

CRIJ 3300- Applied Research Methods Fall 2021 (CRN# 15245)

Professor: **Dr. Stacie Ordoñez**
 Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: August 23, 2021-Decemeber 2, 2021

Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours are by appointment. I am available to meet with students virtually by appointment. I can be reached through UTEP email. Please allow 24 hours to respond on weekdays and 48 hours over the weekend.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

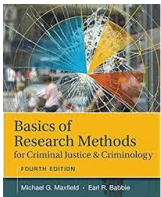
This course introduces students to research with a focus on the importance of suitability of the sample for research question, as well as the correctness of the concepts, methods of data collection and analysis used. Students should develop the skills required to become educated users of research findings and reports.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic methods of research design, measurement, and data collection used in criminal justice and criminology.
2. Evaluate information sources critically and incorporate selected information into papers and projects.
3. Utilize information sources ethically and effectively document and communicate acquired information.

REQUIRED TEXT:



**Basics of Research Methods for Criminal Justice & Criminology
(4th Edition)**

Michael G. Maxfield; Earl R. Babbie
 ISBN-978-1-305-26110-5

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Weekly Discussions	(20 pts X 6)	120 Points
Exams	(50 pts X 3)	150 Points
Proposal Components	(50 pts X 4)	200 Points
Field Observation Experiment		30 Points
Final Research Proposal		100 Points

Points	Letter Grade
540-600	A
480-539	B
420-479	C
360-419	D
0-359	F

GRADING SCALE: **600 points possible**

NOTE: Grades are assigned according to the total points earned. I do not curve grades or round up. If you end the class with 539 points, you will receive a B. You are responsible for obtaining the grade you want in this class.

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DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. Discussion Participation: This semester you will have 6 discussion questions that require your response. Your response to the discussion question should be scholarly and thorough. In your response, you must demonstrate your understanding of Textbook readings and the application of the covered materials. Initial posts are due by Tuesday, response to peers are due by Friday at midnight. Original posts entered after Tuesday will not be accepted. See Late work explanation.

You are required to respond to two students/peers that provokes thought. You must respond with more than “Good job,” or “I agree.” Your response to your peers during discussion posts should provide your understanding or an alternative to their opinion and the application of concepts.

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

II. Research Proposal Components: Throughout the semester you will be required to submit components of your research proposal. See schedule for due dates. **YOU MUST USE THE TEMPLATE/FORM** that can be found in Blackboard. See Blackboard for details.

III. Field Observation Experiment: In week 12, you will practice doing field observations.

IV. Final PAPER: Final Research Proposal: Using the template provided, you will complete a Research Proposal throughout this semester. Throughout the semester you will be working on a component of the proposal, essentially building your final proposal which will be due in Week 13. See Blackboard for details.

V. EXAMS: In this course you have 3 exams that are all worth 50 points. **SEE schedule for exam dates). Missed Exams CANNOT be made up.**

VI. Instructors Policies

Late Work: Late assignments/discussions/exams will not be accepted. Due dates are posted. Plan accordingly. You can submit all assignments early.

Disability:

Students with a disability that affects their academic performance are expected to arrange a meeting with the instructor so that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. Students with disabilities are required to notify the Center for Accommodations and Support Services for accommodations, cass@utep.edu; 915-747-5148; Union East Rm 106.

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ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty includes cheating on an exam, turning in someone else's assignment from a previous class, or plagiarism: "(1) use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without fully and properly crediting the author with citations or biographical reference; (2) unacknowledged use of work/materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials; (3) unacknowledged use of original work/material that has been produced through collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators."

I take cases of alleged academic dishonesty seriously. For students who are found to have allegedly engaged in any form of academic dishonesty, the case will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR). While the case is being investigated by OSCCR, an "I" (Incomplete) will be assigned until the case is resolved. If the student is found by OSCCR to have engaged in misconduct, sanctions may include a failing grade on the assignment or exam in question, a failing grade in the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University. See <http://www.utep.edu/dos>

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.** If a student withdraws completely from all classes, kindly notify Dr. Ordonez at saordonez@utep.edu.

CONTRACT

By reading this syllabus and remaining enrolled in the class, you are agreeing to the terms of the contract. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Ordonez (saordonez@utep.edu).

RECORDING OF CLASS & COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

The materials used in this course are copyrighted. This includes, but is not limited to, syllabi, exams, in class activities, review sheets, homework, solutions, class notes, supplemental materials. You do not have the right to copy or distribute these items unless I specifically grant you permission.

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

Dates		Objectives	Reading	Assignment
Week 1	8/23 8/29	Introduction to Research Methods, Review Research Proposal Form	Review Table of Contents of your Textbook	Introduction Discussion in Bb due 8/24
Week 2	8/30 9/5	Elements of Research Proposal Choose a Research Topic	Chapter 1	Discussion in Bb due on 8/31
Week 3	9/7 9/12	General Issues with Research Design	Chapter 3	Submit section 1-3 of proposal form in Bb by 9/12 at 11:55pm
Week 4	9/13 9/19	Review ethical issues of Human subject research	Chapter 2	Discussion Due in Bb on 9/14
Week 5	9/20- 9/26	Social Problem/Problem Statement Writing a Literature review	Lecture material	Exam 1 covers Chapters 1-3 Due in Bb by 9/26
Week 6	9/27 10/3	Operationalizing Variables Conceptualizaing Variables	Chapter 4	Annotated Bibliography due 10/3
Week 7	10/4 10/10	Identifying variables	Chapter 4 cont...	Submit section 4-6 of proposal in Bb 10/10 at 11:55pm
Week 8	10/11 10/17	Experimental Designs Quasi-Experimental Designs	Chapter 5	Discussion Due in Bb on 10/12
Week 9	10/18 10/24	Survey Writing a Survey	Chapter 7	Discussion Due in Bb on 10/19
Week 10	10/25 10/31	Population Sampling procedures	Chapter 6	Exam 2 covers Chapters 4-7 due in Bb by 10-31 at 11:55pm
Week 11	11/1 11/7	Qualitative Interviewing Qualitative Interviewing	Chapter 8	Submit section 7-8 of proposal in Bb 11/7 at 11:55pm
Week 12	11/8 11/14	Field Observations Field Observations	Chapter 9	Experiment on Field Observations due by 11/14 at 11:55pm
Week 13	11/15 11/21	Agency Records Content Analysis, Secondary Data	Chapter 10	Final Proposal due by 11/21 at 11:55pm
Week 14	11/22 11/28	Evaluation Research Content Analysis, Secondary Data	Chapter 11	Discussion Due in Bb on 11/23 Happy Thanksgiving
Week 15	11/30 12/3	Final Exam is due by Sunday 12/5 at 11:55pm		

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