

CRIJ 4315- Homicide Spring 2023 (CRN# 26522)

Professor: Dr. Stacie Ordoñez
Department of Criminal Justice
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Class Dates: January 17th- May 4th, 2023
Tues & Thurs 12:00pm – 1:20pm
Education Bldg Room 114

Office Hours: Education Bldg. Rm 111
915-747-7674
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am -10:00 am, 2:00pm-3:00pm or by appointment

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

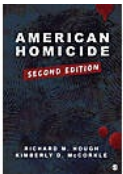
This course provides a description, discussion, and evaluation of the various types of homicide. Particular attention is given to examining the patterns and trends in homicide as well as the various theoretical explanations for why offenders engage in homicide. Topics to be covered include intimate partner 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, 2nd Ed. 2020

Hough and McCorkle
ISBN: 9781544356037

Supplemental Required Readings can be found in Blackboard. See Schedule for required readings.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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

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

GRADING SCALE: 450 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 an 89%, 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. 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. 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

II. 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. 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. If I am not able to open your attachment you will receive a zero. See Blackboard for more details.

III. Serial Killer Presentation: In week 10 and 11 you will have a group presentation to review an assigned serial killer. Power Point presentation is required. More instruction with presentation expectations will be provided in week 9. 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. If you are absent for group/topic assignments, you will not be assigned later. You will receive a zero for group presentations.

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

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.

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. If you ill, please do not come to class. It is your responsibility to reach out to a classmate for missed notes.

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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

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. 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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*I reserve the 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 1/17 - 1/22	Welcome to Class	Syllabus/Lecture
Week 2 1/23 - 1/29	What you think you know Murder by Numbers	Read Ch 1-3
Week 3 1/30 - 2/5	Theories of Homicide Medical Murder	Read Ch. 4 and Furbee Article
Week 4 2/6 - 2/12	Confrontational Homicide	Read Ch. 5
Week 5 2/13 - 2/19	Open Discussion Exam 1 over Chapter 1-5 and lecture material due 2/19/2023 by 11:55pm	
Week 6 2/20 - 2/26	Intimate Partner Homicide	Read Ch. 6
Week 7 2/27 - 3/5	All in the Family	Read Ch. 7
Week 8 3/6 - 3/12	Children who Kill Written assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm on 3/12/2023	Lecture
Spring Break 3/13-3/19- Be Safe. Make good choices.		
Week 9 3/20 - 3/26	School Killings and Mass Killings Group Selections	Read Ch. 8-9, Read Fox & Levin Article Langman Article and Phillips Article
Week 10 3/27 - 4/2	Open Discussion Exam 2 over Chapter 6-9 and Lecture Materials due 4/2/2023 by 11:55pm	
Week 11 4/3 - 4/9	Serial Killing Group Presentations due in Bb 4/5/2023 Group Presentations in Class begin 4/6/23	Read Ch. 11, Castle & Hensley and Simons Articles
Week 12 4/10 - 4/16	Serial Killing Cont. Group Presentations in Class	
Week 13 4/17 - 4/23	Wrongful Convictions/False Confessions	Lecture
Week 14 4/24 - 4/30	Solving Homicides Murder in Court Written assessment due Sunday by 11:55pm 4/30/2023	Read Ch. 13-15 Moffatt & Hersey Article
Week 15 5/1 - 5/4	Future of Homicide/Homicide in Review	

**Exam opens on 5/4/2023 at 12pm (noon). Final Exam Due in BB by 5/9/2022 by 12pm (noon).
Exam covers Ch 11-15.**

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