Instructor’s Syllabus and Course Requirements  
Fall 2022

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Telephone: (915) 873-0606  
Course: CRIJ 1301: Introduction to Criminal Justice  
CRN: 16335  
Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours are by appointment

I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student account and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number.


**LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:** All course content is delivered via the UTEP Blackboard course management system. You can view all materials related to this course on Blackboard (except for the textbook).

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Distance education demands a considerable amount of self-discipline and motivation. You will enjoy a flexibility to work and study at times that fit your personal schedule; however, you must still meet weekly course deadlines. If you feel you require the structure of a classroom in order to stay engaged, then this class is not for you. Setting up regular times to sit down and focus your attention on the course materials is essential to success. We realize you are balancing many issues in your life and have chosen distance learning as an option to fit your individual circumstances.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** All students are required to check Blackboard regularly for announcements and/or changes to the syllabus.
Course objectives: On successful completion of this course, you will be able to

- Understanding of the vocabulary used in this field (criminal justice)
- Understand the crime problem in the United States and the criminal justice decision network
- Identify problems and practices of the police
- Understand the workings of the courts and corrections
- Apply knowledge of the criminal justice system and write an APA research paper

Assignment grading assessments will be weighted in the following way:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity or Assignment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz #1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz #2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter reflections</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussion Questions</td>
<td>240</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper Assignment</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Total Points</td>
<td>740 Points</td>
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*No extra credit assignments will be given to catch up*

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>665-740</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>591-664</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>517-590</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>444-516</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443- below</td>
<td>F</td>
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students will be required to read each chapter, participate in discussions and be ready to discuss current events in Black.

EXAMS: Assessments will be administered to measure the student’s learning success. Arrangements for make-up exams will need to be approved by the professor 3 days in advance.
**RESEARCH PAPER:** Students are required to produce a research paper on a topic within the Criminal Justice System, broadly defined. Students choose their own topic based upon their academic and intellectual interests. It is the responsibility of the student to conduct their own research and write their paper independently. Students will produce a paper of approximately 10-12 pages (double-spaced, 12 font, Times New Roman).

The requirements are exclusive of title page, abstract, and references. Students must follow APA style (7th edition).

**No late papers will be accepted.** Please plan accordingly. Early submissions are accepted and highly encouraged.

**WEEKLY DISCUSSION PARTICIPATION:** Students will participate in discussion questions based on weekly readings, cases, and other course materials. Students are expected to continue these conversations online in Blackboard.

**ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES:** Assignments are due by 11:00 pm on the date indicated and should be submitted through Blackboard. Late assignments will not be accepted. Technical difficulties are NOT generally an excuse for late assignments, and students are advised to keep additional copies of assignments in case of technological failure.

**NETIQUETTE:** You must maintain an academic attitude and uphold UTEP policies. Being disrespectful, using profanity or unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. All online communications must be composed with fairness, honesty and tact.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** 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 as one's 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.

Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts. 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 WITH DISABILITIES:** 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 Office of Disabled Student 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 Disabled Student Services. You may call 915.747.5148 for general information about the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the rights that you have as a UTEP student with a disability. You also can visit the DSSO website at www.utep.edu/dsso or the DSSO office in Room 108 East Union Building. Individuals with disabilities have the right to equal access and opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and The Disabled Student Services Office at The University of Texas at El Paso.

**DROP POLICY:** The course drop policy for this class is the same as the official policy for the University. The policy is set out in the University catalog as well as the class schedule. In conjunction with this policy, the instructor may exercise the right to drop a student from the course roll if the student has an excessive number of unexcused absences, is perpetually tardy in arriving to class, and/or consistently fails to complete class assignments as directed.

**COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS:** Even though this course is scheduled for an online modality, if you plan to visit the UTEP campus please familiarize yourselves with the COVID-19 precautions. 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 best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org

**CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

| Week One 08/22/22 to 08/27/22 | Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Criminal Justice: Essential Themes and Practices | Read Chapter 1 and chapter 2
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2: Foundations of Law and Crime: Nature, Elements, and Measurement</td>
<td><strong>Discussion Questions Due 08/27/22</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter Reflections Due 08/27/22</strong></td>
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| Week Two 08/29/22 to 09/03/22 | Chapter 3: Theories of Criminality and Crime  
Chapter 4: Ethical Essentials: Doing Right When No One Is Watching | Read chapter 3 and chapter 4  
Discussion Questions Due 09/03/22  
Chapter Reflections Due 09/03/22  
Quiz # 1 Due 09/03/22 |
| Week Three 09/05/22 to 09/10/22 | Chapter 5: Police Organization: Structure and Functions | Read chapter 5  
Discussion Questions Due 09/10/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 09/10/22 |
| Week Four 09/12/22 to 09/17/22 | Chapter 6: Police at Work: Patrolling and Investigating | Read chapter 6  
Discussion Questions Due 09/17/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 09/17/22 |
| Week Five 09/19/22 to 09/24/22 | Chapter 7: Policing Methods and Challenges: Issues of Force, Liability, and Technologies | Read chapter 7  
Discussion Questions Due 09/24/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 09/24/22 |
| Week Six 09/26/22 to 10/01/22 | Chapter 8: Expounding the Constitution: Laws of Arrest, Search, and Seizure | Read chapter 8  
Discussion Questions Due 10/01/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 10/01/22  
Quiz # 2 Due 10/01/22 |
| Week Seven 10/03/22 to 10/08/22 | Chapter 9: Court Organization: Structure, Functions, and the Trial Process | Read chapter 9  
Discussion Questions Due 10/08/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 10/08/22 |
| Week Eight 10/10/22 to 10/15/22 | Chapter 10: The Bench and the Bar: Those Who Judge, Prosecute, and Defend | Read chapter 10  
Discussion Questions Due 10/15/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 10/15/22 |
| Week Nine  
10/17/22 to 10/22/22 | Chapter 11: Court Methods and Challenges: Sentencing and Punishment | Read chapter 11  
Discussion Questions Due 10/22/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 10/22/22 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Week Ten  
10/24/22 to 10/29/22 | Chapter 12: Prisons and Jails: Structure and Function | Read chapter 12  
Discussion Questions Due 10/29/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 10/29/22  
Midterm Due 10/29/22 |
| Week Eleven  
10/31/22 to 11/05/22 | Chapter 13: The Inmates’ World: The “Keepers” and the “Kept” | Read chapter 13  
Discussion Questions Due 11/05/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 11/05/22 |
| Week Twelve  
11/07/22 to 11/12/22 | Chapter 14: Corrections in the Community: Probation, Parole, and Other Alternatives to Incarceration | Read chapter 14  
Discussion Questions Due 11/12/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 11/12/22  
Research Paper Due 11/12/22 |
| Week Thirteen  
11/14/22 to 11/19/22 | Chapter 15: Juvenile Justice: Philosophy, Law, and Practices | Read chapter 15  
Discussion Questions Due 11/19/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 11/19/22 |
| Week Fourteen  
11/21/22 to 11/26/22 | Chapter 16: On the Crime Policy and Prevention Agenda: Drug Abuse, Sex Trafficking, Terrorism, and Immigration | Read chapter 16  
Discussion Questions Due 11/26/22  
Chapter Reflection Due 11/26/22 |
| Week Fifteen  
11/28/22 to 12/01/22 | Finals Week | Review all chapters  
Final exam Due 12/01/22 |

*I reserve the right to change dates or assignments if necessary and amend the schedule to suit the needs of the class*.

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