

# CRIJ 4317 VICTIMINOLOGY

**Professor:** Dr. Egbert Zavala

**Email:** [egbertz@utep.edu](mailto:egbertz@utep.edu)

**Lectures:** Monday through Friday from 9:20AM to 11:30 AM

**Location:** Education Building Room 114

**Office Hours:** Monday through Friday from 11:30AM to 12:30PM (and By Appointment)

**Office Location:** Education Building Room 111

**Office Phone:** 915.747.6218

## Course Overview and Objectives

This course examines the role of victims in crimes, their treatment by the criminal justice system, their decisions to report crimes and help prosecute offenders, victim assistance, and victim compensation. This course will cover three general inter-related areas. One is research and theory on victimization. You will learn about rates of victimization and how they differ according to social categories (race, ethnicity, age, class, gender, etc.), theories that explain victimization, and empirical tests of these theories. The second area is the consequences of victimization. You will learn mostly about the impact of criminal victimization upon individuals' mental (and physical) health, but also the macro-social costs of victimization. The third area is practical responses to victimization. You will learn about the history and development of the "victims' rights movement," as well as social policy and services aimed at restoring victims.

## Required Textbook

Daigle, Leah E., and Lisa R. Muftic. (2015). *Victimology*. Thousands Oak, CA: Sage Publishing.

## Course Requirements

Students will be given four (4) written assignments and four (4) exams during the semester.

## Class Structure, Important Announcement, and Participation

You are responsible for keeping up with the assigned readings and being prepared for class discussions. The textbook readings are intended to provide background information to my lectures. Because I like to have class discussions when I am lecturing, it is of utmost importance that you read the assigned reading for that particular lecture in the textbook. If for some reason, due to the class discussion, I am unable to lecture on a particular topic in the textbook you are still responsible for knowing that particular section of the assigned reading. So please be aware that you will be tested on what the textbook covers as well as my lectures. The readings will be from the textbook listed above, as well as any other material that I may handout during the semester. I will not be posting my lecture slides online.

## Simple Rules for Class Behavior

PLEASE BE IN CLASS ON TIME! Class starts at 9:20 pm. If you are unable to make it to class at 9:20 pm during this semester because of work or other commitments, I recommend you drop this class. Repeated tardiness, cell phone ringing, sleeping, talking, reading material unrelated

to class, (i.e. distracting behavior), will not be tolerated and I will ask you to leave the classroom if you are conducting this type of behavior.

### **Use of Laptops and Other Technology in My Class**

Laptops are not necessary in my class. However, the use of laptops will be allowed in my class for note taking ONLY. I also ask that you put all electronic devices away. When entering my class, I ask that you put your electronic devices in your purse/backpack. Furthermore, text messaging via cell phone or any other device will not be allowed in my class. Cell phones and any other devices should be in silent mode while in my class. If, for some reason, you need your phone on because of a particular emergency that day, please speak to me before class, and then, and only then, are you allowed to have your phone on. However, please still have it in silent mode.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is not required in this class as an official portion of your overall grade. However, *it is mandatory*. Given the rather specialized subject matter of the course those who do attend class regularly will be more likely to understand the material and will therefore be in a better position to do well in the class. If you miss class, please obtain the lecture notes from one of your fellow classmates. I will not provide you with copies of my notes.

### **Exams**

Your grade in this class will be based on 4 exams and 4 written assignments. Make-up exams may only be acceptable under extreme circumstances, such as a medical or personal emergency. I must warn you, however, that I base these decisions on *a very narrow definition of extreme*. The student must provide me with proper documentation to qualify for a make-up (documentation does not, unfortunately, guarantee that a make-up will be given). Missed exams will be assigned a grade of zero (0).

### **Written Assignments**

Students will be given a written assignment. These written assignments consist of answering a specific question regarding one chapter covered in class. Answers are limited to no more than 500 words. There will be 4 written assignments and is worth 10 points each. More details will be provided when the assignment is distributed to students. Missed written assignments will be assigned a grade of zero (0).

### **Scholastic Integrity**

In all matters of intellectual pursuit, UTEP faculty and students must strive to achieve excellence based on the quality of work produced by the individual. In the classroom and in all academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. 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, an act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of Operating Procedures, and available in the *Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution*, may result in sanctions

ranging from disciplinary probation, to a failing grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, and other sanctions.

### **Note for Students with Disabilities**

If you are registered at the *Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)* as a disabled student, 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.

### **Final Grade Calculation**

Your grade in this class will be determined based on the exams and assignments given in class.

Exam 1	100 Points
Written Assignment #1	10 Points
Exam 2	100 Points
Written Assignment #2	10 Points
Exam 3	100 Points
Written Assignment #3	10 Points
Exam 4	100 Points
Written Assignment #4	10 Points

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Total Points: 440 Points

### **Final Grade Distribution**

440-396 Points=**A**  
395-352 Points=**B**  
351-308 Points=**C**  
307-264 Points=**D**  
263-0 Points=**F**

### **Please Note**

I have right to make **any** changes to the course or syllabus and any changes will be announced ahead of time in class and/or email.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Lecture</b>	<b>Reading &amp; Notes</b>
<b>1</b>	Monday, June 11	Intro to Victimology	Chapter 1 <b>Assignment 1</b>
	Tuesday, June 12	Extent, Theories, and Factors of Victimization	Chapter 2
	Wednesday, June 13	The Victim-Offender Overlap	Chapter 3
	Thursday, June 14	Continue Chapter 3	
	Friday, June 15	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>Chapters 1, 2, &amp; 3 Assignment 1 Due</b>
<b>2</b>	Monday, June 18	Consequences of Victimization	Chapter 4 <b>Assignment 2</b>
	Tuesday, June 19	Recurring Victimization	Chapter 5
	Wednesday, June 20	Homicide Victimization	Chapter 7
	Thursday, June 21	Continue Chapter 7	
	Friday, June 22	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>Chapters 4, 5, &amp; 7 Assignment 2 Due</b>
<b>3</b>	Monday, June 25	Sexual Victimization	Chapter 8 <b>Assignment 3</b>
	Tuesday, June 26	Intimate Partner Violence	Chapter 9
	Wednesday, June 27	Victimization at the Beginning	Chapter 10
	Thursday, June 28	<b>Exam 3</b>	<b>Chapters 8, 9, 10</b>
	Friday, June 29	Victimization of Special Populations	Chapter 11 <b>Assignment 3 Due</b>
<b>4</b>	Monday, July 2	Victimization at School and Work	Chapter 12 <b>Assignment 4</b>
	Tuesday, July 3	Property and Identity Theft Victimization	Chapter 13
	Wednesday July 4	<b>No Class</b>	<b>Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>
	Thursday, July 5	<b>Library Day</b>	Work on Assignment 4
	Friday, July 6	<b>Exam 4</b>	<b>Chapters 11, 12, 13 Assignment 4 Due</b>