

Crime Control and Prevention

University of Texas at El Paso CRIJ 3311-019,

Fall Semester 2021, Instructor-Miguel A. Rico

Class 10:30-11:50 a.m. Monday and Wednesday Education Building Room 114

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Office Location: Room 112

Office Phone: 915-740-6367, I will be available every weekday and will respond to any question within a 24-hour period,

E-mail: marico42@utep.edu

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the Crime Control and Prevention. An overview of the principles of crime prevention and criminological theory with an emphasis on crime prevention approaches, practices, and evaluations.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify the causes of crimes, and how to prevent them at an individual and organizational level.
2. Learn crime prevention terminology in order to discuss cultural differences that effect crime and how each different culture addresses those crime issues.
3. Analyze and apply crime prevention techniques in order to reduce crime in your own community.
4. Cultural differences will be explored and students must respect each other's opinions, and comments in order to have a vast understanding of other student's perspective

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.

Course Requirements:

Students will be required to read each chapter, participate in class discussion/ Discussion Boards and be ready to discuss current events in criminal justice as they occur.

Course Text book: Crime Prevention: Approaches, Practices, and Evaluations Author: Steven P. Lab,(8th Edition)

Exams: There will be 2 class exams and two written papers

The first paper will be in APA format and it will illustrate the many causes of crime. You will use the terminology and theories which we will go over in the book.

The second paper will be also APA format and will illustrate the solutions to the many causes of crime. Again, you will use the terminology and theories illustrated in the book. Students are encouraged to use the Writing Center to assist them with their work.

Please refer to the Writing Center if you need assistance with your written assignments. The University Writing Center is located in Library, Room 227. It is a great place to receive help with editing your written papers, and with APA style assistance. They are open M-Th 9:00-5:00 pm, Fr 9:00-2:00 pm, and Sundays 12:00-5:00pm. Appointments are recommended well before the deadline, but they will take walk-ins.

There will be a quiz every week at the beginning of class, if you are late you will not be able to take the quiz and will not get credit for that quiz

The first exam/mid-term will cover chapters 1-8 and reading material and lecture. The final exam will cover chapters 1 through 16 and reading material and lecture

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.

Attendance:

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, “When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of “W” before the course drop deadline and with a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline.” See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will drop you from the course. I will provide 24 hours advance notice via email.

OR

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.

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.**

1. a) Students who drop a course within the first 2 weeks *before the “official census date,”* (Check Academic Calendar) the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn’t count toward the 6-course drop limit.
2. b) Dropping a course *after the official census date, but before the “course drop date”* (Check Academic Calendar) 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

5. 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 Mr. Miguel Rico at marico42@utep.edu . Complete withdrawals from all classes in the same semester do not count against the 6 drop limit.

DEADLINES, LATE WORK, AND ABSENCE POLICY

Major Writing Assignments

- Major writing assignments will be due on Sundays at midnight (11:59 PM). No late work will be accepted if the reason is not considered excusable.

Quiz and Blog/Discussion Assignments

- All quiz, blog, and discussion board assignments will be due on Sundays at midnight (11:59 PM). No late work will be accepted if the reason is not considered excusable.

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.

Exams

Grading distribution:

and will be based both on lecture and assigned reading materials.

The final course grade will be determined using the average of the following metrics: First paper 25% Final 25% Quiz's/**Discussion boards** 25% Written Papers 25%

The following will be used to assign course letter grades: A :90-100 B: 80-89 C:70-79 D:60-69 F: Below 60 or three or more un-excused absences

There will be no curve used in the grading nor will extra work be accepted for credit, except as previously described for participation credit for absences.

Academic Honesty:

Submitting someone else's work as your own or not performing your own work at exam time will not be tolerated. A student, whom the instructor deems is being dishonest, will be quietly advised and if the departure of dishonesty is not immediate, the director of the Criminal Justice Department will be advised in writing. The Criminal Justice Program will abide strictly with College Policy. Anyone found cheating on an examination or a paper in this course will be reported to the Dean, and the Director will work towards the student's dismissal from school.

Note for students with disabilities:

Alternative formats of this syllabus are available upon request to students with disabilities.

Please contact the instructor. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor, and seeking available assistance in a timely manner.

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.

(classes with on-campus meetings) Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

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 a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times 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.

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.

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 provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. 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.

The book has excellent references to the current literature cited and explains in detail the theory, hypothesis and research behind each chapter. The book explains to the student what to be aware of, and enables the student to deal with what research is about and what a student should be able to do upon completion of the course.

Crime Prevention is a multi-disciplinary endeavor and any student intending to go into any portion of the field should be able to apply the sociological, psychological, political, criminal law and procedural law aspects in order to achieve success.

From law enforcement, probation, correctional, counseling, to employment as a lawyer, a student must deal with sociology, psychology, politics and an understanding of legal and procedural principles. Steven Lab provides excellent material on these and many other subjects.

Week 1 Getting Started VIDEO: Course Overview

QUIZ: Course Overview

Discussion: Course Navigation, Expectations, Procedures

Week 1 Chapter 1 READING: Lab, Crime and the Fear of Crime

DISCUSSION: What is the biggest fear in this time of your life?

DISCUSSION: Book's questions and key terms.

VIDEO: Fear

Quiz: Overview Chapter 1

Week 2 Chapter 2

Reading: Lab, Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Preventing Crime

QUIZ: Overview Chapter 2

DISCUSSION: Which do you think is or has prevent to be the most dangerous of the 3 Crime Preventions, and why?

Discussion: Why do you think that profiling is effective or not?

Week 3 Chapter 3 X Reading: Lab, Evaluation and Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Evaluation of Crime

Quiz: Overview Chapter 3

Discussion: Why does Cost Benefit Evaluation play such a huge part in developing crime prevention operations.

Week4 Chapter 4 X Reading: Lab, The Physical Environment and Crime

VIDEO: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Quiz: Overview Chapter 4

Discussion: Why and how does CCTV play such a huge role in crime prevention. What are the pros and cons?

Week 5 Chapter 5 X Reading: Lab, Neighborhood Crime Prevention

VIDEO: National Night Out

Quiz: Overview Chapter 5

Discussion: How does your community help to prevent crime and are your schools and churches involved?

Week 6 Chapter 6 X Reading: Lab, Displacement and Diffusion

VIDEO: Crime Displacement

Quiz: Overview Chapter 6

Discussion: When a drug dealer is captured and incarcerated how is crime displaced or diffused?

Week 7 Chapter 7 X Reading: Lab, The Mass Media and Crime Prevention

VIDEO: The Media

Quiz: Overview Chapter 7

Discussion: Name one case in which the Media has played a positive role in preventing crime. Name 2 cases where the media has created more crime.

Week 8 Chapter 8 X Reading: Lab, Development Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Developmental Crime

Quiz: Overview Chapter 8

Discussion: What new programs would you start in order to ensure that our youth stay away from crime?

Week 9 Chapter 9 X Reading: Lab, General Deterrence

VIDEO: Deterring Crime in the Philippines

Quiz: Overview Chapter 9

Discussion: What do you think as to why our criminal justice system is not effective in preventing crime, such as mass shooting?

Week 10 Chapter 10 X Reading: Lab, Prediction for Secondary Prevention

VIDEO: Profiling

Quiz: Overview Chapter 10

Discussion: What crime predictor do you think is the most effective, clinical or actuarial? And why?

Week 11 Chapter 11 X Reading: Lab, Situational Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Lifestyle perspective

Quiz: Overview Chapter 11

Discussion: Why do you think that some people are most prone to becoming victims of crime?

Week 12 Chapter 12 X Reading: Lab, Partnerships for Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Police

Quiz: Overview Chapter 12

Discussion: Communities are getting rid or defunding the police force. Do you think this will work? Why or Why not?

Week 13 Chapter 13 X Reading: Lab, Drugs, Crime, and Crime Prevention

VIDEO: Drug trafficking

Quiz: Overview Chapter 13

Discussion: Why is the U.S. the number one consumer of both legal and illegal drugs? What laws or punishment would you enact to end the abuse of drugs?

Week 14 Chapter 14 X Reading: Lab, School and Crime Prevention

VIDEO: School Violence

Quiz: Overview Chapter 14

Discussion: Why do you think violence has increased in schools and what measures would you implement to minimize crime?

Week 14 Finals X Reading: Lab, Deterrence and Incapacitation

VIDEO: School Violence , Review for Final Paper.

Schedule is subject to change at the Professors discretion.