) for a same-day mental health screening.
- Visit <https://caps.msu.edu> for online health assessments, hours, and additional CAPS services.
- Call CAPS at **(517) 355-8270** any time, day or night.
- 24-Hour MSU Sexual Assault Crisis Line **(517) 372-6666** or visit <https://centerforsurvivors.msu.edu/>.