

AMBERTON UNIVERSITY
e-COURSE SYLLABUS

MGT5620.E1 Managing Virtual Teams
Fall 2026

PROFESSOR INFORMATION:

Professor: J. Michael Woods
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COURSE INFORMATION:

MGT5620.E1 Managing Virtual Teams
Level: Graduate
Beginning Date of Session Saturday, Sept 12, 2026
Ending Date of Session: Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026

Student access available to the Student Portal: Saturday, Sept 12, 2026.

Students enrolled in distance learning courses are not assessed any additional fees for security or identity verification.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

None

TEXTBOOK(S) AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Title: Leading from Anywhere: The Essential Guide to Managing Remote Teams
Author: David Burkus
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Year Published: 2021
Edition: 1st Edition
ISBN: 13:978-0358533276
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Title: The Virtual Manager Collection (1: Leading Virtual Teams; 2: Virtual Collaboration; 3: Running Virtual Meetings)
Author: Harvard Business Review
Publisher: Harvard Business Review Press
Year Published: 2016
Edition: 1st Edition
ISBN: 13:978-1633692374
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Amberton University has an agreement with eCampus.com to provide a full-service online bookstore to students. The Amberton University Virtual Bookstore is accessible through the University's website, www.Amberton.edu. There is also a bookstore link in the Student Portal.

The AU Virtual Bookstore provides an easy to use interface, online buyback of books, and same day shipment of most titles with an average delivery time of 2-3 days depending on the student's location. Textbook options include new, used, rental, and electronic media as available.

Since no books are sold on campus, students should plan accordingly and purchase their books in advance of the first day of class, allowing time for shipping. Be certain you are enrolled in the course before purchasing your book(s). All textbook information (Title, Author, ISBN, etc.) is available in the course syllabi so students can shop competitively. Most textbooks can be purchased from many different textbook vendors. Some textbooks may only be available on the University's Virtual Bookstore. Students should be careful to obtain the exact resource(s) required for the course.

APA Requirement

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 7th edition, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, (7th ed.). All coursework at Amberton University will comply with the standards contained in the APA Publication Manual.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

This course provides students with the skills necessary to form and manage a virtual team. This course will explore the history of teamwork and virtual teams. Students will investigate essential skills and activities associated with managing teams. Students will also explore essential technologies associated with managing virtual teams. Topics include the history of teams, advantages of virtual teams, trust in teams, networking and technology, managing time in the virtual workplace, ethical considerations in virtual teams, thinking and learning in virtual teams, organizational culture limitations, and how to ensure virtual team success.

CAVEAT: No graduate credit will be awarded if MGT4620 has been successfully completed.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE COMPETENT IN:

1. Understanding the history of teamwork and its value within organizations
2. Understanding the role of virtual teams in organizations
3. Defining the difference between traditional face-to-face teams vs virtual teams
4. Understanding how to form virtual and remote teams
5. Understanding the challenges of managing a virtual team
6. Defining team trust and managing virtual teams training
7. Understanding how personality types affect team communication
8. Understanding the need to manage virtual team technology effectively
9. Understanding issues within privacy and respect
10. Understanding ethics within a virtual team
11. Demonstrating knowledge regarding external and internal boundaries of a virtual team
12. Understanding the need for relationship building within virtual teams
13. Demonstrating effective communication within virtual teams
14. Assessing how virtual teams use artificial intelligence (AI) to create efficiencies in team dynamics

Acquired Skills:

1. SWOT Analysis
2. Team Formation
3. Utilizing Online Learning Tools to Manage a Virtual Team
4. Relationship Building Within Teams

COURSE POLICIES:

Student's Responsibilities

This syllabus contains information, policies, and procedures for a specific course. By enrolling, the student agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, rules, regulations, and ethical standards of Amberton University as contained in the current university catalog and schedule of classes.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and punctual class attendance and engagement is expected at Amberton University. In case of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor as soon as possible. If a student intends on withdrawing from a course, it is the student's responsibility to follow the university's policy on formally withdrawing from a course. **Ceasing to attend classes does not constitute an official withdrawal.**

Attendance in a lecture course is defined as punctual arrival to, and engagement in, a full lecture session. A Student in a lecture course missing more than 20% (two class periods for weekday classes or one class period

for Saturday classes) of the class meetings may be assigned a grade of an “F” or withdrawn at the discretion of Amberton University.

Attendance in a distance learning course is defined as active participation in the weekly online class sessions. “Active participation” can be defined as: submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam, engaging in an interactive tutorial, participating in an online discussion forum (or chat session), or initiating (or responding to) a communication with a faculty member about an academic assignment or the subject matter of the course. A student not meeting these requirements may be assigned a grade of an “F” or withdrawn at the discretion of Amberton University.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s work as though it were your own. If you use another person’s words, ideas, or information; or if you use material from an outside source – whether a book, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or electronic media – you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism is a violation of the University’s code of student ethical conduct and is one that is taken seriously. Amberton University operates on an honor system; therefore, honesty and integrity are essential characteristics of all who are associated with the institution. All Amberton students are expected to abide by the honor system and maintain academic integrity in all their work. Amberton University and its instructors monitor student work for plagiarism and reserve the right to submit such work to technology-based plagiarism detection services and applications at any time.

Self-plagiarism means reusing work that you have already published or submitted for a class. It can involve:

- Resubmitting an entire paper
- Copying or paraphrasing passages from your previous work

Self-plagiarism misleads your readers by presenting previous work as completely new and original. Students may not submit the same paper in substance in two or more classes without prior written permission of the instructors involved.

Amberton University students who use Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content must adhere to the following policies:

Originality: Students must avoid presenting AI generated content as their own original work. It is essential to acknowledge the involvement of AI in the content creation process in order to maintain academic and ethical standards.

Paraphrasing: When using AI generated content, students must rephrase and/or modify the generated text. Paraphrased AI generated content should also be properly cited.

Acknowledgement: When using AI generated content in any assignment, proper credit must be given to the AI system that generated the content. <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for a textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism and self-plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in future papers. Use of Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Turnitin is a writing improvement and plagiarism prevention tool which uses special algorithms, to compare text-based student submissions to the Turnitin database and other online sources. Turnitin produces a detailed **similarity report** that can be customized and viewed by instructors and students.

Turnitin “Draft Coach” is a Google based add-on to Turnitin which supports students in developing high-quality academic writing; and serves as an integrity coach. Draft Coach helps address errors and improve the quality of student’s writing by highlighting grammar mistakes, identifying incorrectly cited sources, and scanning for similarity across several databases. By providing formative feedback on how to address citation issues, incorrect grammar, and matches with the Turnitin database, Draft Coach provides explanations to help

students become more confident writers, capable of producing higher quality work both in academics and in the workplace.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:

Week	Topic	Assignment	Competencies Covered	Due Date
Wk. 1	An intro to going remote	-Leading from Anywhere Ch 1 -Leading Virtual Teams p 1-11	1-3	1) Class introductions 2) Course Acknowledgement
Wk. 2	An intro to teamwork and virtual teams; building culture remotely	-Leading from Anywhere Ch 2 -Virtual Collaboration p 47-63	4-5	Discussion 1: Video Review - The Power of Collaboration - link
Wk. 3	Hiring remote teammates Building a successful virtual team	Leading from Anywhere Ch 3 Leading Virtual Teams p 11-27	6, 15, 17	Assignment #1 – Managing a Remote Workforce article review (Word) <see pdf>
Wk. 4	Building trust and bonds in virtual teams	Leading from Anywhere Ch 4	7,15,16,18	Discussion 2: Video Review – Effective Virtual Meetings - link
Wk. 5	Communicating virtually	Leading from Anywhere Ch 5 Virtual Collaboration p 63-89	8-10	Assignment #2 Book Ch 5 review (Word)
Wk. 6	Running virtual meetings Team Project #1	Leading from Anywhere Ch 6 Running Virtual Meetings p 1-97	1,6,11	Assignment 3: Team Project #1 (Introduction) (Word)
Wk.7	Creative decision-making in virtual teams	Leading from Anywhere Ch 7	4,6,14	Discussion 3: Video – How to Effectively Lead Remote Teams - link
Wk.8	Cross-cultural Teams	Leading from Anywhere Ch 8 Leading Virtual Teams p 85-103	7-8	Discussion 4: Review Managing Cross-Cultural Remote Teams video - link
Wk. 9	Managing Virtual Teams	Leading from Anywhere Ch 9-10	9,10,11,13,14	Assignment 5: Team Project #2 (Final) (Word)
Wk.10 THURSDAY LAST CLASS	Optimizing Virtual Teams	Leading from Anywhere Conclusion, Appendix A&B Virtual Collaboration p 27-47	12,13	Discussion 5: Optimizing Virtual Teams - link

Wk.10 THURSDAY LAST CLASS	Optimizing Virtual Teams	Graduate Capstone Project	12, 13	Discussion 5: Optimizing Virtual Teams - link
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GRADING CRITERIA:

NOTE: All Assignments will be due Saturday end of day (11:59 PM CST) on the week due.

Discussion Posts: 30%

Assignments: 30%

Team Project (Two Parts): 40%

Graduate

92 – 100 A

82 – 91 B

72 – 81 C

62 – 71 D

Below 62 F

GRADE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK:

Students should review instructor feedback provided through Moodle or Amberton CampusWeb Portal. Final grades are processed after the session and may be viewed through the student portal. Grades will not be released by phone or through unsecured channels.

Incomplete Grades

An "I" (Incomplete) grade is granted only at the professor's discretion for emergencies or illness.

Students have 30 days from the end of the session to complete the course requirements. If the conditions are not met within this 30-day window, the "I" automatically converts to an "F".

How To Withdraw From a Course

To be official, the class withdrawal must be in writing and signed by the student requesting the withdrawal; no withdrawal is accepted verbally. Please review the "Schedule of Classes" (online or in-print) for procedures for class changes or withdrawals and the refund policy and schedule.

COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:

This course is delivered through Moodle. Students are expected to have reliable internet access, basic computer skills, the ability to upload/download files, use Amberton email, and submit assignments in the required format. Students needing assistance should use the Amberton SSO support/ticket process.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR COURSE:

SINGLE SIGN-ON (SSO) INSTRUCTIONS FOR AMBERTON UNIVERSITY

Students should access Amberton systems through the Single Sign-On portal at <https://sso.amberton.edu>. After logging in, students can access Moodle, Amberton email, CampusWeb, and other assigned applications. Students who need help accessing SSO should submit a support request through the SSO support option or contact support@amberton.edu.

Moodle Tutorial:

Upon successful log in and access to the Moodle learning platform, there is a *Student Moodle Tutorials* course available, to learn about the basics of Moodle. Simply click on the link for the *Student Moodle Tutorials* and read through the various learning topics: Navigating; Communicating; Assignments & Exams; Grades; and Student Resources.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:

Students will communicate with faculty through the Moodle Learning Platform or the Amberton University email system.

Email Communication

Students are expected to use their Amberton email account and Moodle for course communication. Students should check Amberton emails regularly for course and university notices.

Upon completion of a session, all communication and course specific information is removed from the Moodle system. If a student needs to maintain a record of communications or assignments, the student is strongly encouraged to print out or download these items to a disk for their own records.

FORMAT AND SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments must be submitted through the appropriate Moodle assignment link unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Students are responsible for submitting files in the format required by the instructor.

INSTRUCTOR/COURSE EVALUATION:

Students will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous course and instructor evaluation near the end of the session. Instructions and dates will be provided through Moodle and/or Amberton email.

RESEARCH RESOURCES:

The **Amberton Library** provides access to full-text articles, peer-reviewed databases, and research tools, with options like Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and TexShare for items outside its collection. For research assistance, students can connect with library staff during operating hours via email (Library@amberton.edu), phone (972-279-6511 ext. 185), "How-to" videos, live online chat, or in person at the Garland campus.

MICROSOFT OFFICE 365 EDUCATION:

Amberton University students may access Microsoft 365 Education resources as provided by the university.

GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION:

Amberton students are assigned a Google Workspace for Education account, including Amberton Gmail, Google Drive, Google Docs, Sheets, and Slides. Students should use their Amberton Google account for course-related work when required.