

CRIJ 4300: Law, Justice, and Society

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Office Hours: By appointment only
CRN: 15857

Course Overview and Objectives

This class is about the different ways that the law, justice system, and society affect the criminal justice system. Definitions of key terms will be discussed along with its relationship of law to justice and society. This class will discuss the various aspects of modern American law, how law and society impact one another, women and the law, and racial minorities and law. By the end of the semester, students will understand the different ways the law, justice system, and society are impacted by the criminal justice system. Learning about society through a sociological lens, students will also develop an increased understanding for all persons.

Required Textbook

Anthony Walsh, Craig Hemmens, & Marianne Hudson. (2022). Law, Justice, and Society: A Sociolegal Introduction. 6th Edition. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0197619261

Class Format:

This course is NOT self-paced. Instead, this course is based on weekly modules that open each Monday morning at 12:30am and close the following Sunday at 11:59PM (Mountain Standard Time). If students fail to submit any required work before the module closes they will receive a grade of zero (0) for that assignment—no exceptions!

As outlined in the syllabus below, each weekly module will focus on one chapter from our textbook. For each of these chapters, I will prepare a chapter outline that is intended to provide guidance and structure to students as they read the chapter. Students should read this outline before reading the chapter. Students are also encouraged to read the conclusions at the end of each chapter and to pay close attention to the “key terms” that are found in the textbook for each chapter.

All exams and written assignments are “open book” and “open notes,” meaning that students can use any class materials they wish when completing these assignments. However, they cannot “collaborate” in any way with any person (whether they are a fellow student or not) when completing the assignments. Doing so constitutes cheating and will be dealt with per the policy on academic dishonesty specified later in the syllabus.

REQUIREMENTS:

Exams: Your grade in this class will be based on 1 quiz, 3 exams and 13 discussion boards. Exams are to be taken on the week stated in the syllabus. Make-up exams may only be

acceptable under extreme circumstances, such as a medical or personal emergency. I must warn you, however, that I base these decisions on a very narrow definition of extreme. The student must provide me with proper documentation to qualify for a make-up (documentation does not, unfortunately, guarantee that a make-up will be given). Missed exams will be assigned a grade of zero (0). All makeup exams, if granted, must be completed within one week of the original exam date. Each exam is worth 100 points for a total of 300 points. Again, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned to each exam not submitted by the time the respective weekly module closes. Students will have 90 minutes (1 hour and 30 minutes) to complete the exam once they begin. The Syllabus quiz will be available at the start of the class and will be due on **Thursday at 11:59 PM** of the welcome week. Exams will be available on Monday and will close at **11:59PM on Sunday** (Mountain Standard Time).

Discussion Boards: Students will be given a written assignment on the week stated in the syllabus. These assignments consist of answering specific questions regarding the chapters for that week. The original post must have a word minimum of at least 300 words. Discussion boards will be graded based on the context of the answers and responses. Responses should contribute to the conversation. It should NOT be a simple “I agree/disagree.” Discussion board grades will be made up of two separate parts. Students must first submit their **original post by Thursday at 11:59 PM**. For every day that the post is late one point will be deducted. Students must then respond to at least **2 peers by Sunday at 11:59 PM**. For every missing response 1.5 points will be deducted. There will be 13-chapter discussion boards and one introductory discussion board, and each is worth 10 points (140 points total). Make-up assignments may only be acceptable under extreme circumstances and all makeup assignments, if granted, must be completed within one week of the original assignment date.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION:

Your final grade in this class will be determined based on the exams and written assignments.

Exam 1	100 Points
Exam 2	100 Points
Exam 3	100 Points
Syllabus Quiz	50 Points
Introductory DB	10 Points
Discussion Board 1	10 Points
Discussion Board 2	10 Points
Discussion Board 3	10 Points
Discussion Board 4	10 Points
Discussion Board 5	10 Points
Discussion Board 6	10 Points
Discussion Board 7	10 Points
Discussion Board 8	10 Points
Discussion Board 9	10 Points

Discussion Board 10	10	Points
Discussion Board 11	10	Points
Discussion Board 12	10	Points
<u>Discussion Board 13</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Points</u>

Total Points **490 Points**

Final Grade Distribution:

490-441	Points=A
440-392	Points=B
391-343	Points=C
342-0	Points=F

Please note:

I have right to make any changes to the course or syllabus and any changes will be announced ahead of time in an announcement and/or email. There will be no curve used in grading, no grades will be dropped, and there will be no extra credit. Do not contact me at the end of the semester regarding extra points for a particular letter grade. Your grade is an accomplishment, not a gift!

Important Reminders:

The exams are timed, meaning that once you begin the exam you will have a limited amount of time to complete and submit your work. The exams will automatically close and submit at the end of the time limit if you haven't already submitted it yourself. Do not wait until the last minute to begin exams. This way, if you do experience any difficulties with submissions, they can be corrected before the module closes.

Technology Issues

I will not provide you with technical assistance. Rather, you should familiarize yourself with the assistance available to you whenever you have problems. You should also ensure that you have the appropriate hardware and software.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be

referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

Accommodations and Support Services:

If a student needs an accommodation, then the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) located at UTEP need to be contacted. If you have a condition, which may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of the Center for Accommodations and Support Services.

A Final Note:

1. I will provide you clear instructions on class expectations.
2. I will check my email and will answer back to you as soon as possible.
3. I will provide graded feedback on your performance in a timely manner.
4. I will keep you informed about your graded progress in the class at all times and will make time to discuss your concerns when needed.
5. I am open to suggestions about improvement of the class and class related activities.
6. I will do all I can to ensure your learning and success in this class
7. If any changes in the course are to be implemented, I will ensure that the class is notified in a timely manner.
8. Read all postings on the bulletin board and all emails from me.
9. I strongly recommend that you check the course at least three times a week at minimum to keep up. Email messages are sent to your UTEP email address, so you will want to check your UTEP email several times a week, preferably each business day.
10. Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone’s responsibility to participate as fully as they can so everyone can get the most from the experience.

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings	Assignments
1	Oct. 23-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• Law: Its Function and Purpose• Justice and the Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syllabus• Welcome Presentation• Chapters 1 and 2 Outline• Chapters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syllabus Quiz• Introductory Discussion Board• Discussion Board 1• Discussion Board 2
2	Oct. 30-Nov. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making Law• Federal and State Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapters 3 and 4 Outline• Chapters 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion Board 3• Discussion Board 4• Exam 1

3	Nov. 6-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and Criminal Law • Criminal Procedure • Civil and Administrative Law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 5, 6, and 7 Outline • Chapters 5, 6 and 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion board 5 • Discussion Board 6 • Discussion board 7
4	Nov. 13-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile Justice • The Law and Social Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 8 and 9 Outline • Chapters 8 and 9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion board 8 • Discussion board 9 • Exam 2
5	Nov. 20 - 26*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Limits of Social Control • Law, Social Change, and the Class Struggle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 10 and 11 Outline • Chapters 10 and 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board 10 • Discussion board 11
6	Nov 27- Dec. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and the Law • Racial Minorities and the Law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 12 and 13 outline • Chapters 12 and 13 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board 12 • Discussion Board 13
7	Dec 4-11	-	-	Final

*Note: Nov 23- 24 is Thanksgiving Holiday, and the University is closed. However, since this is an online course, students are still allowed to work on assignments if they want to. If you choose not to that is your choice, however, the assignments are still due on the date listed on the syllabus.