

CRIMINOLOGY
CJUS 3600
FALL 2015

Instructor: Jessica Craig, Ph.D.

Term: Fall 2015

Class meeting: TR 11 AM – 12:20 PM

Classroom: ENV 110

INSTRUCTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office location: Chilton Hall, Office 273L

E-mail (preferred): Jessica.Craig@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-3464

Office hours: 12:30-2 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 3600) in the subject line of the mail. Only emails sent through your Eagle Connect email account (username@unt.edu) will receive a response. You can expect to receive a response within 48 hours during the week and 72 hours on the weekend. If you have not received a response within that time, please email me back as it may have gotten lost.

Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Crime is a complex problem. There are so many seemingly distinct types of crime, and crimes occur for different reasons and under different circumstances. In fact, the complexity of crime is increasing. For example, the globalization of communications (e.g., the internet) and conflict (e.g., terrorism) had substantial impacts on the nature of crime. Despite this complexity, it is imperative that we gain as great an understanding of crime as possible through criminology. Criminology can be defined as the study of the nature of crime, its causes, and the systemic practices that (re)produce patterns of harm. At its core, criminology attempts to understand what crime is and why it occurs. We will study the major theoretical traditions that have emerged over the past several centuries to offer insight into the crime problem. We will also evaluate each theory using extant research and identify policy implications.

COURSE GOALS

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- 1) Articulate the shortcomings of various definitions of crime and explain the social construction of crime and criminals.
- 2) Identify and explain all the major schools of criminology.
- 3) Evaluate criminological theories using empirical evidence.
- 4) Apply theory and research and formulate criminal justice policy.

REQUIRED READINGS

Anthony, Walsh & Hemmens, Craig. (2014). *Introduction to Criminology: A Text Reader* (3rd Edition). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishing.

NOTE: If a student chooses to purchase anything other than the current edition of the assigned course text, it is their responsibility to ensure access to and familiarity with the most up-to-date course materials.

COURSE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Please make sure to have your official UNT email forwarded to your preferred email address (if different) to receive important updates, changes, announcements, class cancellations (if applicable), and generally, so I can reach you if necessary.

Before you email Dr. Craig with a question, make sure to review this syllabus. Most questions are answered in this document.

The announcement board in Blackboard, and email, will be used for primary communication to the class as a whole. I advise you check the announcements section frequently.

Important: It is your responsibility to utilize a computer system that works and is compatible with the UNT online system/Blackboard Learn.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined based on your performance on four exams, eight pop quizzes, in-class discussions, and four Blackboard discussions. There are a total of 570 points that can be earned in this class.

Exams: 4 @ 100 points each

Pop Quizzes: 8 @ 10 points each

In-Class Discussions: 3 @ 10 points each

Blackboard Discussions: 4 @ 15 points each

Grading Scale: 513 – 570 = A

456-512 = B

399-455 = C

342-398 = D

341 or fewer points = F

Exams: There will be four exams administered in this course for a total of 400 points. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions that will count for 2 points each. The exams are not comprehensive and will include only material assigned up until the time of the test. You will need to bring a green Scantron (Form 882-E) to each exam along with a No. 2 pencil. Cell phone use is prohibited during exams. Students are also prohibited from wearing headphones or hats with brims.

Pop Quizzes: There will be 9 unannounced quizzes administered in this course, each worth 10 points. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped so only 8 of these quizzes will count towards your final grade. Each quiz will consist of 5 multiple choice and true/false questions that will count for two points each. These quizzes are given throughout the semester to see if you have read the material required for that day. Make sure to bring paper and either a black/blue pen or pencil to class each day so you can take the quiz. There is no make-up of these quizzes unless you have a valid excuse from the University.

In-Class Discussions: Students will break into small groups three times this semester in order to evaluate the theory we discussed that day. They will have a worksheet that they are expected to discuss and complete in class. This worksheet will be turned in at the end of each class and graded. Each of these discussion worksheets is worth 10 points.

Blackboard Discussions: During the semester the professor will provide 4 different discussion prompts on Blackboard. Students are first required to post an original response to the prompt. These posts should be 2-3 paragraphs long (a paragraph is at least four complete sentences) and will be worth 10 points. **This portion of the assignment is referred to as “Blackboard Post.”** Each student must then *appropriately and professionally* **respond** to at least one other student’s post. These responses should also be 2-3 paragraphs long and will be worth 5 points. **This portion of the assignment is referred to as “Blackboard Response.”**

Note that you will not be able to see any other students’ discussions until you have first submitted your own discussion post. The Blackboard Responses will be due 3 days after the Blackboard Posts are due. Both will be due on their particular due date by 11:59 PM. See the schedule (attached) for specific due dates.

Extra credit: If an opportunity for extra credit presents itself, it will be discussed in class and available to the entire class at the discretion of the instructor. There will be no individual opportunities for extra credit.

Make-up exams: If a student misses an exam, they must contact the instructor **prior** to the scheduled exam date. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of a university approved absence due to extreme circumstances, with documentation, at the discretion of the instructor. (Work, work travel, vacation, etc. do not constitute an emergency and are not excuses warranting the issuance of a make-up). In the event that the instructor approves the make-up exam, students will complete the make-up exam within one week of the original scheduled exam date—if one week passes and the make-up exam has not been completed, there will be no further opportunities to replace this grade. Make-up exams may be given in an alternate essay format.

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend each scheduled class meeting having completed the assigned readings and prepared for discussion. In the event of an absence, students are responsible for the material covered during each class session. I do not repeat class lectures. Frequent absences will make it very difficult to obtain an acceptable grade in this course.

Students that have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of “F.” Last day to withdraw with a grade of “W” is November 2, 2015.

Make-Up Policy

There will be no opportunities to make up any missed coursework with the exception of authorized absences according to University policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations. I reserve the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Students should notify me prior to missing an assignment, if possible. Those in athletics, those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed to make up assignments if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. I must have written documentation in advance that you will be away from class for the absence to be excused.

Student Behavior and University Policy:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr

Additionally, disruptive behaviors such as arriving late, having a conversation while someone else is talking, profanity, sleeping, text messaging, using laptops/tablets for anything other than course related activities, cell phones going off during class, etc. are not acceptable. Students repeatedly engaging in any of these behaviors may be asked to leave the classroom.

Additional policies:

- Recording devices are not allowed in the classroom unless specifically approved by the instructor.
- Tobacco products of any kind (including e-cigs) are not allowed in the classroom.
- Cell phones, pagers, or any other electronic device that makes noise should be turned off before class.
- Due to liability concerns and the content of course discussions, children are not permitted in the classroom at any time.
- Laptops and similar devices can be used during class as long as they are used for taking notes and/or other related classroom functions. If used for surfing the web, instant messaging, sending emails or otherwise, they will not be allowed in the classroom.

To be successful at learning and understanding the material in this class, it is essential that you read and complete the assigned material and engage in thoughtful discussions both in class and online. Your active participation, along with your willingness to engage in thoughtful

discussions regarding criminological theory will be taken into account at all times during the semester.

A classroom, especially during times of discussion, is a place to express ideas, opinions, and engage in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times *or their status in the course will be examined*. In sum, simply be appropriate during all interactions. Each student brings unique insight and perspectives, and that can make for a very interesting and lively discussion forum, but just please be appropriate and respectful of others. **Please review the undergraduate catalog concerning conduct which adversely affects the university community.**

Authorized Absences

Absences are authorized only in cases of participation in school sponsored activities and/or religious holidays. For an excused absence due to a school sponsored activity, students must be approved in advance by the department chair and academic dean. Within three days after the absence, students must obtain authorized absence cards from the Dean of Students for presentation to instructor. Students who wish to request an excused absence for religious holidays can do so and will be excused from class as long as they make a request within the required time frame set by the University (see the most recent undergraduate catalog). Notification must be in writing so that I may have it for my records. You must arrange to make up any work missed during the excused religious absence or school sponsored activity.

Academic Dishonesty/Integrity

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Office of Disability Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that

students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.

Students can access resources and information regarding disability accommodations in the Academic Support tab in Blackboard Learn. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Student Evaluation of Instruction

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught.

Syllabus Changes

I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that the syllabus must be modified. In the case that the syllabus needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student's responsibility to check announcements/email so that any and all syllabus changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements does not constitute a defense against missed assignments, test dates, and other applicable changes.

Succeed at UNT

UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grown. And, as a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here's how to succeed at UNT: Show up. Find Support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go success.unt.edu/.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at my.unt.edu. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas in the buildings where your classes are held, 2) determine how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and 3) identify where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates at the following link:
essc.unt.edu/registrar/ferpa.html

Miscellaneous:

The material posted online is my personal intellectual property or that of the University of North Texas. You may not utilize the material for other than class purposes.

A variety of resources services are available to students in the Academic Support tab in Blackboard Learn.

Academic Calendar

[NOTE: Read the assigned reading for each day prior to coming to class]

Date	Topic and Reading Assignment
8/25	Topic: Course Introduction Readings: None
8/27	Topic: Introduction and Overview of Crime and Criminology Readings: Section 1
9/1	Topic: Measuring Crime and Criminal Behavior Readings: Section 2, Readings 2 and 4
9/3	Topic: Victimology Readings: Section 3, Reading 5
9/8	Topic: Early Schools of Criminology and Modern Counterparts Readings: Section 4, Reading 8
9/10	Topic: Criminal Decision-Making DISCUSSION POST 1 DUE 9/10 AT 11:59 PM RESPONSE DUE 9/13 AT 11:59 PM
9/15	<i>Exam 1- Sections 1-4</i>
9/17	Topic: Social Structural Theories: Social Disorganization and Subcultural Theories Readings: Section 5, Reading 9 <i>Discussion Group 1</i>
9/22	Topic: Social Structural Theories: Anomie and Strain Theories Readings: Readings 10 and 11
9/24	Topic: Social Process Theories: Differential Association and Social Learning Reading: Section 6 <i>Discussion Group 2</i>
9/29	Topic: Social Process Theories: Control Theories Reading: Reading 13
10/1	Topic: Social Process Theories: Labeling and Techniques of Neutralization Reading: Reading 12 DISCUSSION POST 2 DUE 10/1 AT 11:59 PM RESPONSE DUE 10/4 AT 11:59 PM
10/6	Topic: Psychosocial Theories Readings: Section 8, Reading 17
10/8	<i>Exam 2- Sections 5, 6, and 8</i>
10/13	Topic: Biosocial Approaches Readings: Section 9, Reading 18 <i>Discussion Group 3</i>

- 10/15** Topic: Developmental Theories
Readings: Section 10, Readings 21 and 22
- 10/20** Topic: Developmental Theories
- 10/22** Topic: Developmental Theories

Topic: Violent Crimes
Readings: Look on Blackboard
- 10/27** *Class will attend the Fall Forum in the Coliseum*
DISCUSSION POST 3 DUE 10/27
RESPONSE DUE 10/30
- 10/29** Topic: Multiple Murder and Terrorism
Readings: Section 12, Recommended: Readings 25 and 26
- 11/3** Topic: Serial Killers
- 11/5** *Exam 3- Sections 9-12*
- 11/10** Topic: Property Crime
Readings: Section 13, Reading 27 and 28
- 11/12** Topic: Public Order Crimes: Alcohol and Prostitution
Readings: Section 14, Reading 29

Topic: Public Order Crimes: Drugs
- 11/17** Readings: Reading 30
DISCUSSION POST 3 DUE 11/17
RESPONSE DUE 11/20
- 11/19** *NO CLASS- ASC ANNUAL CONFERENCE*
- 11/24** Topic: Public Order Crimes: Drugs
- 11/26** *NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING*
- 12/1** Topic: White-Collar and Organized Crime
Readings: Section 15, Reading 32
- 12/3** Topic: White-Collar and Organized Crime: Guest Lecture
- 12/8** *Exam 4- Sections 13-15*
NOTE TIME CHANGE: 10:30 AM-12:30 PM