CRIJ3313 (CRN27673) - Criminology
Spring 2023 – Online

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Virtual Office Hours: Contact me at basims@utep.edu to arrange an appointment. I can be flexible when it comes to days and times that will work for students. Make use of office hours for assistance with the clarification of assignment guidelines or to consult with me about your progress in this course. There are times when email communication is not working; at those times, it is best to set up a virtual meeting.

Class begins January 17, 2023

Class ends March 5, 2023

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course surveys historical perspectives on crime, contemporary criminological theory, penological theory, current trends in crime, and critical thought on current justice practices and procedures. Particular emphasis is given to the development and application of theory in regard to different types of crimes, "crime waves," and appropriate penal policy.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a functional understanding of the nature and importance of criminological theory to the field of criminal justice.
- Define and apply the major concepts and terms of various criminological theories to the development of criminal justice public policy.
- Explain the complexity associated with the intersectionality of race/ethnicity, gender, and crime.
- Analyze studies exploring the presence or absence of scientific support for particular criminological theories.

Required textbook: Siegel, Larry J., *Criminology: The Core*, 7th Edition, NY: Cengage Learning (2019).

ONLINE COURSE OVERVIEW: Online teaching and learning provides students with flexibility to work and study at times that fit each person's schedule during the day or night, and not to have to attend class face-to-face (F2F). However, all students must still meet weekly course deadlines. In this course, you will see weekly learning modules that open on Sunday night after midnight (Mountain Time) and close the following Sunday at midnight.

The course requires that students engage with the course material across each week and meet the Sunday night deadline (unless otherwise specified via Blackboard (Bb) and/or the course syllabus (see the Course Calendar at the end of the syllabus) for each assignment. You can

expect, for example, to be engaged online at least three times EVERY WEEK so that you can complete the assigned readings, review the PPT slides or any other posted course material, and complete either that week's discussion board or some other focused assignment (described below). Remember, each learning module will close and disappear each Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Mountain Time. If you get behind or miss some components, you will NOT be able to go back and finish later/make up the discussion questions, module content, or tests.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS:

Discussions Boards - In the weeks where a discussion board is assigned, that space will open each Monday morning and close the following Sunday at midnight. There is a grading rubric associated with this assignment that is uploaded in Bb for perusal. Please review the rubric carefully and become acquainted with the stated criteria.

Weekly Quizzes – These are 20-point quizzes related to assigned chapters and PPT slides posted in any given learning module. Each quiz will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. They are open book/notes quizzes and will be timed.

Exams – Each exam will consist of both objective test items (multiple choice, true/false, matching) and subjective questions (short answers and/or essays). The exam will take place during the learning module posted on the course syllabus and in Bb. These are open book/notes exams and will be timed. Please pay close attention to the guidelines and expectations about the exam that will be posted during the learning module (see Bb) associated with the exam

Review of peer reviewed journal article - This is an 850- to 1000-word summary of a peer-reviewed journal article that is associated with the test of a theory of crime or delinquency. Please refer to the guidelines for this assignment that is posted in Bb and pay attention to course announcements with reminders about this assignment and the grading criteria. Read carefully the grading rubric for this assignment, also posted in Bb for your perusal.

Class Participation - Unlike a traditional, instructor-led course, this course does not require students to show up to class at a specific time. Instead, they must make a consistent effort to actively participate in the online learning environment. The Federal Government's Department of Education requires a certain amount of activity on the part of students in the classroom environment. This rule applies to both residential and online courses. Merely signing into Blackboard, for example, does not reach the level of sufficient "class time" for Federal reporting purposes. Here is a list of activities that do count and that will be used when determining how many of the possible points associated with class participation/attendance will be awarded to each student:

- Submitting an assignment (reflection paper; quiz, or some other type of focused assignment);
- Completing a mandated activity (e.g., problem-based exercises, team-building exercises, etc.);
- Taking an exam;
- Participating in online discussion boards; and,

- Initiating contact with an instructor for clarifying any part of the course content.

Summary of Graded Assignments:

Discussion boards	5 @ 10 points each	50 points
Chapter Quizzes	5 @ 20 points each	100 points
Exams	2 @ 100 points each	200 points
Review of peer-reviewed article		70 points
Class participation		30 points
	Total points	450 points

Grading Scale:

A = 405 - 450 points
B = 360 - 404 points
C = 315 - 359 points
D = 270 - 314 points
F = 269 or less
Please note that grades are assigned according to the total points earned. There is no rounding or curving or moving a student to the next letter grade if they are one point away, for example. The cutoff points are predetermined as noted above.

Extra credit work: There is one opportunity for extra credit points and that is for completing the end-of-the-semester online course evaluation. If at least 70% of the students in the class complete the Course Evaluation which becomes available near the end of the semester, then all students will receive 10 extra credit points. To let you know how this works, you will receive email reminders about evaluating the course at least twice from UTEP in your miners.utep.edu email account. If you don't receive these emails, then contact UTEP's HelpDesk. After the course evaluation period is over, I will receive an email from UTEP stating what percentage of students in the class completed the course evaluation. If this figure is at or above 70% then all students in the class will receive the extra credit points.

Make-Up Policy: Late assignments and examinations will not be accepted without prior consent. When late work is accepted, the student should expect a grade reduction. If an assignment is missed, it is the student's responsibility to contact me in advance of the due date if that is a possibility. If not, please contact me within 48 hours beyond the due date of the missed assignment.

UTEP COURSE DROP POLICY: If unforeseen circumstances happen where a drop is necessary, students are responsible for initiating any course drop. It is the student's responsibility to determine how dropping courses might affect financial aid. Students are limited to dropping no more than six courses over their entire academic career of all courses taken at any public college or University in Texas. Here is some additional information about UTEP's policy:

1. For students who drop a course before the official census date, the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn't count toward the 6-course drop limit.
2. Dropping a course after the official census date, but before the course drop date will generate a "W" in the course. Although the drop shows on your transcript, a "W" does not lower your GPA. However, a "W" counts against your 6-course drop limit.
3. If the course is dropped after the course drop date, or if the student just stops participating, taking texts, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an "F" in the course that permanently remains on the transcript.
4. UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of too many times the student fails to submit assignments, discussion questions, or because of disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP student email. A "W" or an "F" will be issued. A "W" for these reasons counts against the 6-course drop limit.

TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS/QUESTIONS: For all technological, hardware, software problems, lost files, and/or questions with Blackboard, as well as difficulties you are having during an exam, contact **Technology Support Help Desk 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**. Tech support is set up to specifically address technical questions and problems about Blackboard. Professors are not technical support staff.

Phone: 915.747.4357 or toll free: 1-877-382-0491
Email: helpdesk@utep.edu http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=74092
In person meeting: UTEP Library, Room 300

Check Your Technology

1. Computer with a reliable internet connection. Mobile devices are not reliable to access exams and use the discussion board.
2. Blackboard (BB) Learning Management System. The entire course is run through UTEP's BB system, so students must activate and use their BB accounts regularly. Always log in using your UTEP name and password, and never as a "guest". (The guest option will kick you out after 15-20 minutes, which is problematic when taking a test because you will not be able to finish your test). All students are responsible for regularly logging in and checking for posted announcements, submitting assignments, participating in discussion boards, and taking tests through BB. Contact UTEP tech support for any questions or concerns regarding navigating in BB or learning how to do something in BB.
3. Browser Information (*See the left side of the menu on the main BB page for hardware, software, and browser checks)* **Firefox** seems to consistently work the best, but other supported Browsers include Chrome, Safari, and Internet Explorer.
Be sure to "Allow pop-ups" for Blackboard Clear your browser cache.
4. Verify that you have the most updated version of "Java" http://java.com.

5. Additional Software you may be Using All word documents should be saved with a "docx" extension identifying it as a Microsoft Word file or compatible with MS Word, Windows Media Player, Quick Time, Adobe Reader, Adobe Flash Player.

CENTER FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CASS): UTEP students with a permanent or temporary disability can request an accommodation through Accessible Information management System (AIM) by logging into: cassportal.utep.edu using their UTEP credentials. CASS staff develop a plan to determine which accommodations will help you be successful at UTEP. You can contact the CASS staff by phone at 915.747.5148 or via email at cass@utep.edu.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Academic dishonesty includes cheating on an exam/not taking the test yourself, turning in someone else's assignment from a previous class, and/or plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as one or more of the following: "(1) use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without fully and properly crediting the author with citations or biographical reference; (2) unacknowledged use of work/materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials; (3) unacknowledged use of original work/material that has been produced through collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators."
I take cases of alleged academic dishonesty seriously. For students who are found to have allegedly engaged in any form of academic dishonesty, the case will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR). While the case is being investigated by OSCCR, an "I" (Incomplete) will be assigned until the case is resolved. If the student is found by OSCCR to have engaged in misconduct, sanctions may include a failing grade on the assignment or exam in question, a failing grade in the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University.

Copy/paste plagiarism: One of the more widespread problems we see when it comes to breeches in academic integrity is copy/paste plagiarism. Often referred to as Mosaic plagiarism, this occurs when a student borrows phrases from a source without using quotation marks or finds synonyms for the author's language while keeping to the same general structure and meaning of the original. Paraphrasing the work of another person (i.e., scholarly sources) is an art form and must be approached with caution. Please refer to a document on Bb that illustrates what is, and what is not, appropriate paraphrasing. In my estimation, based on about 30 years of classroom teaching, students get themselves in trouble when they procrastinate and find themselves in a crunch for time. Or they question their own writing ability and are tempted to just type verbatim lines from a source. Even if the source is cited, that is still plagiarism as the student did not "write" anything; rather, he/she merely lifted the writing of another person. Struggle with your writing; flex that muscle and it will get stronger. Seek me out for advance reviews of any assignment that requires the use of source material. Read again the document on Bb and learn to appropriately paraphrase your sources.

COMMUNICATION: I will make every attempt to grade student work within one week's time and to respond to student emails within 24 hours (or the following Monday for any emails submitted over the weekend). Please take advantage of Virtual Office hours and make an appointment with me that best meets your schedule should you need any assistance with the course material,

assignments, or to discuss your ongoing progress in the course. Emails sent to me must be sent from your UTEP email address. If I send an email, it will automatically be assumed that you received and read it.

Please review the "How to Write a Professional Email" document that is posted in Bb. Although this is an upper-level course and it is expected that you do, in fact, write professional emails, it never hurts to make sure we are all on the same page about the matter. I get busy sometimes and it is tempting to write an email in a more relaxed fashion. This is especially true when I am away from a computer and attempting to respond via my cell phone. I will, however, make every effort to ensure that all email communications I send out adhere to professional standards and ask that you do as well. This skill will serve you well in the world of work and/or in graduate or law school.

Classroom Netiquette**:** It is expected that each student will work with me and their peer students in a civil and collegial manner in the virtual classroom. Disrespect directed toward either me or other students will not be tolerated. Nor will inappropriate language or disparaging comments be allowed. If any of these behaviors occur, the student will be given a warning and asked not to repeat such behavior. If the problem continues, the student may be removed from the course. If this unlikely situation does occur, we will follow the UTEP guidelines for how to handle the matter.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: Your experience in this course is important to me and I am committed to an inclusive learning environment. All members of our community should enjoy an environment free from any form of harassment, discrimination, or sexual misconduct. We acknowledge that our intellectual community is enriched when we embrace diversity along many dimensions, including race, ethnicity, gender and gender identity, sexuality, religion, and class. I encourage each of you to engage in what may be difficult and uncomfortable conversations with respect for your classmates and for me.

Course Calendar*

Week I: January 17 – January 22

Chapter 1: Crime and Criminology and Chapter 4: Rational Choice Theory

- Read Chapters 1 and 4.
- Review PPT slides.
- Complete the quiz.
- Participate in the discussion board.

Week II: January 23 – January 29

Chapter 5: Trait Theory

- Read Chapter 5.
- Review PPT slides.
- Complete the quiz.
- Participate in the discussion board.

Week III: January 30 – February 5

Chapter 6: Social Structure Theory

- Read Chapter 6.
- Review PPT slides.
- Complete the quiz.
- Participate in the discussion board.

Week IV: February 6 – February 12

Complete Exam 1 on Chapters 1, 4, 5, and 6 prior to Wednesday, February 8th, midnight.

After completing Exam 1, complete these tasks:

Read Chapter 7: Social Process Theory
Review the PPT slides.
Participate in the discussion board.

Week V: February 13 – February 19

Chapter 8: Social Conflict, Critical Criminology, and Restorative Justice

- Read Chapter 8.
- Review PPT slides.
- Complete the quiz.

Week VI: February 20 – February 26

Chapter 9: Developmental Theories

- Read Chapter 9.
- Review PPT slides.
- Participate in the discussion board
- **Submit the review of the peer-reviewed journal no later than Sunday, February 26th, midnight.**

Week VII: February 27 – March 5

Chapter 14: Crimes of the New Millennium.

- Read Chapter 14.
- Review PPT slides.
- Complete the quiz.
- **Complete Exam 2 on Chapters 7, 8, 9, and 14 no later than Sunday, March 5, midnight.**

Please note that this course calendar is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.