

CRIJ 3313- Criminology Spring 2024 (CRN# 26581)

Professor: Dr. Stacie Ordoñez
Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: January 16th – May 2nd, 2024
Tues & Thurs 10:30am-11:50am
Education Bldg. Room 112

Office Hours: Office Hours are available by appointment. I am available to meet with students before and after class or by appointment. I can be reached through UTEP email. Please allow 24 hours to respond on weekdays and 72 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. (2020). *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application (8th edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------|
| In Class activities | | 100 points |
| 4 Exams | 50 points each = | 200 points |
| Integrating Theory | 100 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 curve grades or round up. If you end the class with 449 points, you will receive a B. You are responsible for earning the grade you want in this class. I do not give grades.

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DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. In Class Activities- This is a face-to-face class. Attendance is expected. Activities will be completed in class that are not scheduled but attendance is required to obtain the points. This also includes any assignment given in the first or last few minutes of class. If you are late or leave early, you will not get the points. If you are absent, regardless of the reason, you can't make up missed class activities. (Exceptions include: immediate family death, medical emergency, or university sponsored activities).

II. PowerPoint presentations- Integrating Theories- In weeks 5 and 9 you will prepare a 4 slide PowerPoint presentation, combining and explaining theories that we have examined. The PowerPoint will need to be submitted in Blackboard. Assignments must be submitted as a PowerPoint or a pdf. Assignments submitted as a comment, submission text or .pages, will not be accepted and will receive a zero. If I am not able to open your attachment you will receive a zero. See Blackboard for more details.

III. EXAMS: You have 4 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. 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.

Absences and Late comers: Class begins promptly at the start time, please be on time. If you miss class, **you will not** be able to make up any activities completed in class. It is your responsibility to reach out to a classmate for missed notes.

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. Plan on bringing a notebook and writing utensil to take notes in this class.

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.

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal. For more information, please visit: <https://www.utep.edu/titleix/pregnancy-and-parenting.html>

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ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Students are not allowed to submit assignments that were used in another class. Regardless of whether they authored them or not, students are not allowed to repurpose their own assignments. In these cases, students will receive a zero on the assignment and will not get the opportunity to resubmit.

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 (this syllabus). 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.

Civility Statement: My promise to my students is to always provide a learning environment appropriate for academic knowledge, discussion, and debate. For this to occur, each learner will respect what others say and avoid insults, interruptions, and disrespect. We will avoid becoming politically charged when discussing sensitive topics.

We all come to the table with a variety of experiences and viewpoints, which means that we have so much to learn from each other! To get the most out of this opportunity, it is important that we do not shy away from differences. Rather, we should show respect for differences by seeking to understand, asking questions, clarifying our understanding, and/or respectfully explaining our own perspective. This way, everybody comes away with new perspectives on the issue and respecting others with different values or beliefs. If someone says something that bothers you for any reason, assume that your peer did not mean to be offensive and ask your peer to clarify what he or she meant. Then explain the impact it had on you. If your classmates tell you that something you said or wrote bothered them, assume that they are not attacking you, but that they are sharing something that might be important for you to know.

And a final note: Any discussion that becomes violent (emotional, mental, physical), students will be asked to leave the classroom and the behavior will be reported as a violent incident to the University to review. Your presence in the classroom will not be allowed until the university reviews the incident and considers you safe to return to the classroom.

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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 1/16 - 1/21 | What is Criminology, Crime, and Deviance? What is Theory? | Read Ch 1 |
| Week 2 1/22 – 1/28 | Classical Criminology and Deterrence Rational Choice Theory/Victim Precipitation | Read Ch. 2 |
| Week 3 1/29 – 2/4 | Biological and Biosocial Theories | Read Ch. 3 |
| Week 4 2/5 – 2/11 | Exam 1 covers Ch 1-3 and lectures. Exam will open 2/5/2024 at 12 a.m and is due Sunday in BB by 11:55pm on 2/11/2024. | |
| Week 5 2/12 – 2/18 | Psychological and Personality Theories The Criminal Mind | Read Ch. 4 |
| Week 6 2/19 – 2/25 | Differential Association/ Social Learning Theory Integrating Theory due Sunday by 11:55pm 2/25/2024 | Read Ch. 5 |
| Week 7 2/26 – 3/3 | Early Control Theories Social Bonding and Low Self Control | Read Ch. 6 |
| Week 8 3/4 – 3/10 | Exam 2 covers Ch 4-6 and lectures. Exam will open 3/4/2024 at 12 a.m and is due Sunday in BB by 11:55pm on 3/10/2024. | |
| Spring Break 3/11-3/17 | | |
| Week 9 3/18 – 3/24 | Labeling & Reintegrative Shaming Theory | Read Ch. 7 |
| Week 10 3/25 – 3/31 | Social Disorganization Integrating Theory due Sunday by 11:55pm 3/25/2024 | Read Ch 8 |
| Week 11 4/1 – 4/7 | Anomie/Strain Theories | Reach Ch 9 |
| Week 12 4/8 – 4/14 | Exam 3 covers Ch 7-9, and lectures. Exam will open 4/8/2024 at 12 a.m and is due Sunday in BB by 11:55pm on 4/14/2024. | |
| Week 13 4/15 – 4/21 | Feminist Theories | Read Ch 13 |
| Week 14 4/22 – 4/28 | Developmental and Life Course Theories | Read Ch. 14 |
| Week 15 4/29 – 5/2 | Review of Theory | |

**Final Exam will open on 5/2/2024 at 12pm (noon) and is due in BB by 5/7/2024 by 12pm (noon).
Exam covers Ch 13-15.**

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