

CRIJ 1301
INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Spring 2023
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, 9:00 AM TO 10:20 AM, LART 319

Professor: Dr. Mario V. Cano
Office: Prospect Hall 228
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM; or by appointment
Phone: (915) 747-6319
Email: mcano13@utep.edu

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT

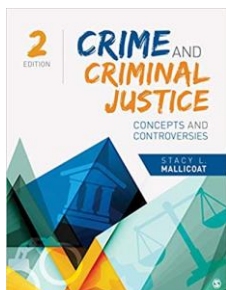
Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear facemasks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine and/or booster. If you still need the vaccine and/or booster, it is widely available in the El Paso area and on campus. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides an in-depth overview of the fields of criminal justice and criminology. The foundation of the criminal justice system is covered, including crime and criminal law, measuring crime, and theories of crime and victimization. The course also discusses the three components of the justice system—law enforcement, courts and sentencing, and institutional and community corrections. Furthermore, the juvenile justice system and transnational criminal justice, such as terrorism, homeland security, border control, and transnational crime, are examined. Taken together, the course seeks to provide an understanding of the American criminal justice system and thus prepare students for upper-division criminal justice courses.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

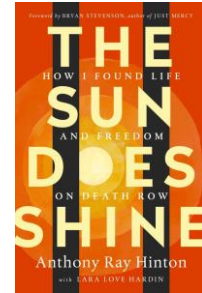
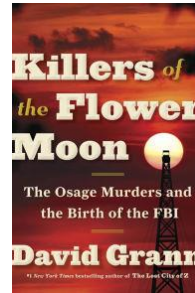
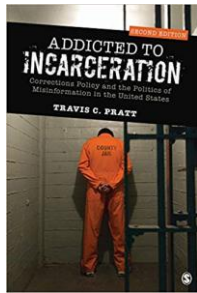
Mallicoat, Stacy L. 2019. *Crime and Criminal Justice: Concepts and Controversies*, 2nd ed.
Sage: Thousand Oaks, CA. ISBN: 978-1544338972; 154433897X



COURSE STRUCTURE AND GRADING

Participation: Two unexcused absences are allowed throughout the semester. The professor does not need to be notified of any unexcused absences. Excused absences, however, require proper medical or official university documentation the week of the absence, and are accepted at the discretion of the professor. The attendance record will be administered by the smart phone-based Arkaive app. The attendance app is free. Please use code **C5QW** to register at <https://arkaive.com/> before the second lecture, and make sure that the location setting on your smart phone is enabled. The professor will instruct students when, during the class, to sign in to the attendance app. All appropriate documentation for requesting an excused absence should be uploaded on Arkaive the week of the absence. A one percent grade deduction will be made for each absence beyond the two unexcused absences. Attendance and participation are worth 10 percent of the overall course grade.

Book Paper: Students will be required to write a paper on a book that has drawn considerable attention in criminology/criminal justice. Please select from the following list of books:



Pratt, Travis C. 2018. *Addicted to Incarceration: Corrections Policy and the Politics of Misinformation in the United States*, second edition. Sage: Thousand Oaks, CA. ISBN: 1544308051; 978-1544308050

Capote, Truman. 1965. *In Cold Blood*. Vintage Books, New York. ISBN: 0679745580; 978-0679745587

Grann, David. 2018. *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage murders and the Birth of the FBI*. Vintage Books, New York. ISBN: 0307742482; 978-0274810567

Hinton, Anthony Ray, and Lara Love Hardin. 2018. *The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row*. St. Martin's Press, New York. ISBN: 1250309476; 978-1250309471

Approximately half of the paper should be devoted to a synthesis of the book, whereas the other half of the paper should be devoted to a critical analysis of the book. In-depth instructions will be posted in the *Book Paper* folder on Blackboard by the second week of the course. Please contact the professor if you have questions on the paper. To receive full credit, the assignment should be submitted electronically on the Blackboard assignment link by Sunday, April 30. Late papers are accepted up to one day after the due date but will receive a 10 percent grade deduction. The pending court decision assignment is worth 30 percent of the overall course grade.

Exams: There will be three exams in the course (see course schedule below). Exams consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exams cover all assigned readings from the textbook. Please bring a green scantron and pencil to the in-class exams. No makeup exams are offered unless the student can provide documentation for a medical emergency or a university-sponsored activity. With the exception of documented last-minute medical emergencies, arrangements for a makeup exam must be made at least 24 hours before the regularly scheduled exam. Makeup exams may be administered in a different format from the original exam, and are provided at the discretion of the professor. The exam review for the first two exams is conducted in the class scheduled prior to the exam date. The professor will not post or email exam study notes from the exam review. Students should make arrangements with a classmate if they are unable to attend the exam review session. Students are not permitted to leave the classroom during the exam, or the exam will become invalid. Each exam is worth 20 percent of the course grade. Thus, exams comprise 60 percent of the course grade.

Point Values and Percentages for Course Requirements:

Attendance	10 points	10 percent
Book Paper	30 points	30 percent
Exam 1	20 points	20 percent
Exam 2	20 points	20 percent
Exam 3	<u>20 points</u>	<u>20 percent</u>
	100 points	100 percent

Points and Grade Distribution:

A = 89.5 or more points	B = 79.5 to 89.4 points	C = 69.5 to 79 points
D = 59.5 to 69.4 points	F = 59.4 or less points	

A grade of C or higher (69.5 points or more) is required to pass the course.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY

Course Evaluation Response Rate of at Least 70 Percent:

If at least 70 percent of the students in the class complete the course evaluation, which becomes available near the end of the semester, then all students will receive a three percent grade increase. Students will receive email reminders about evaluating the course at least twice from UTEP in your miners.utep.edu email account. If you do not receive these emails, then contact UTEP's HelpDesk. After the course evaluation period is over, the professor will receive an email from UTEP stating what percentage of students in the class completed the course evaluation. If this figure is at or above 70 percent then all students in the class will receive three extra credit points. Please make sure to complete the course evaluation when it becomes available and urge your classmates to do the same.

Important Notes: the class works best when students are present and engaged. Do not be afraid to talk or to share ideas—you are just as likely (if not more likely) to gain insights and learn from each other as you are from the professor. The professor does not share lecture notes, or discuss missed lectures through email. Arrangements for obtaining missed class notes should be made with classmates. Please make sure that you have immediate access to the personal email linked to

your Blackboard account, as all course emails and notifications will be sent through Blackboard. Professor Cano reserves the right to make any changes to the course requirements and deadlines.

UTEP EDGE

This course is designed with the UTEP Edge in mind. In This class, you will engage in creative activities during each class that involve critical thinking, applying knowledge to new situations, and solving complex problems. You will leave this course confident in your knowledge of criminology, with enhanced communication skills, leadership and teamwork experience, and a greater global awareness regarding the problem of criminal behavior and how it is responded to by individuals, groups, and the larger society.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

All student papers are submitted to SafeAssign, a software used to detect plagiarism. The University of Texas at El Paso has a system of Academic Integrity and Scholastic Integrity based on personal integrity of all scholastic work undertaken at the University. Academic dishonesty comprises, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, or submitting work for credit that is fully or partially completed by someone else. In addition to other guidelines of academic integrity, submitting work (e.g., annotated bibliography or book paper) that is identical or relatively similar to work submitted in a different course is considered plagiarism. At a minimum, students who engage in academic misconduct will receive a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Please become familiar with the University policy on academic integrity and honesty outlined in Student Conduct and Discipline, Section II, Chapter I of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. Information can be found on the website of the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution: <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/student-conduct/>.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

No texting is permitted, as it is a great distraction to other students and the professor. Use of a cellular phone in case of an emergency should be discussed with the professor before class. Electronic devices are only permitted for taking notes. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment will be asked to leave the class. Students who consistently text during lectures will be asked to leave the class. All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the provisions of the policy on Student Conduct and Discipline, Section II, Chapter I of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. Copyright 2023 (Mario Cano) as to this syllabus and all lectures. During this course, students are prohibited from selling notes, lectures, and presentations or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the course professor.

EMAIL POLICY

The professor will answer emails in a timely manner. As most of you are currently or will be professionals (criminal justice or otherwise), a certain amount of professionalism is expected in your communications. As such, all emails will be expected to contain proper grammar. They must be formatted in a professional manner as well (salutation and closing, etc.). If your emails are not well-articulated and professional, there is a high likelihood that there will be no response. In particular, this means no “text speak” or “Internet lingo,” use of all caps, and no swearing. The email should indicate the course in which you are enrolled.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The professor is committed to assisting students with a documented disability. If you have a disability (or believe you may have a disability) and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at (915) 747-5148, or by email at cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topics	Required Readings	Coursework and Exam Due Dates
Week 1	01/17 01/19	Crime and Criminal Justice Crime and Criminal Justice	Chapter 1 Chapter 1	
Week 2	01/24 01/26	Concepts of Law and Justice Concepts of Law and Justice	Chapter 2 Chapter 2	
Week 3	01/31 02/02	Defining and Measuring Crime Defining and Measuring Crime	Chapter 3 Chapter 3	
Week 4	02/07 02/09	Explanations of Criminal Behavior Explanations of Criminal Behavior	Chapter 4 Chapter 4	
Week 5	02/14 02/16	Victims and Criminal Justice Victims and Criminal Justice	Chapter 5 Chapter 5	
Week 6	02/21 02/23	Exam Review Exam 1	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5	Exam 1 (In-Person)
Week 7	02/28 03/02	Criminal Justice Policy Criminal Justice Policy	Chapter 6 Chapter 6	
Week 8	03/07 03/09	Police Organizations and Practices Police Organizations and Practices	Chapter 7 Chapter 7	
Week 9	03/14 03/16	Spring Break: No Class Spring Break: No Class		
Week 10	03/21 03/23	Issues in Policing Issues in Policing	Chapter 8 Chapter 8	
Week 11	03/28 03/30	Courts and Crime Courts and Crime	Chapter 9 Chapter 9	
Week 12	04/04 04/06	Punishment and Sentencing Punishment and Sentencing	Chapter 10 Chapter 10	
Week 13	04/11 04/13	Exam Review Exam 2	Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10	Exam 2 (In-Person)
Week 14	04/18 04/20	Prisons and Jails Prisons and Jails	Chapter 11 Chapter 11	
Week 15	04/25 04/27	Community Corrections Community Corrections	Chapter 12 Chapter 12	Book Paper Due by Sunday, April 30
Week 16	05/02 05/04	Juvenile Justice Transnational Criminal Justice	Chapter 13 Chapter 14	
Final	05/09	Exam 3	Chapters 11, 12, 13, and 14	Exam 3 (Online)

