

SOC 1307: Introduction to Crime & Criminology

Course	CRIM 1307
Course Title	Introduction to Crime & Criminology
Professors	Hoda Elsafadi & Wenyi Wang
Term	Summer 2025; Jun 2 - Aug 7
Meetings	Tuesday and Thursday; 10:00 – 12:15 PM
Class Location	SCI 2.215

Professor's Contact Information

Office Location	GR 2.510
Email Address	hoda.elsafadi@utdallas.edu & Wenyi.Wang@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	By appointment
Other Information	<p>Best way to contact us is through email. We do not regularly check eLearning messages. Only use your UTD email address to communicate with me.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will typically respond to emails within 24 hours. However, if we do not answer within 48 hours, try re-emailing us. Also, keep it in mind that responses to emails will take longer on weekends and holidays. - We will ONLY respond to emails that include: a subject, a salutation (Dear, Hello, etc.), a closing (at least your Full name), and proper grammar (no text speak).

General Course Information

Course Description (3 credit Hours)	<p>This course provides a foundational overview of crime and criminology within the United States. It explores the historical development of criminological thought and examines major theoretical explanations of criminal behavior and juvenile delinquency. Students will critically analyze the methods used to record and measure crime, investigate various crime typologies and criminal career pathways, and evaluate the societal impact of crime. The course also assesses contemporary public policies and strategies aimed at crime prevention and control, encouraging students to consider the broader social and institutional contexts that shape responses to crime.</p>
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define key concepts in criminology and describe the historical evolution of crime and criminal justice in the United States. 2. Differentiate among major criminological theories and apply them to real-world examples of crime and delinquency. 3. Analyze patterns and trends in crime data. 4. Evaluate various crime typologies and explain the life-course progression of criminal careers. 5. Critically assess public policies and practices related to crime control and prevention, including their social and ethical implications.

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	<p>6. Interpret and critique the methods used to measure and classify crime, considering issues of accuracy, bias, and systemic inequality.</p> <p>7. Communicate criminological concepts clearly through written and/or oral presentations grounded in scholarly literature.</p>
Required Texts & Materials	<p>Criminology: Theories, Patterns, and Typologies by Larry J. Siegel 12th Edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In addition to the textbook, we will periodically post web links, journal articles and other required reading assignments to the course eLearning site.
Course Modality	CRIM 1301 is scheduled as an in-person course

Assignment & Academic Calendar

(Topics, Readings Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)

Day of the Week	Date	Lectures, Assignments, and Tests
Tuesday	Jun 3	Syllabus and Information About the Course
Thursday	June 5	Chapter 1: Crime & Criminology
Tuesday	June 10	Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime
Thursday	June 12	Chapter 3: Victims and Victimization <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	June 17	Chapter 4: Rational Choice Theory <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	June 19	Chapter 5: Trait Theories <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	June 24	Chapter 6: Social Structure Theories <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	June 26	Chapter 7: Social Process Theories: Socialization and Society <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	July 1	Chapter 8: Critical Criminology and Restorative Justice <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	July 3	Midterm Exam (Midterm Grades Due July 9)
Tuesday	July 8	Chapter 9: Developmental Theories: Life Course, Latent Trait and Trajectory <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	July 10	Chapter 10: Interpersonal Violence <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	July 15	Chapter 11: Political Crime & Terrorism <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	July 17	Chapter 12: Property Crime <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	July 22	Chapter 13: Enterprise Crime: White Collar, Green, and Transnational Organized Crime <i>Student Current Event</i>

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Thursday	July 14	Chapter 14: Public Order Crime: Sex and Substance Abuse <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	July 29	Chapter 15: Crimes of the New Millennium: Cybercrime <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	July 31	Chapter 16: Criminal Justice: Process and Perspectives <i>Student Current Event</i>
Tuesday	Aug 5	Chapter 17: Police and the Courts: Investigation, Arrest, and Adjudication <i>Student Current Event</i>
Thursday	Aug 7	Final Exam
Tuesday	Aug 12	Final Project Presentations
Thursday	Aug 14	Final Project Presentations

Discussion Boards	Due Dates
Chapter 1 & 2	Monday, June 9, 2025
Chapter 3 & 4	Monday, June 16, 2025
Chapter 5 & 6	Monday, June 23, 2025
Chapter 7 & 8	Monday, June 30, 2025
Chapter 9 & 10	Monday, July 7, 2025
Chapter 11 & 12	Monday, July 14, 2025
Chapter 13 & 14	Monday, July 21, 2025
Chapter 15 & 16	Monday, July 28, 2025
Chapter 17	Monday, Aug 4, 2025

Grading Scale

Assignments	Points		Letter Grade	Points
Midterm	20 points		A	94-100
Final Exam	20 points		A-	90-93
Current Event	15 points		B+	88-89
Final Project	20 points		B	83-87
Discussion Board	15 points		B-	80-82
Attendance/Participation	10 points		C+	78-79
Total	100 points		C	73-77
			C-	70-72
			D+	68-69
			D	63-67
			D-	60-62
			F	Below 60

***Grading scale is in accordance with the University**

Course Requirements

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Assignments	Description
Midterm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In person - BRING SCANTRON - Will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. - You will have 1.5 hours to complete. - Open note: You may bring one sheet of white copy paper and handwrite your notes. - Midterm will cover the following chapters: - Chapters: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, & 8
Final Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In person - BRING SCANTRON - Will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. - You will have 1.5 hours to complete. - Open note: You may bring one sheet of white copy paper and handwrite your notes. - Final exam will cover the following chapters: - Chapters: 9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16, & 17
Current Event	<p>Each student is responsible to find a current event about the subject they are assigned to that week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You can use news articles, research articles, etc. - You must send me your specific topic and your references <u>a week in advance</u> via email to approve prior to your presentation date. - You will be required to make a PowerPoint presentation. - Must end presentation with five discussion questions. This way we can have discussions, meaning your classmates can have a chance to earn participate points. - Your presentations should not be more than 20mins. This way we have time to answer the discussion questions and have meaningful conversations after. - You are required to submit your presentation via eLearning by 11:59pm CST the night before you present.
Final Project	TBD
Discussion Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You are expected to submit two discussion questions and one response to your fellow classmates' questions by Monday at 11:59pm via eLearning <u>every week.</u> - These questions must reflect your knowledge on the chapters that will be discussed that week. - The first question must be about the chapter being taught on Tuesday and second question must be about the chapter that will be taught on Thursday.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You may pick any question to answer from your classmate’s discussion posts. - Your questions and responses/answers must give me the impression that you read the required readings from that week.
Attendance/Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You are expected to attend and participate in every class. - I will be taking attendance three time between the start of the course and to the midterm and from the midterm to the final exam. - You must prepare for the class discussion by thoughtfully reading the required materials. - You must contribute to class discussions by offering one’s own ideas, expanding upon another student’s ideas, and asking questions that are relevant to the course material. - You must actively listen and attend to the class discussion, including the professor and other students. - You must show respect for the professor and other students and not display or engage in disruptive or malicious behavior during class.

Course Policies

<p>Class Materials</p>	<p>The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course; however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student Access Ability accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p>
<p>Class Attendance</p>	<p>The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.</p>
<p>Class Participation</p>	<p>Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to university requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.</p>

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Class Recordings	Class will not be recorded.
Make-up Exams	Make up exams will be considered upon legitimate excuse.
Extra Credit	There is NO extra credit available in this course.
Late Work	Late work will NOT be accepted.
Comet Creed	<p><i>This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:</i></p> <p><i>“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”</i></p>
Academic Integrity	<p>The faculty expects from its students a high-level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.</p> <p>See https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/integrity</p> <p><u>Academic Dishonesty:</u></p> <p>Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment. Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here: https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/.</p> <p>AI You may not use AI like ChatGPT to write papers and other assignments for the course.</p>
Academic Support Resources	<p><i>The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.</i></p> <p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources.</p>
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the sections regarding the credit/no credit grading option and withdrawal from class.</i></p> <p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</p>

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<p>Technical Support</p>	<p>If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas Office of Information Technology Help Desk via e-mail at assist@utdallas.edu or via telephone at 972-883-2911. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The services include a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service at elearning@utdallas.edu, and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Helpdesk: https://ets.utdallas.edu/elearning/helpdesk</p>