

CRIJ 4302: Cybercrime (online)

CRN: 26519

Spring 2024

Professor. Cheryl Ordaz

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Office Hours: Virtually via Blackboard Collaborate email and I will set up a time that is convenient for you.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is structured to provide an overview of the technical, social, and legal aspects of cybercrime as well as expose students to theories that enable scientific exploration to further understand the growing interest in cybercrime.

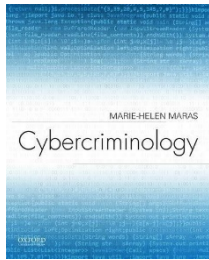
COURSE OBJECTIVES OR EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Define and differentiate between cybercrime and traditional forms of crime
- Identify various crime measurement instruments in the United States and abroad
- Describe cyber victims and research and research cyber victim profiles
- Identify and discuss theories explaining cybercrime
- Identify and describe cybercrimes in the category of interpersonal crime

LEARNING MODULES

This course is designed using a modular format—that is, weeks are “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials, lecture notes, submission areas, discussion posts are in one area for a given week. We will take two weeks per chapter to give you time for discussion posts and quizzes.

REQUIRED MATERIALS



Cybercriminology
by [Maire-Helen Maras](#)

ISBN: 9780190278441

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

There are certain requirements that will be necessary for the successful completion of this course. These requirements are mandatory and are explained fully in the syllabus

Exam 1 will cover chapters 1-4	(possible 100 points)
Final Exam	(possible 100 points)
Reaction Paper (2) possible 50 points each	(possible 100 points)
Group Discussion (7 total)	(possible 203 points)

Grade Distribution: 500-point scale

A = 500-450

B = 449-400

C = 399-350

D = 349-300

Below 300 points = F

Course Calendar

Week 1	Chapter 1&2	3/17-3/23
Week 2	Chapter 3&4	3/24-3/30
Week 3	Chapter 5&6	3/31-4/6 Mini Research Paper #1
Week 4	Chapter 7&8	4/7-4/13- Exam 1
Week 5	Chapter 9&10	4/14-4/20
Week 6	Chapter 11&12	4/21-4/27 Mini Research Paper #2
Week 7	Chapter 13&14	4/28-5/6 Final exam

Mini Research Papers (you will have 2 and they follow SAME format)

Select a theory that you find interesting *thus far*. Once you have selected your theory:

Link that theory to a current event, movie, docuseries (related to Cybercrime)

You want to be sure to support your view with evidence (real world facts, examples, case studies) Cite any work that is not your own **APA writing style format is required for this paper. NO OTHER FORMAT WILL BE ACCEPTED** Also, include why the opposing side is wrong and you can do so by showing biases, in correct statements)

You will not need to submit an abstract just a title and reference page. You will have a total of 5 pages (3 of actual research). Use topics pertaining to cybercrime and use quotes and paraphrasing appropriately, back up your views and opinions with research that supports claims.

Your paper should feature: (1) a clear thesis statement (i.e., “In this paper I will argue...”); (2) key ideas of relevant articles/books/ sources that you find; (3) a clear, well -reasoned argument; (4) conclusion that recaps the main points of your argument.

Grading Rubric- Reaction Paper

The paper contains a clear, understandable, thesis statement (0-5points)

The author has consulted the articles/books that are most relevant to the question at hand, and explained the central arguments therein with care and precision (0-20points)

The paper contains a clear, well-reasoned, careful argument (0-5points)

The paper contains adequate referencing using APA format –in text citations and is free of egregious spelling/grammatical errors (0-20points)

Weekly Discussion Posts and Checklist:

Discussion posts will open every week on Sundays and close on Saturdays (the dates are on homepage and under course calendar). Discussion will open on Sunday at 5:00 a.m. and close Saturday at 11:00 p.m.

To receive full credit for discussion posts you will need the following NO Exceptions:

1. 400 words in a response to question you choose. (Cite your work)
2. 400 words in a response to a classmate. (Cite your work)
3. Anything less than 400 on either response will result in a zero.
4. Regardless of the work you submitted – even though you may feel it deserves more credit is not up to you to decide. You need to have followed my instructions before arguing for more points.
5. I am requiring that you take these discussions seriously and complete required word count.
6. Discussions shall be well thought, critical, and offer up suggestions. YOU WILL need to conduct outside research REGARDLESS, so please cite your work.
7. No citations, I will assume you plagiarized and will refer you to Student code of conduct.

Exams There will be 2 exams. (Dates are on course home page)

Exams will contain a combination of true/false, multiple choice, fill-in the blank, short answer, and essay questions at a rather high degree of difficulty and reflects your understanding rather than ability to memorize and/or look up information. **The instructor reserves the right to override any disagreement over right answers.** Exams are open book, and open note. Exams will be based both on discussions, quizzes and assigned reading materials.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Course Communication: How we will stay in contact with each other

Because this is 100% online, we won't see each other in the ways you may be accustomed to: during class time, small group meetings, and office hours. However, there are several ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Office Hours:** We will not be able to meet on campus, but I will still have office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My office hours will be held on Blackboard Collaborate.
- **Email:** UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student account and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number.
- **Discussion Board:** If you have a question that you believe other students may also have, please post it in the Help Board of the discussion boards inside of Blackboard. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response.
- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.

NETIQUETTE

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other's ideas.

- Respect and courtesy must be always provided to classmates and to the instructor. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else’s message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

Course Policies: What do you need to do to be successful in the course

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance in the course is determined by participation in the learning activities of the course. Your participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also to create a community of learners. Participation is determined by completion of the following activities:

- Reading/Viewing all course materials to ensure understanding of assignment requirements
- Participating in engaging discussion with your peers on the discussion boards (grading rubric provided in the “grading information” area of each forum)
- Participating in scheduled Blackboard Collaborate sessions
- Other activities as indicated in the weekly modules

Because these activities are designed to contribute to your learning each week, they cannot be made up after their due date has passed.

EXCUSED ABSENCES AND/OR COURSE DROP POLICY

I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the [Registrar’s Office](#) to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an “F” for the course.

BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE SESSIONS

Students are expected to, at least occasionally, participate in these sessions with a webcam and microphone. They are an easy way for you to ask any questions that you may have on the readings, quizzes, ANYTHING.

DEADLINES, LATE WORK, AND ABSENCE POLICY

I have outlined for you in the calendar when quizzes are DUE and discussion posts. It is your responsibility to make note of the times and dates. I am giving you 2 weeks to complete posts and quizzes, therefore, NO LATE work will be accepted.

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work will be given *only* in the case of a *documented* emergency. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with

Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services \(CASS\)](#). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

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COVID-19 Accommodations

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

CLASS RECORDINGS

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a synchronous or in-person class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE

Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

You must **STAY AT HOME** and **REPORT** if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear face coverings always over your nose and mouth in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the

class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

(Classes with on-campus meetings) Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.

Course Resources: Where you can go for assistance

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Technology Resources

- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

[UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.

- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

Individual Resources

- [Military Student Success Center](#): Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#): Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#): Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability