

## *Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	CRIM4322
<i>Course Title</i>	Senior Seminar in Criminology
<i>Term</i>	Spring 2013
<i>Days &amp; Times</i>	Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30am-9:45am, SOM 2.714

### **Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Dr. Lynne M. Vieraitis
<i>Office Phone</i>	972-883-6901
<i>Email Address</i>	<a href="mailto:lynnev@utdallas.edu">lynnev@utdallas.edu</a>
<i>Office Location</i>	Greene Hall 2.120
<i>Office Hours</i>	Mondays 9:00am-11:00am

<i>Teaching Assistants</i>	Jessica Craig	Sarah El Sayed
<i>Email Address</i>	<a href="mailto:jmh101120@utdallas.edu">jmh101120@utdallas.edu</a>	sarah.elsayed@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	Greene Hall 2.510	Greene Hall 2.510
<i>Office Hours</i>	Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm & by appointment	

### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

**THIS COURSE IS RESTRICTED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE REQUIRED CLASSES OF THE MAJOR.**

### **Course Description**

CRIM4322 is a capstone course for seniors who have completed all the required courses of the major. We will review criminological theory, research and policy through readings and projects.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

- Understand and apply criminological theory to an explanation of crime or crime-related issue.
- Explain the policy implications of selected criminological theories.
- Understand and apply basic research methods.
- Develop a resume and cover letter.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

#### Recommended Materials

*The Criminal Justice Student Writer's Manual* by William A. Johnson, Jr., Richard P. Rettig, Gregory M. Scott, & Stephen M. Garrison (4<sup>th</sup> Edition).

*Criminological Theory: Context and Consequences* by J. Robert Lilly, Francis T. Cullen, & Richard A. Ball (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) or any criminological theory textbook or reader.

## **Assignments & Academic Calendar (Subject To Change)**

*Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates*

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL MEET IN THE CLASSROOM ONLY 3 TIMES DURING THE SEMESTER. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. ALL OTHER CLASS DAYS AND TIMES MAY BE USED TO WORK ON YOUR PROJECTS OR SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM THE PROFESSOR OR THE TA ON PROJECTS 1 AND 2. IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU SUBMIT A ROUGH DRAFT OF PROJECTS 1 AND 2 TO THE TA FOR REVIEW NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE. DRAFTS SUBMITTED LESS THAN ONE WEEK WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED A REVIEW.

**MONDAY, JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>: Course Overview; Instructions for Projects 1 and 3 in Class; ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>: Project 1 Descriptive Sentence Due NO LATER THAN 8:30AM (0-2 points possible). Please submit at least 1 complete sentence that describes the focus of Project 1 via the Assignment Dropbox in eLearning anytime before the deadline.**

**Please submit each assignment as an attachment (EXCEPT DESCRIPTIVE SENTENCES FOR PROJECTS 1 AND 2 WHICH MAY BE TYPED DIRECTLY INTO THE MESSAGE) saved (in MSWord) with your last name and the name of the assignment.**

**Example: SmithProject1Outline.docx**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>: Typed Outline & References (APA format) for Project 1 Due NO LATER THAN 8:30am (0-2 points possible). Please submit this assignment via the Assignment Dropbox in eLearning anytime before the deadline.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> (PLEASE RESERVE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> IF NEEDED): Project 1 DUE IN CLASS AT 8:30am; ELECTRONIC COPIES OF PROJECT 1 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. YOU MUST ALSO SUBMIT PROJECT 1 TO TURNITIN.COM PRIOR TO 8:30am. Please be aware that it may take up to 24 hours for TurnItIn to generate a report. If you are concerned about whether you have cited referenced materials properly use the services of the Writing Center or TurnItIn.com.**

**Review of Research Methods; Instructions for Project 2; ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>: Project 2 Topic Due NO LATER THAN 8:30am (0-2 points possible). Please submit at least 1 complete sentence that describes the topic of Project 2 via the Assignment Dropbox in eLearning anytime before the deadline.**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>: Typed Outline & References (APA format) for Project 2 Due NO LATER THAN 8:30am (0-2 points possible). Please submit this assignment via the Assignment Dropbox in eLearning anytime before the deadline.**

**MONDAY, APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>: Typed Rough Draft of “SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS RESEARCH” SECTION Due for Project 2 NO LATER THAN 8:30am (0-2 points possible). Please submit this assignment via the Assignment Dropbox in eLearning anytime before the deadline.**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>: LAST DAY OF CLASS. PROJECTS 2 AND 3 DUE IN CLASS AT 8:30am. ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. YOU MUST ALSO SUBMIT A COPY OF PROJECT 2 TO TURNITIN.COM PRIOR TO 8:30am. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**

### **Grading Policy**

Excellent Work = A = 94 - 100; A- = 90-93 points

Good Work = B+ = 87-89; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83 points

Average Work = C+ = 77-79; C = 74-76; C- = 70-73 points

Below Average Work = D+ = 67-69; D = 64-66; D- = 60-63 points

Unacceptable Work = F = < 60 points

**Project 1 (35 points): Theory and Policy:** Description of the crime problem, theory-based explanation of the problem and policy recommendations. 8-10 pages. Detailed instructions will be given on the first day of class. A hard copy of your paper must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. **Electronic copies will NOT be accepted. YOU MUST SUBMIT A COPY TO TURNITIN.COM PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE AND TIME. IF YOU TURN IN A HARD COPY BUT NOT A COPY TO TURNITIN.COM YOU WILL RECEIVE A “ZERO” ON THE PROJECT. YOU MUST SUBMIT THE SAME COPY TO TURNITIN.COM AS THE COPY YOU TURN IN TO ME.**

**Project 2 (40 points): Research Proposal:** The purpose of this assignment is to become familiar with empirical research and to construct a research proposal. Write an annotated bibliography of at least 4 peer-reviewed journal articles you have found and read related to your topic. After carefully reading each article (as many times as necessary), write a brief (one to two paragraph) summary of the article in your own words. What was the purpose of the study, how did they examine the problem, what were their findings, what were their conclusions? Next, design a research project to study a crime problem. Identify the problem you will examine and why it is important; identify the factors (independent variables) you think are correlated with the problem (dependent variable); describe your approach—research design, data sources. Detailed instructions will be given in class prior to the due date. **Electronic copies will NOT be accepted. YOU MUST SUBMIT A COPY TO TURNITIN.COM PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE AND TIME. IF YOU TURN IN A HARD COPY BUT NOT A COPY TO TURNITIN.COM YOU WILL RECEIVE A “ZERO” ON THE PROJECT. YOU MUST SUBMIT THE SAME COPY TO TURNITIN.COM AS THE COPY YOU TURN IN TO ME.**

**Project 3 (15 points): Resume and Cover Letter or Resume and Personal Statement:** Students must have this assignment reviewed by the Career Center. You must turn in rough drafts (signed by the resume editor or his/her assistant at the Career Center) of the resume and cover letter (or personal statement) and final copies of the resume and cover letter (or personal statement). Electronic copies will NOT be accepted. You may have the Career Center review your rough drafts via their electronic submission system. If you do, be sure to print out the drafts with the comments showing and the e-mail from the editor to prove you had them review it.

**Assignments (10 points): Topics, Outlines and Rough Draft:** Each assignment is worth up to 2 points. Your participation grade will be based on your completion and timely submission of the assignments. Failure to complete and/or submit the assignments as outlined above will negatively impact your grade. Point values are designated above.

ALTHOUGH WE WILL NOT MEET AS A CLASS EVERY SCHEDULED CLASS PERIOD, DO NOT SCHEDULE WORK, DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS, VACATIONS, ETC. THAT CONFLICT WITH THESE DUE DATES. BY REGISTERING FOR THIS COURSE YOU HAVE AGREED TO THE PUBLISHED SCHEDULE. IF YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE A CONFLICT (INCLUDING RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS) ON A DAY THAT AN ASSIGNMENT IS DUE YOU MAY TURN IT IN PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE AND TIME. LATE WORK IS SUBJECT TO PENALTIES AS DESCRIBED BELOW.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:**

- 1. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY ON JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, MARCH 4 (OR 6<sup>TH</sup>), AND MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>.**
- 2. POINTS ARE DEDUCTED FOR NOT FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING FORMATTING AND CONTENT AND FOR TURNING IN WORK AFTER THE DEADLINE.**
- 3. YOU WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF “0” ON PROJECTS 1 AND 2 IF THEY ARE NOT SUBMITTED TO TURNITIN.COM.**
- 4. YOU MUST PROVIDE EVIDENCE THAT PROJECT 3 WAS REVIEWED BY AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CAREER CENTER TO RECEIVE FULL CREDIT.**

**Course Policies**

*Make-up exams*

N/A

*Extra Credit*

NONE

*Late Work*

Projects 1 and 2 are penalized 2 points per day beginning on the due date and time. Project 3 is penalized 1 point per day beginning on the due date and time. Failure to turn in the assignments on time will result in zero to partial credit.

*Special Assignments*

NONE

*Class Attendance*

REQUIRED. Please note that with the possible exceptions of the syllabus and grades, I do not post lectures, discussions, assignments, exams, or other class materials on eLearning. With the exception of assignments, course materials are not available electronically. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out from a classmate what you missed.

*Classroom Citizenship*

ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS TIME AND MEETINGS.

**Technical Support**

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

For further information on rules and regulations regarding student conduct, discipline, academic integrity, disability services, etc. please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>. Students should pay careful attention to the policies regarding Academic Integrity a portion of which is included below.

**Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.**

**Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.**

*These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*