COURSE OVERVIEW

The course examines the sources and processes of social control and policy associated with crime and delinquency. The nature of crime and major institutions of the criminal justice system, particularly law enforcement, courts and sentencing, and institutional/community corrections are also discussed. The course emphasizes the complexity associated with the American criminal justice system.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Examine the complex history of social control and the three primary justice institutions.
- Explore the nature of crime and criminality at the micro-level and macro-level.
- Gain an understanding of structure and processes of the justice system.
- Synthesize knowledge and evaluate criminal justice empirical research.
- Identify issues with and gaps in the criminology and criminal justice literature.
- Develop strong research and writing skills.
- Become familiar with university-wide research and UTEP Library resources.

REQUIRED BOOKS


COURSE STRUCTURE AND GRADING

Attendance and Participation: This course is a seminar in which students will be expected to make a meaningful contribution to the discussion, and carry a large part of the conversation. In addition to completing the assigned reading material, students should attend class with the readings and notes in hand, questions, and critiques. 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 me. Consistent attendance, coupled with thoughtful participation that advances the class discourse, are required to earn full credit. Please become familiar with the following policy of attendance and grade deduction for unexcused absences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missed Classes</th>
<th>Final Course Grade Penalty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>No penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>B or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>C or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four or more</td>
<td>F</td>
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Any ongoing issue(s) that may hinder class attendance and participation and may merit an excused absence should be discussed with the professor in a timely manner, not toward the end of the semester. An excused absence will be granted at the discretion of the professor. Attendance and participation are worth 20 percent of the overall course grade.

Research Assignment: Students will complete a one-time, written research assignment, comprised of a series of questions to familiarize them with UTEP Library and university-wide research resources. The questions will be handed out during the first class meeting. The assignment is due as a hard copy on September 11th and is worth 10 percent of the overall course grade.

Course Papers: Students will be expected to write two course papers in the semester. The papers are a summary of the readings assigned for that week (select two weeks from Week 2 through Week 14). More specifically, the paper should make sense of the literature assigned for that week, beyond a traditional literature review. Discuss what the readings do to inform us about policy and the status of criminal justice institutions. Make an attempt to bring the week’s readings together in a meaningful way. For instance, articulate a common theme, issue, or similar methodological approach expressed throughout the literature. With respect to mechanics, papers should be typed and double-spaced, use Times New Roman, twelve-inch font with one-inch margins, be between four to six pages in length, and use APA or Chicago format. To receive full credit, papers should be submitted as a hard copy at the beginning of class and electronically to mcano13@utep.edu by 5:30 PM (on the date of submission). Course papers will no longer be accepted after the beginning of class on Week 14. Each course paper is worth 15 percent of the overall course grade.

Final Paper: The final paper—which will also be introduced in a 15-minute, conference-style slide presentation during the final class meeting—is the “front end” to a research article that would be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal. This means it will contain the introduction, comprehensive literature review (all relevant studies), theoretical framework, and current focus
sections of a manuscript. You may select a paper topic associated with criminological theory or criminal justice systems; including an idea beyond what is discussed in the course, as long it is approved by the professor. Students are expected to discuss their paper topic and progress with the professor throughout the semester. A paper topic and abstract should be submitted in hard copy on October 2nd. There is an expectation that the “front end” paper will be further developed in a full manuscript with “methods” and “results” sections, and thus be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal in the near future.

With respect to mechanics, papers should be typed and double-spaced, use Times New Roman, twelve-inch font with one-inch margins, between 10 and 12 pages in length, and use APA or Chicago format. To receive full credit, papers should be submitted by December 4th as a hard copy and electronically to meano13@utep.edu by 5:30 PM (on the date of submission). Late papers are not accepted. The final paper is worth 40 percent of the overall course grade.

Percentage Values for Course Requirements:
- Attendance and Participation: 20 percent
- Research Assignment: 10 percent
- Course Paper x 2: 30 percent
- Final Paper and Slide Presentation: 40 percent

Grade Percentage Distribution:
- A = 89.5 or more percent
- B = 79.5 to 89.4 percent
- C = 69.5 to 79.4 percent
- D = 59.5 to 69.4 percent
- F = 59.4 percent or less

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY
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 CLASSROOM 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 may 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 2019 (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 professor teaching this course.

**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 and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 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.

**Important Notes:** The professor does not post slide presentations online, 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. **With the exception of book chapters (which will be posted in Blackboard), students are expected to locate all assigned journal article readings using online databases and UTEP Library resources.** Begin collecting assigned readings early, as the professor is not responsible for readings you cannot get to as a result of procrastination. The professor reserves the right to make any changes to the course requirements and deadlines.
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1  Course Overview: The Nature of Crime and Criminal Justice Institutions
09/28

Lilly, Cullen, & Ball (Chapter 1)
Mallicoat (Chapter 1)

Week 2  Nature of Crime
10/04


Week 3  Neighborhoods, Race, and Crime
10/11

Week 4  Policing Strategies and Police Subculture
09/18

Mallicoat (Chapter 7)


Week 5  Topics in Policing I
09/25

Mallicoat (Chapter 8)


**Week 6**  
**Incarceration Policy**

10/02


**Week 7**  
**Topics in Policing II**

10/09


Week 8  Courts and Sentencing  
10/16  
Mallicoat (Chapters 9 and 10)  

Week 9  Courts  
10/23  

Week 10  Corrections  
10/30  
Mallicoat (Chapters 11 and 12)  


**Week 11   Victimization  11/06**


Week 12  Corrections Policy  
11/13


Week 13  Juvenile Justice  
11/20

Mallicoat (Chapter 13)


Week 14  Immigration and Crime  
11/27


**Week 15**  
**Final Class Meeting**  
**12/04**  
Final Paper Presentations