

University of Texas El Paso
Department of Criminal Justice
CRIJ 4300-Special Topics: Sex offenses
Summer 2023 CRN: 33176

Professor: **Dr. Stacie Ordoñez**
Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: **May 15th, 2023 – July 2nd, 2023**

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.

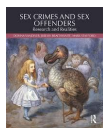
Course Description: CRIJ 4300-Special Topics: Sex Offenses is an upper division elective course in Criminal Justice, focusing on sex crimes, sex offenders, the criminal justice system, and policy. We will examine myths through a critical research and reality-based lens. The purpose of this course is to provide students with information that will benefit them when working with/studying such offenders. The course begins with an overview of the types of sex crimes that occur, along with their prevalence. Both criminological theories and theories specific to sex offending are identified and emphasis is placed on typologies, which emphasize the diversity that exists among sex offenders. Students will have the opportunity to explore problems with current trends and to discuss related issues. Emphasis is placed on disputing commonly held myths regarding this population of offenders.

Learning Goals and Objectives:

1. To be familiar with the factual information (fundamental principles) associated with sex offenders and sex offender research. Each student should be familiar with the following:
 - Number of and trends about sex offenders
 - History/background of sex/sex offender research
 - Theories related to sex crimes (biological, cognitive, psychosocial, etc.)
 - Types of sex crimes (rape, child sexual abuse, and child pornography)
 - Special populations of sex offenders (juvenile sex offenders, female sex offenders, and those who sexually abuse in the context of an institution)
2. To gain information about work with sex offenders. This includes the following:
 - Investigation approaches
 - Assessment and treatment approaches
 - Registration laws and government reaction

These objectives are achieved through various activities, including attending class, taking notes, reading assigned material, participating in class discussions, completing assignments, and preparing for exams.

Required Text



Vandiver, D., Braithwaite, J., & Stafford, M. (2017). *Sex Crimes and Sex Offenders: Research & Realities*. Taylor & Francis. ISBN: 9781138937093

Supplemental readings can be found in Blackboard.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Class Discussions | (25pts X 8) | 200 Points |
| Exams | (50 pts X 2) | 100 points |
| Written Assignments | (100pts X 2) | 200 Points |
| | | 500 points possible |

| Points | Letter Grade |
|---------|--------------|
| 450-500 | A |
| 400-449 | B |
| 350-399 | C |
| 300-349 | D |
| 0-299 | F |

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 obtaining the grade you want in this class.

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DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. 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 materials. **Initial posts are due by Tuesday, responses to peers are due by Friday at midnight.** *Initial posts entered after Tuesday will not be accepted and a zero will be entered regardless of participation in the discussion.* See Late work policy. 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.

II. Written Assignment-In weeks 3 and 6, you will have a writing assignment due. The assignment will require you to analyze and apply concepts we have covered in this class. In these assignments, I expect to see that you can define, describe, and apply material. Assignments must be submitted as a word document or a pdf. Assignments submitted as a comment, submission text or .pages, will not be accepted and will receive a zero. See Blackboard for more details. Assignments must be written using APA formatting guidelines, 12-point font, Times New Roman, double spaced. Use of in text citations and a reference page are required. See Blackboard for more details.

III. EXAMS- You will have 2 exams in this class. Each exam is worth 50 points each. Exams will 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.**

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. This is an accelerated course; *it is not* a self-paced course. Assignments/discussions/exams must be completed in the week they are due.

Sensitive Topic Discussion: Students should expect to be exposed to sexual abuse information and details that may be uncomfortable or even traumatic to some. Please consider not taking this course if you believe you will be negatively affected by such information.

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.

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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

I will not drop any student for lack of attendance or activity. You must be responsible for that on your own. 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 expectations of this class and the terms of the contract (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.

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COURSE SCHEDULE

I reserve the right to add assignments and amend this schedule to suit the needs of the class

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic Coverage</u> | <u>Assignment</u> |
|-------------|--|---|
| Week 1 | Introduction to Course Defining Sex Crimes Prevalence & Recidivism of Sexual Offending Theory | Introduction Discussion Discussion 1 Due by 5/16 Read Chapters 1-2 & Lecture Presentation |
| Week 2 | Sex Behaviors Nuisance Sexual Behaviors | Discussion Due by 5/23 Review Lecture Presentations |
| Week 3 | Rape Groth's Typology of Rapists Sexually Motivated Non-Sexually Motivated | Discussion Due by 5/30 Read Ch 3 and Lecture Presentations |
| | Written Assignment Due 6/4/2023 | |
| Week 4 | Child Sexual Abuse Pedophile vs Hebephile Child Pornography Exposure to Pornography | Discussion Due by 6/6 Read Ch 4-5 Lecture slides |
| | EXAM 1 covers weeks 1- 4 Due by Sunday 6/11/2023 at 11:59pm | |
| Week 5 | Juvenile Sex Offenders Female Sex Offenders | Discussion Due by 6/13 Read Ch 6-7 |
| Week 6 | Institutional Sexual Abuse Institutional Myths Investigations of Sex Crimes & Sex Offenders Registration Laws | Discussion Due by 6/20 Read Ch 8-11 |
| | Written Assignment Due 6/25/2023 | |
| Week 7 | Risk Assessments & Treatment Human Sex Trafficking Documentary | Discussion Due by 6/27 Lecture slides |

FINAL EXAM 2 covers weeks 5-8 due by on 7/2/2023 by 11:59pm