

CRIJ 3313- Criminology
Spring 2021 (CRN# 25097)

Professor: Dr. Stacie Ordoñez
Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: January 19, 2021 – May 6, 2021

Office Hours: I will 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 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
6 Discussions	12.5 points each=	75 points
3 Theory Presentations	25 points each=	75 points
2 Written Assignments	50 points each =	100 points
Final Written Assessment		100 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 449 points, you will have earned 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 policy.

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. Written Assessments- In weeks 3, 9, and 13, you will have a writing assignment due. The assignment will require you use to analyze and apply concepts we have covered in this class. In this assignment, I expect to see that you can apply material. Refer to Blackboard for more information regarding your writing assignments.

III. EXAMS: You have 3 exams in this class. Each exam is worth 50 points each (**SEE schedule for exam dates**). **The exact format of exams is to be determined.** However, 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. PowerPoint presentations- Integrating Theories- In weeks 4, 8, and 12 you can work alone or in a small group to prepare a 4 slide PowerPoint presentation, combining and explaining theories that we have examined. The PowerPoint will need to be submitted in Blackboard. See Blackboard for more details.

Live lectures are always fun, you do not want to miss out. Previous students have said that these have helped them. We will review the theories we are covering each week. I will also review assignments due.

Supplemental Lecture- Blackboard Collaborate live lecture: I will conduct live lectures weekly to provide a lecture and discussion of the required readings. During these lectures I provide detailed information about cases, theoretical application, discussion of cases in our area and review of upcoming assignments. Although these are optional, you are encouraged to attend the live lectures. **Live Lectures will be Tuesday at 10:30am to 11:30am.**

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V. Instructor's 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.

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 this class 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 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 1/19-1/24	What is Criminology, Crime, and Deviance? What is Theory? Read Ch 1	Discussion Due by 1/24
Week 2 1/25-1/31	Classical Criminology and Deterrence Rational Choice Theory Read Ch. 2	Discussion Due by 1/31
Week 3 2/1-2/7	Biological and Biosocial Theories Read Ch. 3	Written Assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm 2/7/2021
Week 4 2/8 – 2/14	Psychological and Personality Theories The Criminal Mind Read Ch. 4	Integrated Theory PowerPoint due 2/14
Week 5 2/15 – 2/21	Differential Association Social Learning Theory Read Ch. 5	Exam 1 Covers Ch 1-4 due Sunday in BB by 11: 55pm on 2/21
Week 6 2/22 – 2/28	Early Control Theories Social Bonding and Low Self Control Read Ch. 6	Discussion Due by 2/28
Week 7 3/1 – 3/7	Labeling & Reintegrative Shaming Theory Read Ch. 7	Discussion Due by 3/7
Week 8 3/8 – 3/14	Social Disorganization and Chicago School Read Ch.	Integrated Theory PowerPoint due 3/14
3/15-3/21	SPRING BREAK- ENJOY YOUR BREAK	
Week 9 3/22 – 3/28	Classic Anomie/Strain Read Ch. 9	Written Assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 3/28/2021
Week 10 3/29 – 4/4	Conflict Theory Read Ch. 10	Exam 2 Covers Ch 5-9 due Sunday in Bb by 11:55pm on 4/4/2021
Week 11 4/5 – 4/11	Marxist Theories/ Radical and Critical Theories Read Ch. 11 & 12	Discussion Due by 4/11
Week 12 4/12 – 4/18	Feminist Theories Read Ch. 13	Integrated Theory PowerPoint due 4/18
Week 13 4/19 – 4/25	Developmental and Life Course Theories Read Ch. 14	Final written assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 4/25/2021
Week 14 4/26 - 5/2	Integrating Criminological Theories Read Ch. 15	Discussion Due by 5/2
Week 15 5/3 - 5/6	Final Exam will open on 5/3/2021. Covers Ch 11-15. <u>Due in BB by 11:55pm on 5/9/2021</u>	

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