Criminal Justice 3313
Criminology (Online)
Fall 2015

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:30pm-3:00pm & By Appointment
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Course Overview & Objectives:
This course is designed to dispel myths and popular misconceptions about the extent of crime and violence, and about who commits crime in the United States. After developing an understanding of the basic contours of criminal offending, we use criminological theories to help us understand why some people engage in criminal behavior and others do not, why some communities have higher crime rates than others, and why crime rates are high during some periods of history and low in others. Students will also come away with a better understanding of what has influenced their own decisions regarding involvement in crime. These issues and topics are presented using a sociological perspective, meaning that students will become more aware of the social forces shaping offending patterns and official reactions to it.

Required Textbook:
Miller, J. Mitchell, Schreck, Christopher J., Tewksbury, Richard, & Barnes, J.C. (2015). *Criminological Theory: A Brief Introduction.* 4th Edition. Boston, MA: Pearson.

Class Format:
This course is based on weekly modules that open each Monday morning at 8:00AM and close the following Saturday at midnight (*Mountain Standard Time*). If students fail to submit any required work (i.e. an exam, quiz, or written assignment) before the module closes they will receive a grade of zero (0) for that assignment—no exceptions!

As outlined in the syllabus, each weekly module will focus on two chapters from our textbook. For each of these chapters, I will prepare a brief outline and introduction that is intended to provide guidance and structure to students as they read the chapter. Students should read this outline before reading the chapter. Students may wish to print the outline.

On the fourth and seventh week, students will take an exam. Exams are only available to access and complete during the module they are schedule. A failure to submit it before the time the module closes will result in a grade of zero (0) for that exam. Additionally, the exams are timed, meaning that once students begin the exam, they will have sixty minutes (1 hour) to complete and submit their exam. All exams are "open book," meaning that students can use any class materials they wish when completing this assignment. However, they cannot "collaborate" in any way with any person (whether they are a fellow student or not) when completing the exams. Doing so constitutes cheating and will be dealt with per the policy on academic dishonesty specified later in the syllabus.

Students will be able to communicate with me and each other to ask questions, share concerns, raise ideas, etc. through "Dr. Z's Corner." This is an open forum discussion board where students can post general questions, comments, and ideas for each other and me. I will access "Dr. Z's Corner" at least once each business day and post any needed responses. The postings on "Dr. Z's Corner" will be continuously available to students throughout the semester. Finally, never post exam questions on "Dr. Z's corner." Posting exam questions before everyone has taken the exam will be considered an act of cheating.

Requirements
Exams-Students will complete 2 exams consisting of 25 multiple choice questions. All class materials and assignments can be the basis of test questions. Each exam is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points. Exams will be available on Monday at 8:00AM and close 11:55PM on Saturday (Mountain Standard Time). Students will have 1 hour to complete the exam once they begin.

Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3,4,5,6 (25 multiple choice questions with each worth 4 points)
Exam 2: Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10 (25 multiple choice questions with each 4 points)

Written Assignments: Students will be given a written assignment on the week stated in the syllabus. These written assignments consist of answering a specific question regarding one chapter for that week. Answers are limited to no more than 500 words. There will be 3 written assignments and each is worth 10 points (30 points total). Written assignments will be available on Monday at 8:00AM and close 11:55PM on Saturday (Mountain Standard Time). Written assignments are not timed, but must be turned in before the module closes.

Chapter Quizzes: Each week students will be given a chapter quiz. There will be two questions that will compose each chapter quiz. Each question is worth 5 points for a total of 10 points per quiz. Students will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz once they begin.

Final Grade Calculation
Your final grade in this class will be determined on the 2 exams, 3 written assignments, and 10 chapter quizzes.

Chapter 1 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 2 Quiz	10 Points
Written Assignment 1	10 Points
Chapter 3 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 4 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 5 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 6 Quiz	10 Points
Written Assignment 2	10Points
Exam 1	100 Points
Chapter 7 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 8 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 9 Quiz	10 Points
Chapter 10 Quiz	10 Points
Written Assignment 3	10 Points
Exam 2	100 Points

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Total Points: **330 Points**

Final Grade Distribution:
330-297 Points=A
296-264 Points=B
263-231 Points=C
230-198 Points=D
197-0   Points=F

Please Note: There will be no curve used in grading, no grades will be dropped, and there will be no extra credit. Do not contact me at the end of the semester regarding extra points for a particular letter grade. Your grade is an accomplishment, not a gift! I have the right to make any changes to the course or syllabus and any changes will be announced in class and/or email.

Important Reminders
The exams and quizzes are timed, meaning that once you begin the exam or quiz you will have a limited amount of time to complete and submit your work. The exams and quizzes will automatically close and submit at the end of the time limit if you haven't already submitted it yourself. Do not wait until the last minute to begin exams and quizzes. This way, if you do experience any difficulties with submissions, they can be corrected before the module closes. You will have 1 hour to complete the exams and 10 minutes to complete the quizzes.

Technology Issues
I will not provide you with technical assistance. Rather, you should familiarize yourself with the assistance available to you whenever you have problems. You should also ensure that you have the appropriate hardware and software.

Class and University Policies
Academic Dishonesty Statement: 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 person's as ones' own. And, 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. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

1. Notice of Safe Assign: This course will utilize third party software that has the ability to automatically detect plagiarism on documents submitted for grading.

2. Copyright Notice: Many of the materials that are posted within this course are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

3. Note for students with disabilities:
If you are registered at the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) with a learning disability, please 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.

A Final Note
1. I will provide you clear instructions on class expectations.
2. I will check my email and will answer back to you as soon as possible.
3. I will check "Dr. Z's Corner" each business day and make any needed responses at that time.
4. I will provide graded feedback on your performance in a timely manner.
5. I will keep you informed about your graded progress in the class at all times and will make time to discuss your concerns when needed.
6. I am open to suggestions about improvement of the class and class related activities.
7. I will do all I can to ensure your learning and success in this class
8. If any changes in the course are to be implemented, I will ensure that the class is notified in a timely manner.
9. Read all postings on the bulletin board and all emails from me.
10. Email messages are sent to your UTEP email address, so you will want to check your UTEP email several times a week, preferably each business day.

Week	Dates	Class Lectures	Readings/Notes
1	October 26-31	Chapter 1: Theoretical Criminological Chapter 2: Classical and Neoclassical Criminology	Syllabus Pages 1-26 Chapter 1 Quiz Chapter 2 Quiz *Written Assignment 1*
2	November 2-7	Chapter 3: Biosocial Theories of Crime Chapter 4: Psychological Theories of Crime	Pages 27-77 Chapter 3 Quiz Chapter 4 Quiz
3	November 9-14	Chapter 5: The Social Ecology of Crime Chapter 6: Learning and Cultural Transmission Theories of Crime	Pages 78-119 Chapter 5 Quiz Chapter 6 Quiz *Written Assignment 2*
4	November 16-21	Exam 1	Chapters 1,2,3,4,5,6
5	November 23-28	Chapter 7: Strain Theories of Crime Chapter 8: Control Theories of Crime	Pages 120-162 Chapter 7 Quiz Chapter 8 Quiz
6	November 30-December 5	Chapter 9: Theories of Social Conflict Chapter 10: Evaluating and Integrating Theory	Pages 163-201 Chapter 9 Quiz Chapter 10 Quiz *Written Assignment 3*
7	December 7-12	Exam 2	Chapters 7,8,9,10