

# CRIJ 4315- Homicide Spring 2019 (CRN# 28792)

**Professor:** Dr. Stacie Ordoñez  
Department of Criminal Justice  
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**Class Dates:** Jan 22, 2019 - May 5, 2019  
Tues & Thurs 10:30am-11:50am  
Geology Room 123

**Office Hours:** Education Bldg Rm 111  
915-747-7674  
Tue, Thur 9-10am, 1230-2pm or by appointment

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## **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

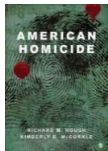
This course provides a description, discussion, and evaluation of the various types of homicide. Particular attention is given to examining the patterns and trends in homicide as well as the various theoretical explanations for why offenders engage in homicide. Topics to be covered include intimate partner homicide, children who kill, infanticide, mass and spree murder, and serial murder. The course will also focus on the process of solving homicides including investigation techniques, evidence, interrogation, investigative profiling, and cold case squads.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Following the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe the historical trends of homicide and the definitions of homicide
2. Define and distinguish between the different forms of confrontational and intimate homicide
3. Compare and contrast mass and spree murder and the typologies of motive.

## **REQUIRED TEXT:**



### **American Homicide**

Hough and McCorkle 2017  
ISBN: 9781483384146

## **Supplemental Required Readings:**

Castle, Tammy and Hensley, Christopher. 2002. Serial Killers with Military Experience: Applying Learning Theory to Serial Murder. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*.

Fox, James Alan and Levin, Jack. 2003. Mass Murder: An Analysis of Extreme Violence. *Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies*.

Furbee, R. Brent. 2006. Criminal Poisoning: Medical Murderers. *Clinics in Laboratory Medicine*.

Langman, Peter. 2009. Rampage School Shooters: A Typology. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*.

Moffatt, Gregory K., and Nicholas W. Hersey. 2010. Typical and Atypical Homicide: Investigative Differences and Cold Case Profiling. *The Forensic Examiner*.

Simons, Cassandra L. 2001. Antisocial Personality Disorder in Serial Killers: The Thrill of the Kill. *The Justice Professional*.

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## SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

In Class Activities		100 Points
Exams	(50 pts X 3)	150 points
Written Assignments	(100 pts x 2)	200 Points

**GRADING SCALE:** **450 points possible**

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
405-450	90-100	A
360-404	80-89	B
315-359	70-79	C
270-314	60-69	D
0-269	0-59	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 494 points which is an 89.8, you will receive a B. You are responsible for obtaining the grade you want in this class.**

## DETAILS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### I. Written Assignment

In week 7 and week 14, 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.**

### LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Due dates are posted in Blackboard. Plan accordingly. I do not accept late assignments. I understand that life happens and sometimes things come up that we don't expect, don't wait until the last minute to submit assignments. Exceptions can be made at my discretion.

### II. In Class Activities

Activities will be completed in class that are not scheduled but attendance is required to obtain the points. If you are absent, you can't make up missed class activities.

**III. EXAMS:** You will have 3 exams in this class. Each exam is worth 50 points each (**SEE schedule for exam dates**)

- A. **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.
- B. **Missed Exams CANNOT be made up.**

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### IV. Instructor's Policies

**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.

### 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](mailto:saordonez@utep.edu). Complete withdrawals from all classes in the same semester do not count against the 6 drop limit.