

CRIJ 1301: Introduction to Criminal Justice (8 week class)

CRN: 33960 /ONLINE

Summer 2022

Professor. Cheryl Ordaz

clordaz@utep.edu (THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO REACH ME) when emailing please be sure that you are emailing the correct address **clordaz@utep.edu**

Office Hours: Virtually when needed just send email (:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course structure provides an overview of the principles, practices, and procedures of the criminal justice system and its components, namely, the police, the courts, and corrections. The course presents an introductory examination to the operations and issues of the United States justice system.

COURSE OBJECTIVES OR EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understanding of the vocabulary used in this field (criminal justice)
- Understand the crime problem in the United States and the criminal justice decision network
- Identify problems and practices of the police
- Understand the workings of the courts and corrections
- Apply knowledge of the criminal justice system and write an APA research paper

LEARNING MODULES

This course is designed using a modular format—that is, each week is “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials, lecture notes, submission areas, discussion posts are in one area for a given week. The course is set up to one chapter per week.

June 5th- June 11th = Week One

June 12th -June 18th = Week Two

June 19th-June 25th = Week Three

June 26th- July 2nd= Week Four- **Exam One**

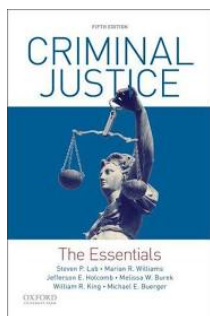
July 3rd-July 9th= Week Five

July 10th-July 16th= Week Six

July 17th-July 23rd =Week Seven

July 24th- July 30th= Week Eight – **Final Exam Due/Research Paper Due**

REQUIRED MATERIALS



Criminal Justice: The Essentials 4th Edition or 5th Edition or 6th Edition
Authors: Lab, Williams, Burek, King, Buerger
ISBN-13:9780190272524

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)
Comprehensive Final Exam (1-7)	(possible 100 points)
Research paper	(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

Research Paper: You will be writing a **5-page research paper for this class**. You will choose a topic related to criminal justice. Once you have chosen your topic, you will then develop a research question pertaining to topic. Your research paper will cover information

pertaining to research question. Use quotes and paraphrasing appropriately, back up your views and opinions with in-text citations. You are not an expert in this field therefore; you need to use in-text citations throughout your paper. Previously submitted papers from another class is considered cheating.

You are required to write your paper in APA format. The rules and guide can be found on Owl Purdue or visit the writing center. **Your paper is 5 pages in length of actual research.**** 8 total (title, abstract, reference).

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.

**First person is not allowed in formal writing

Grading Rubric- Research Paper:

The research paper contains a clear, understandable, thesis statement (0-20 points)
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 (0-25points)
The research paper contains a clear, well-reasoned, careful argument (0-25 points)
The research paper contains adequate referencing using APA format –in text citations and is free of egregious spelling/grammatical errors (0-20 points)

Weekly Discussions

There will be 1 group discussion exercise per week (total 7 discussions for the semester) after careful reading and analysis of the assigned texts, you must individually write a response to the assigned question(s). **Discussions will open on Sundays at 5 a.m. and close on Saturdays at 11:00 p.m...**

In order to receive any credit for weekly discussions all of the following mentioned below must be met: NO EXCEPTIONS

Is the commentary to **initial question at minimum 400 words?**

Is the commentary to **classmate at minimum 400 word?**

Does the commentary show evidence of having read the material?

Does the commentary show evidence of thinking about the reading beyond just summarizing it? (This may include extension to new circumstances extension to new circumstances/other readings, contradictory evidence, internal (in) consistency, and analyses of assumptions.)

Does the commentary include relevant evidence to support its own argument? **HINT YOU WILL NEED CITATIONS**

Refrain from simply stating, "I agree" Or "great post". If this is all you write, you will lose points for discussion **HINT: YOU WILL ONLY GET 5 POINTS.** If you agree with student clearly state, what it is you agree with or disagree with?

The standard practice ("netiquette") for participation in networked discussion requires that all participation is focused on the topic at hand, not become personalized, and be substantive in nature.

Ex. Author's last name, year, and page number

Ordaz, 2017, pg.6

Discussion questions grades are based on response quality and WORD COUNT and that an in-text citation is provided for each original response. Integrate various main ideas from the book, thoughtfully describe what the concept and/or issues mean to you, evaluate/analyze the reasonableness or quality of ideas, identify hidden assumptions, fallacies, or things take for granted.

EXAM STRUCTURE

There will be 2 exams.

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 on both discussions and assigned reading materials.

The first exam will be on week 4.

The exam WILL BE OPEN ALL WEEK 6/26-7/2 AND CLOSES ON 7/2 BY 11 P.M. This exam covers 1-4.

Your final exam will be on week 8 the exam (7/24-7/30) WILL BE OPEN ALL WEEK AND CLOSES ON 7/31 BY 11 P.M. This exam covers 1-8.

Failing to complete exam because you forgot or you were not aware is not a valid excuse. I have outlined for you when exams are and it is crucial that you make note of week 4 and week 7 for this course.

UTEP 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 may affect financial aid. **Students are limited to dropping no more than 6 courses over their entire academic career of all courses taken at any public college or University in Texas.**

- a) Students who drop a course within the first 2 weeks before the “official census date,” the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn’t count toward the 6-course drop limit.
- b) 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, this type of drop counts against your 6 drop limit.
- c) If the course is dropped after the “course drop date” or if the student just stops coming/taking tests, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an “F” in the course that permanently remains on the transcript. This type of drop counts against the 6 drop limit.
- d) UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of excessive absences, lack of effort, or disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP email account. A “W” will be issued if the drop occurs before the course drop date, and an “F” will be issued if a student is administratively dropped for disciplinary reasons or after the course drop date. This type of drop counts against the 6 drop limit.
- e) If circumstances occur where a student must miss an excessive number of classes and/or is unable to submit multiple assignments (e.g., student medical reasons, medical conditions of a family member, death of a family member, active military service), they should first discuss the possibility of withdrawal from all classes with their academic advisor. If a student withdraws completely from all classes, kindly notify Ms. Ordaz at: clordaz@utep.edu . Complete withdrawals from all classes in the same semester do not count against the 6 drop limit.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. **Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, the submission for credit of any work or any materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and act designed to give unfair advantage to a student to the attempting to commit such acts.** Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of Operating Procedures, may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to a failing on the work in questions, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others. ** THIS ALSO INLCUDES submitting work from a previous class and using it for this class (that is cheating) refer to handbook for further clarification.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Please note: I am not technical support and any problems with Blackboard or your computer crashing, shutting down, freezing I cannot help you. Contact the following for any technical assistance you may need.

The University of Texas at El Paso offers complete technical information and help desk support at helpdesk@utep.edu. You may also contact them toll free: 1-877-382-0491. You may also reach them at 915.747.5257. They are open Monday – Thursday 7 a.m to 9 p.m. Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you are registered at the University as a disabled student, let me know so I can accommodate your needs. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor, and seeking available assistance in a timely manner.

If you need assistance please contact CASS:

- Monday-Friday 8:00 am- 5:00 pm
- Phone: (915)747-5148
- Email: cass@utep.edu
- Location: Union East, Room 106

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