

CRIJ 3313- Criminology Spring 2021 (CRN#25096)

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 Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: January 19, 2021-March 7, 2021

Office Hours: I can be reached through your UTEP email. Please allow 24 hours to respond on weekdays and 48 hours over the weekend. If the issue cannot be addressed through messages, I can then schedule a meeting a virtual meeting with students.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

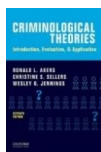
This course surveys historical perspectives on crime, contemporary criminological theory, current trends in crime, and critical thought on current justice practices and procedures. Emphasis is given to the development and application of theory regarding different types of crimes, “crime waves,” and why people commit crime.

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:



Akers, Ronald L and Christine S. Sellers. (2017). *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application (7th edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

3 Exams	50 points each =	150 points
Weekly Discussions (6)	25 points each =	150 points
Written Assignments (3)	200 points each=	200 points

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
450-500	90-100	A
400-449	80-89	B
370-399	70-79	C
300-369	60-69	D
0-299	0-59	F

GRADING SCALE: **500 points possible**

NOTE: Grades are assigned according to the total points earned. I do not grade on a curve or round grades. If you end up with an 89%, 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. Written Assessments

In week 2 and week 4, you will have a written assessment due. Students will use critical thinking to explain and critique, in written format, theoretical explanations for crime and causation. Refer to Blackboard for more information regarding these assessments

II. Exams:

There will be 3 quizzes in this class, 50 points each (**SEE schedule for exam dates**)

The exact format of the exams is to be determined. However, the exams will likely be structured with some combination of Multiple choice, True/False, and/or Essay questions.

Exams must be submitted in Blackboard by the due date. Exams cannot be made up.

Exams will be open for a week prior to the due date giving each student plenty of time to take the exam. No exceptions.

III. Discussion Participation

Each week there will be a discussion that must be answered completely. 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 theory or theories. You must have your original post. You must respond to two peers. You need to check back to your post as well to make sure you have responded to anyone who may have asked you anything, more so if I have asked you something.

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 peer’s discussion post should provide your understanding or an alternative to your peers’ 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.

IV. Final paper: Applying theory

Case Study of a Sex Offender: Application and understanding of Social Learning Theory and Rational Choice Theory. Students are expected to challenge these theories and provide alternative theories that attempt to explain the behavior of the case study. **Refer to Blackboard for more information regarding your Final Paper.**

IV. LATE WORK

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

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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

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. Complete withdrawals from all classes in the same semester do not count against the 6-drop limit.

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

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TOPIC COVERAGE*</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Week 1	What is Criminology, Crime, and Deviance? What is Theory? Classical Criminology and Deterrence Rational Choice Theory	Read Ch 1 Read Ch. 2
Week 2	Biological and Biosocial Theories Psychological and Personality Theories The Criminal Mind	Read Ch. 3 Read Ch. 4
Written Assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm 1/31/2021		
Week 3	Differential Association/ Social Learning Theory Early Control Theories Social Bonding and Low Self Control	Read Ch. 5 Read Ch. 6
Exam 1 due Sunday by 11:55pm on 2/7/2021		
Week 4	Labeling & Reintegrative Shaming Theory Social Disorganization and Chicago School Application of Social Disorganization	Read Ch. 7 Read Ch. 8
Written Assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 2/14/2021		
Week 5	Classic Anomie/Strain Conflict Theory	Read Ch. 9 Read Ch. 10
Exam 2 due Sunday by 11:55pm on 2/21/2021		
** Start working on your Last written assessment**		
Week 6	Marxist Theories Radical and Critical Theories Feminist Theories	Read Ch. 11 Read Ch. 12 Read Ch. 13
Final written assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 2/28/2021		
Week 7	Developmental and Life Course Theories Integrating Criminological Theories	Read Ch. 14 Read Ch. 15
Exam 3 due by <u>11:55pm on Friday 3/5/2021</u>		

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