

CRIJ 3300- Applied Research Methods Fall 2019 (CRN# 17227)

Professor: Dr. Stacie Ordoñez
Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: Aug 26, 2019 – Dec 5, 2019
Monday/Wednesday 10:30am-11:50am
Education 114

Office Hours: Education Bldg Rm 111
915-747-7674
Mon,Wed 1:30pm-4:00pm or by appointment

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

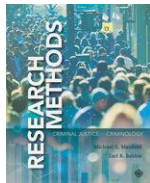
This course introduces students to research with a focus on the importance of suitability of the sample for research questions, as well as the correctness of the concepts, methods of data collection and analysis used. Students should develop the skills required to become educated users of research findings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

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course prepares students to:

1. Analyze reasons for why people commit crime and/or engage in deviance
2. Understand the concepts, terms, and propositions of each criminological theory, including deterrence, rational choice, biosocial, psychological, social learning, social bonding/control, strain, labeling, conflict, Marxist, feminist, and radical/critical theory.
3. Become familiar with key criminologists who developed each major criminological theory and the historical context leading up to each theory's development.
4. Appreciate the practical application of each criminological theory in daily life and in the professional field.

REQUIRED TEXT:



Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology, 8th Edition

Michael G. Maxfield; Earl R. Babbie
ISBN-10: 1-337-09182-0

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

In Class Activities		100 Points
Exams	(50 pts X 3)	150 points
Proposal Components	(50 pts X 3)	150 Points
Final Research Proposal		100 points
GRADING SCALE:		500 points possible

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Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
450-500	90-100	A
400-449	80-89	B
350-399	70-79	C
300-349	60-69	D
0-299	0-59	F

NOTE: Grades are assigned according to the total points earned. I do not curve grades or round up. You are responsible for obtaining the grade you want in this class.

DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. In Class Activities - Activities will be completed in class that are not scheduled but attendance is required to obtain the points. If you are absent, you can't make up missed class activities.

II. Research Proposal Components- Each week, you will be submitting completed sections of the template provided in Blackboard. **Refer to Blackboard for more information regarding these assessments**

III. EXAMS: You will have 3 exams in this class. Each exam is worth 50 points each (**SEE schedule for exam dates**). The exams will likely be structured with some combination of multiple choice, True/False, and/or Essay questions. **Missed Exams CANNOT be made up**

IV. Final PAPER: Final Research Proposal

Using the template provided, you will complete a Research Proposal throughout this semester. Each week you will be working on a component of the proposal, essentially building your final proposal. **Refer to Blackboard for more information regarding your Final Paper.**

LATE ASSIGNMENTS- Due dates are posted in Blackboard. Plan accordingly. I do not accept late assignments. I understand that life happens and sometimes things come up that we don't expect, don't wait until the last minute to submit assignments. Exceptions can be made at my discretion.

V. Instructor's Policies

Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during class. Should your phone ring during class, you will be asked to leave. Should you take phone call or be observed texting, you will be asked to leave class. Cell phones should be appropriately stored away during exams. If a student is found to have their phone out while taking an exam, they will fail that exam and be asked to leave.

Taking pictures in class is prohibited. You are not allowed to take pictures of Lecture slides or materials. You do not have permission to take pictures of me, lecture slides or any other student. Plan on bringing a notebook and writing utensil to take notes in this class.

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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.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to be familiar with all University policies regarding 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.

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

You must bring a working version of your proposal to class to work on while in class.

Dates		Objectives	Reading	Assignment
Week 1	8/26	Syllabus		
	8/28	Introduction to Research Methods, Review Research Proposal Form	Read Chapter 1	Review possible topics for research
Week 2	9/2	Labor Day No Class on 9/2	Chapter 1 cont...	
	9/4	Components of Research		Choose a research topic
Week 3	9/9	Review ethical issues of Human subject research	Read Chapter 2	
	9/11	Ethics Continued		Submit section 1-3 of proposal form in Bb by 9/15at 11:55pm
Week 4	9/16	General Issues with Research Design	Read Chapter 3	
	9/18	General Issues with Research Design		
Week 5	9/23	Writing a Literature review	Lecture	
	9/25	Social Problem/Problem Statement	Lecture	Exam 1 covers Chapters 1-3 Due in Bb by 9/29
Week 6	9/30	Operationalizing variables	Read Chapter 4	
	10/2	Conceptualizing variables		Find 4 Research articles that support your topic
Week 7	10/7	Experimental Designs	Read Chapter 5	
	10/9	Quasi Experimental Design		Submit section 4-7 of proposal in Bb 10/13 at 11:55pm
Week 8	10/14	Population	Read Chapter 6	Select a Partner to work with the remainder of the semester. Choose wisely
	10/16	Sampling procedures		
Week 9	10/21	No Class on 10/21-online discussion		Discussion in Bb on 10/21
	10/23	Sampling Cont.../ Survey	Read Chapter 7	
Week 10	10/28	Writing a Survey	Lecture	Submit Survey in Blackboard
	10/30	Open Discussion	Lecture	Exam 2 covers Chapters 4-7 due by 11/3 in Bb
Week 11	11/4	Qualitative Interviewing	Read Chapter 8	
	11/6	Qualitative Interviewing		Submit section 8-9 of proposal in Bb 11/10 at 11:55pm
Week 12	11/11	Field Observations	Read Chapter 9	
	11/13	Field Observations		
Week 13	11/18	Agency Records	Read Chapter 10	Find agency records to support your research idea
	11/20	Content Analysis, Secondary Data		
Week 14	11/25	Open discussion	Lecture	
	11/27	Open Discussion		
Week 15	12/2	Expected Outcomes	Read Chapter 11	
	12/4	Program Evaluation		Submit Final Proposal 12/5 by 5pm
FINALS WEEK		Final Exam TBA Final Exam will cover chapters 8-11		