University of Texas El Paso
Department of Criminal Justice
CRIJ 4300-Special Topics: Social Psychology and the Law
Summer 2024 CRN: 32116

Professor:  Dr. Stacie Ordoñez
Department of Criminal Justice
E-mail: saordonez@utep.edu
Office: 915-747-7674

Class Dates:  May 13th, 2024 to June 28th, 2024

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: Social Psychology and the Law  This course introduces you to the field of psychology and the law, particularly in relation to key debates, theories, and application to real-world settings. The course will highlight the challenges associated with working at the intersection of the fields of social psychology and law. We will integrate ideas, findings, and logic between the fields. Overall, students will gain general knowledge about how social psychology informs legal contexts, and exciting new directions in the study of social psychology and law.

Learning Goals and Objectives:
Understand and apply concepts that are studied across the fields of Criminal Justice, Psychology and Sociology.

Required Text

Supplemental readings can be found in Blackboard.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Class Discussions  (25pts X 4)  100 Points
Exams  (100 pts X 2)  200 points
Written Assignments  (100pts X 2)  200 Points
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 obtaining the grade you want in this class.

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 sensitive topic 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.

**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](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.**

**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.

**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.
# CRIJ 4300 - Special Topics: Social Psychology and the Law

## Summer 2024 CRN: 32116

### COURSE SCHEDULE

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic Coverage</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Intersection of Criminal Justice &amp; Psychology</td>
<td>Introduction Discussion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Read Chapters 1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Crime and Police</td>
<td>Discussion Due by 5/22</td>
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<td>Read Chapters 3-4</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Human Instincts</td>
<td>Written Assignment</td>
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<td>Read 5-6</td>
<td>Due 6/2/2024</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Criminal Suspects</td>
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<td>Read Ch 7-8</td>
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**EXAM 1 covers weeks 1-4 Due by Sunday 6/9/2024 at 11:59pm**

| Week 5 | Dispute Resolution                                   | Discussion Due by 6/12            |
|        | Read Ch 9-10                                         |                                   |
| Week 6 | Courts                                               | Written Assignment                |
|        | Read Ch 11-12                                        | Due 6/23/2024                     |
| Week 7 | Juries and Corrections                                | Discussion Due by 6/25            |
|        | Read Ch 13-15                                        |                                   |

**FINAL EXAM 2 covers weeks 5-8 due by on 6/28/2024 by 11:59pm**