

**Professor:** Dr. Egbert Zavala

**Email:** egbertz@utep.edu

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays/Thursdays 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Office Location:** Liberal Arts Building, Room 116

**Phone:** (915) 747-6218

**Teaching Assistant:** Itzel Rivera

**Email:** irivera5@miners.utep.edu

**Office Location:** Liberal Arts 212

**Required Textbook:**

Payne, Brian K. and Randy R. Gainey. 2009. *Family Violence & Criminal Justice: A Life-Course Approach*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. New Providence, NJ: Anderson Publishing.

**Course Overview:**

Domestic violence between adults is studied from an interdisciplinary perspective. The cycle of violence and dominance and control are among the issues covered sociologically and psychologically. The legal perspective includes discussion of proactive arrest policies, restraining orders, and anti-stalking legislation that have emerged across the United States. Other topics covered in this course include: gender and age relationships, dating violence, sibling abuse, race and incest, child and elder abuse/neglect, male battering, family violence in homosexual relationships, and violence against women.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course students will:

- Know the historical background of family violence,
- Know the personal and social consequences of family violence,
- Know the empirical family violence literature,
- Know the various theoretical perspectives on family violence,
- Understand how women and children have been particularly affected by family violence,
- Know how family violence is experienced within special populations (i.e. gay and lesbian couples, minority families, police families, military families, etc.),
- Know the roles of the criminal justice system and how it protects victims of family violence.

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### Class Format

This course is NOT self-paced. Instead, this course is based on weekly modules that open each Monday morning at 8:00am and close the following Saturday at 11:55PM (Mountain Standard Time). If students fail to submit any required work before the module closes they will receive a grade of zero (0) for that assignment—no exceptions!

Because this course is in a compressed (seven week) format, **the pace is very fast**. In fact, it is about double the pace of a typical 16 week class in terms of readings, exams, quizzes, etc. It is thus easy to get behind and, if you do, it may be difficult (if not impossible) to catch up. You must hit the ground running and not let up for seven weeks. If you do this, there is no reason you cannot earn an “A” in the course and get a great deal out of it. If you slack off, even for one week, you will set yourself up for a difficult struggle and severely hinder your ability to get a good grade in the course (or even pass it at all).

As outlined in the syllabus below, each weekly module will focus on two chapters from our textbook. For each of these chapters, I will prepare a brief *chapter introduction* and a *chapter outline* 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 are also encouraged to read the textbook author's concluding remarks at the end of each chapter and to pay close attention to the “key terms” that are found in the textbook for each chapter. Students may wish to print the outline as this information will become inaccessible once a given module closes.

All exams, written assignments, and quizzes are “open book” and “open notes,” meaning that students can use any class materials they wish when completing these assignments. However, they cannot “collaborate” in any way with any person (whether they are a fellow student or not) when completing the assignments. 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. Each exam is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points. Again, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned to each exam not submitted by the time the respective weekly module closes. Students will have 60 minutes to complete the exam once they begin. Exams will be available on Monday and will close at midnight on Saturday (Mountain Standard Time).

**Exam 1:** Chapters 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 worth 4 points)

**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. Students will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz once they begin. A grade of zero (0) will be assigned to each quiz not submitted by the time the respective weekly module closes.

**Written Assignments:** Students will be given a written assignment on the week stated in the syllabus. These assignments consist of answering a specific question regarding one chapter of 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).

**FINAL GRADE CALCULATION:**

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

Chapter 1 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 2 Quiz.....	10 Points
<i>Assignment 1</i> .....	10 Points
Chapter 3 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 4 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 5 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 6 Quiz.....	10 Points
<i>Assignment 2</i> .....	10 Points
<b>Exam 1</b> .....	<b>100 Points</b>
Chapter 7 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 8 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 9 Quiz.....	10 Points
Chapter 10 Quiz.....	10 Points
<i>Assignment 3</i> .....	10 Points
<b>Exam 2</b> .....	<b>100 Points</b>

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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!

**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 or quizzes. This way, if you do experience any difficulties with submissions, they can be corrected before the module closes.

**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 Dean of Students Office 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. Disabled Student Statement: In Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if a student needs an accommodation then the *Center for Accommodations and Support Services* located at UTEP need to be contacted. If you have a condition, which may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of the Center for Accommodations and Support Services.

### **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. Class Participation: I strongly recommend that you check the course at least three times a week at minimum to keep up. 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.
11. Being Successful in an Online Class: Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone’s responsibility to participate as fully as they can so everyone can get the most from the experience.

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

Please remember that I reserve the right to make any changes to this course and syllabus. Any changes will be announced ahead of time.

Week	Dates	Lectures	Readings & Notes
1	August 24-29	Family Violence & the Life-Course Perspective  The Study of Family Violence	Chapters 1 & 2 Chapter 1 Quiz Chapter 2 Quiz  <b>Assignment 1</b>
2	August 31-September 5	Explaining Family Violence  Child Abuse and Neglect	Chapters 3 & 4 Chapter 3 Quiz Chapter 4 Quiz
3	September 7-12	Violence between Intimate Partners  Elder Abuse and Neglect	Chapters 5 & 6 Chapter 5 Quiz Chapter 6 Quiz  <b>Assignment 2</b>
4	September 14-19	<b>Exam 1</b>	Chapters 2,3,4,5,6
5	September 21-26	Police and Social Service to Family Violence  The Courts and Family Violence	Chapter 7 & 8 Chapter 7 Quiz Chapter 8 Quiz
6	September 28-October 3	Corrections and Family Violence  Family Violence over the Life Course and the Collaborative Response	Chapters 9 & 10 Chapter 9 Quiz Chapter 10 Quiz  <b>Assignment 3</b>
7	October 5-10	<b>Exam 2</b>	Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10