

CRIJ 3313- Criminology Spring 2020 (CRN# 24332)

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Class Dates: January 21, 2020-March 7, 2020

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 can't be addressed through messages, I can then schedule a meeting with students by phone or in my office.

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

GRADING SCALE: 500 points possible

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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

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.

DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. Final PAPER: APPLYING THEORIES

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

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 ONE 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 that is due Wednesday of each week.** You must respond to two peers by Friday of each week. 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. If you miss a discussion, it can't be made up.

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 of your online communications must be composed with fairness, honesty and tact.

IV. 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**

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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.**

- a) Students who drop a course within the first 2 weeks *before the "official census date,"* the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn't count toward the 6-course drop limit.
- b) Dropping a course *after the official census date, but before the "course drop date"* will generate a "W" in the course—although the drop shows on your transcript, a "W" does not lower your GPA. However, this type of drop counts against your 6 drop limit.
- c) If the course is dropped *after the "course drop date"* or if the student just stops coming/taking tests, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an "F" in the course that permanently remains on the transcript. This type of drop counts against the 6 drop limit.
- d) UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of excessive absences, lack of effort, or disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP email account. A "W" will be issued if the drop occurs before the course drop date, and an "F" will be issued if a student is administratively dropped for disciplinary reasons or after the course drop date. This type of drop counts against the 6 drop limit.
- e) If circumstances occur where a student must miss an excessive number of classes and/or is unable to submit multiple assignments (e.g., student medical reasons, medical conditions of a family member, death of a family member, active military service), they should first discuss the possibility of withdrawal from all classes with their academic advisor. 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.

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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 2/2/2020		
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 2/9/2020		
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 2/16/2020		
Week 5	Classic Anomie/Strain Conflict Theory	Read Ch. 9 Read Ch. 10
Exam 2 due Sunday by 11:55pm on 2/23/2020		
** Start working on your Last written assessment**		
Week 6	Marxist Theories Radical and Critical Theories	Read Ch. 11 Read Ch. 12
Final written assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 3/16/2020		
Week 7	Feminist Theories Developmental and Life Course Theories Integrating Criminological Theories	Read Ch. 13 Read Ch. 14 Read Ch. 15
Exam 3 due by <u>11:55pm on Friday 3/6/2020</u>		

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