

**CRIM 6300 Proseminar in Criminology**  
**Online/Blended Course Syllabus Fall 2017**

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**Course Information**

<i>Course</i>	CRIM 6300
<i>Number/Section</i>	
<i>Course Title</i>	Proseminar in Criminology (3 hours)
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2017
<i>Course Duration</i>	Tuesday, August 22 <sup>nd</sup> -Friday, October 6th

**Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Dr. Denise Paquette Boots, Program Head & Associate Professor of Criminology
<i>Office Phone</i>	972-883-6468
<i>Email Address</i>	<b>deniseboots@utdallas.edu</b>
<i>Office Location</i>	Green Hall 2.808
<i>Online Office Hours</i>	Tuesdays 10:30am-12:30pm
<i>Other Information</i>	Course meets online EXCEPT two live classes ( <b>mandatory</b> ): <b>MUST BRING LAPTOP FOR CLASS</b> <b>August 22<sup>nd</sup> 6-8:45pm</b> <b>September 26<sup>th</sup> 6-8:45pm</b>

**Meeting Room: Green Hall 2. 326 (San Antonio Room)**

**\*note different room than Course Lookup**

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

Program permission is required to enroll in this section.

**Course Description**

CRIM 6300 Proseminar in Criminology (3 semester hours):

Introduction to graduate study in criminology through exposure to issues surrounding concepts of crime, criminals and societal response. Students learn to examine critically the theoretical, methodological and policy issues in criminology and criminal justice.

**Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

- ☐ Present linkages between criminological and policy implications in the practice of criminal justice.
- ☐ Examine the history and evolution of crime and societal response.
- ☐ Students will analyze the various theoretical concepts within the discipline of Criminology.
- ☐ Students will acquire knowledge of criminological theory, research methods, statistics, and policy to contribute to our understanding of crime and criminality.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

1. *Crime & Justice in America* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition ONLY 2017) by Joycelyn Pollock  
Routledge/Taylor Francis  
ISBN: 978-0-3232-90692
2. *Criminology and Public Policy: Putting Theory to Work* (2010)  
edited by Hugh D. Barlow and Scott H. Decker  
Temple University Press  
ISBN: 978-1-4399-007-9
3. *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> edition ONLY)  
(2009)  
American Psychological Association  
ISBN: 978-1433805615

### *Required Materials*

Readings assigned in Course Modules via eLearning

### **Suggested Reading (Not Required)**

1. *The Craft of Research* (4<sup>th</sup> edition ONLY) (2016)  
Wayne Booth, Gregory Colomb, Joseph Williams, Joseph Bizup, & William  
FitzGerald  
University of Chicago Press  
ISBN: 978-0226239736

Textbooks and some other bookstore materials can be ordered online through Off-Campus Books <http://www.offcampusbooks.com> or the UT Dallas Bookstore <http://www.bkstr.com/texasatdallasstore/home>. They are also available in stock at both bookstores such as Off Campus Books on Campbell Road near campus and on Amazon.com.

### **Virtual Classroom Netiquette and Communication Styles**

**The key to doing well in any online/hybrid course is having the self-discipline to complete your reading, assignments, learning aids, and lectures on time.** Procrastination will only cause you problems with your grades in this class and all deadlines will be fairly and uniformly enforced. I strongly encourage you to treat this just like any other live class—set aside a dedicated time that you do your coursework, review this syllabus regularly to ensure that you are on task, and meet your deadlines early for all assignments. DO NOT wait until the last hours to try to get your assignments and tests submitted—any loss of internet connection or miscalculation on your part that leads to failure to hit your deadlines will result in a zero for that particular grade. Moreover, this is a graduate class. I expect you to be engaged and participatory.

Class participation will be graded weekly as I will assess your involvement and interaction on the class discussion boards. **NOTE: You will be expected to respond to at least one other student on every discussion board posting..** Your participation on the boards both in posting

your original reply and in responding to your classmates will impact your final class participation grade. Students who wait until the last day or hours before posts are due and who do not interact with other students will see their final class participation grades reflect this lack of effort.

More information on class participation scoring can be found below under the **Course Assignments and Deadlines** section of this syllabus. While online classes give you great flexibility in taking classes that will conform to your schedules and lifestyles, do not assume that “online” equates to an “easy” class.

- **DO** read the syllabus and mark your calendars with course deadlines and exam dates.
- **DO** read the emails sent to by the professor during the course. This will have important tips, reminders, and information on testing and grading. It is my only way to communicate with you!
- **DO** think critically and debate your points with facts and well-written arguments!
- **DO** post early on discussion boards, respond to your classmates as you read their posts, and respond to your messages on your posts.
- **DO NOT** wait to the last hours before a deadline to post your discussion boards or take your quizzes or exams.
- **DO** have respect for differences of opinion in our classroom. My job is to teach you *how* to think, not *what* to think.
- **DO NOT** expect an immediate response on emails, as I am not online frequently after hours, on weekends, or just before critical deadlines.
- **DO** communicate in email and in your class forums in a formal and professional language style appropriate for an educational setting.
- **DO** write in complete sentences, using proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation for all your posts, assignments, and communications.
- **DO NOT** use text messaging language anywhere in our virtual classroom, including in emails addressed to me.
- **DO** act and speak to your classmates and me as you would in a live class (knowing that I will be monitoring class correspondence and grade you accordingly).
- **DO NOT** abbreviate words or use contractions in your forum posts (e.g., don’t, isn’t, couldn’t, etc.)
- **DO** avoid all profanity, slang, or incomplete sentences in any of your postings or emails.
- **DO NOT** use personal attacks, inflammatory, racist, or sexist language on our class boards. Any student who abuses these privileges will have their final grade penalized accordingly and at my discretion.
- **DO NOT** use the discussion boards or email system in this class for anything unrelated to this course.

### **Sharing Confidential Information**

Students considering sharing personal information in email, in person, or within assignments or exams should be aware that faculty members and teaching/research assistants are required by UT Dallas policy to report information about sexual misconduct to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Per university policy, faculty have been informed that they must identify the

student to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Students who wish to have confidential discussions of incidents related to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct should contact the Student Counseling Center (972-883-2527 or after hours 972-UTD-TALK or 972-883-8255), the Women's Center (972-883-8255), a health care provider in the Student Health Center (972-883-2747), the clergyperson (or other legally recognized religious advisor) of their choice, or an off-campus resource (i.e., rape crisis center, doctor, psychologist). Students who are sexually assaulted, harassed, or victims of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, or stalking, are encouraged to directly report these incidents to the UT Dallas Police Department at 972-883-2222 or to the Title IX Coordinator at 972-883-2218. Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.utdallas.edu/oiec/title-ix/resources>.

### **Technical Requirements**

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. You must use a secure and strong internet connection while in the eLearning system. Please review the important technical requirements <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#techreqs> on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html>.

### **Course Access and Navigation & Support**

The course can be accessed using the UT Dallas NetID account at: <https://elearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see the course access and navigation <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#courseaccessandnav> section of the site for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html>.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp> services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

**Also be aware that I am able to track in detail your access to all areas of the eLearning system by time and date for every student as well as the length of time each of you were logged in.** Please do not make statements which are patently dishonest about dates and times you were in the system or problems that actually did not occur to try to make a case for late submissions—this will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. I will first verify all logon information if a student claims to have technical issues that have been reported to the Help Desk.

If students contact the Help Desk and still are unable to get into the class site, please email Dr. Boots directly from your UTD email account at: [deniseboots@utdallas.edu](mailto:deniseboots@utdallas.edu) and copy me in on all original trouble tickets and correspondence that you have had with the Help Desk.

## **Communication/Email Policy**

This course almost exclusively utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. **The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account.** This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts. If you have not done so already, please activate your email and become familiar with eLearning after the first class and begin to check it regularly. If you do not check your email your box will fill and no longer accept new messages, including critical ones regarding grades and university business. The instructor will make no special attempts to reach you if your email is returned due to your box being over quota. **PLEASE CHECK YOUR UTD EMAIL ACCOUNT FREQUENTLY AND DELETE OLD MESSAGES!**

**\*If you need to email me, please do so directly from your email and identify the class that you are taking with me in the subject line- CRIM 6300. I teach more than one class and this will help me answer your email much faster.**

For more details, please visit the eLearning Tutorials webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html> for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

## **Distance Learning Student Resources**

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students page <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/cstudents.htm> for details.

## **Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties**

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

***Please see the following site for detailed information regarding UTD syllabus policies regarding Student Conduct & Discipline, Academic Integrity, Incomplete Grades, Withdrawals, etc.: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>***

## **Course Assignments and Deadlines**

The course is paced along with the term and allows students to work independently. This accelerated course is eight weeks long with coursework made available to students in advance—this means we will cover a semester’s worth of material in half the time. Course materials are released to you early and you are free to work ahead on any released chapters and assignments as you wish. However, you may only submit assignments once in the dropbox. You should make sure that you have a final version worked up before you submit and use your time wisely to ensure your best work is the one that is graded by me.

**ASSIGNED READINGS:** Each week, you will follow the detailed course calendar at the back of this syllabus. You will have discussion board posts due each week by a certain time and date. Please carefully review these due dates and times on the course calendar. In eLearning, you will access the Course Modules section on the main menu. Under each week, you will find 1) assigned article readings (which are required and in addition to the assigned textbook readings), 2) Power Points for the textbook readings (which should be viewed AFTER you read to ensure you have mastered the key areas of the textbook). You must complete the readings first.

**DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS:** After you complete the reading for the week, you will then need to complete the assigned discussion board posts under the DISCUSSION BOARDS tab in eLearning under the main menu. Depending on the week, you will have one or two boards to participate on. It is important that you post early and I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO RESPOND TO EACH OTHER’S POSTS. You must submit your posts prior to the due date and time posted in your course calendar—late submissions will be graded at a zero and there is no partial credit. Write at a high level. I expect you to write without errors—no typos, grammatical or punctuation errors. You should write a minimum of four sentences per paragraph with a minimum of TWO paragraphs per post. Replies to your classmates must be substantive. It is not enough to say “good job,” or “I agree with you completely!” Your participation on the boards both in posting your original reply and in responding to your classmates will impact your final class participation grade. Students who wait until the last day or hours before posts are due and who do not interact with other students will see their final class participation grades reflect this lack of effort.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** You will be required to complete three written assignments for this class. Assignments are found in eLearning under the Assignments tab under the main menu.

These assignments include 1) the selection of a timely criminology-related topic or policy, 2) conducting and writing an annotated bibliography offering a brief literature review on your chosen topic or policy, and 3) writing a reflection paper on your experiences this semester in the course.

**IMPORTANT:** For each assignment, it is very important that you access the Assignments in that area of eLearning. For the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> assignment, it is imperative that you access and use the plagiarism and examples of an annotated bibliography that are provided for you. These examples and handouts should be read before you start the assignments and referenced frequently as you complete these assignments.

**There will be NO EXCEPTIONS made if a student fails to meet the date and time deadlines set forth on your course calendar, unless there is a documented hospitalization or death of immediate relative.** Potential excuses that will not be considered include, but are not limited to: eLearning being down, illnesses, forgetfulness, falling behind, work, family, friends, housing, sporting events, scheduling, relationships, and/or computer, viruses, or internet access problems. **Please note that being sick is NOT a valid excuse for missing regular assignments or discussion board posts that are posted well in advance, even with a doctor's note.** In other words, please do not try to use your issues as an excuse for not getting your assignments submitted by their due dates. I will hold to this policy as written here to ensure that EVERY student is treated equally and fairly. **The CST clock in eLearning determines cut offs for due dates, so match your clocks appropriately.** Writing assignments will be submitted through the eLearning Assignment dropbox and NOT via email to me. **Do NOT send me your assignments on email.**

### **Course Grading Policy and Final Grade Scale**

#### ***Extra Credit***

There is absolutely NO extra credit possible in this class. PLEASE DO **NOT** EMAIL ME AT END OF CLASS OR AT ANY OTHER TIME AND ASK FOR IT! I DO NOT INFLATE GRADES. PERIOD.

#### ***Grading Policy***

CLASS PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE 8/22& 9/26	20 POINTS
Intro Discussion Board Post during 1 <sup>st</sup> live class	5 POINTS
Weekly Discussion Board Posts (12@ 5 pts)	60 POINTS
ASSIGNMENT 1	10 POINTS
ASSIGNMENT 2	25 POINTS
ASSIGNMENT 3	25 POINTS
Overall Class Participation Grade	<u>25 POINTS</u>

**TOTAL**

**170 POINTS TOTAL IN CLASS**

**GRADING SCALE:** Take your **FINAL POINT TOTAL** out of the possible total and calculate the percentage to determine what your grade is as follows:

<b><u>Percent</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>
94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
70-76%	C
69% and below	F

## **Comet Creed**

*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:*

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

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## CRIM 6300 Assignments & Detailed Course Calendar

*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*

UNIT/ DATES	TOPIC/LECTURE	READING	ASSESSMENT / ACTIVITY	DUE DATE/TIME
<b>Week 1 Live Class</b> Tuesday, Aug. 22 <sup>nd</sup> in San Antonio Room GR 2.326	Lecture Topic: Intro to Proseminar Introduction to Graduate Program & Literature Reviews  Text Topic: CJ System & Social Control		*MUST BRING LAPTOP TO CLASS Power Point in class  1 Discussion Board post due in class: Introducing ourselves and stating our long-term goals	<b>LIVE CLASS MEETS:</b> <b>Tuesday, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> 6-8:45pm in GR 2.326 San Antonio Room</b>
Week 1 CONTINUED  Tuesday, Aug. 22 <sup>nd</sup> -Friday, Aug. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Text Topic: CJ System & Social Control, Is Crime Declining?  Course Module Topic: Literature Reviews	Read Pollock textbook Chapters 1, 2 & 3 (pp. 1-103)  Required additional reading in Course Modules Week 1 in eLearning: Pautasso article (2013) [4 pages] <b>AND</b> Denney & Tewksbury article (2013) [16 pages]	1 Discussion Board question on literature reviews	Readings and discussion board posts due <u>before</u> Friday, Aug. 25 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm
Week 2	Text Topic: Law Enforcement as Social	Pollock text Chapters 4-6 (pp. 109-215)	2 Discussion Board questions	Readings, discussion

Saturday, Aug. 26 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, Sept. 1st	Control  Course Module Topic: Graduate Student Success	Required additional reading: Nelson et al. (2011) [8 pages] Kim-Prieto et al. (2013) [6 pages]	Assignment #1 due (See instruction sheet for full details)	board posts and Assignment #1 due before Friday, Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup> at 12pm
Week 3  Saturday, Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday, Sept. 8th	Text Topic: The Law as Social Control  Course Module Topic: Graduate Student Success	Pollock text Chapters 7-9 (pp. 219-329)  Required additional reading: Clark et al. (2012) [14 pages] Perez et al. (2016) [11 pages]	2 Discussion Board questions	Readings and discussion board posts due before Friday, Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm
Week 4  Saturday, Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, Sept. 15th	Text: Corrections as Social Control  Course Module Topic: Graduate Student Success	Pollock text Chapters 10-13 (pp. 333-484)  Required additional reading: Hirschberg & Itkin (1978) [10 pages]	2 Discussion Board questions	Readings and discussion board posts due before Friday, Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm
Week 5  Saturday, Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, Sept. 22nd	Text: Critical Thinking Approach to CJ and General Theories of Crime  Course Module Topic: Understanding a Curriculum Vitae & Developing CV's	Pollock text Chapter 14 (pp. 489-515) <i>and</i> Barlow & Decker text foreword-Ch.2 (pp.vii- 44)—no Power Points for this text  Required additional reading: Houston (2010) [2 pages]	1 Discussion Board question  Assignment #2 due (See instruction sheet for full details)	Readings, discussion board posts, and Assignment #2 due before Friday, Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup> at 12pm
<b>Week 6 Live Class</b>	<b>Lecture Topic: Understanding the Professorial and</b>	<b>Required Reading Prior to Live Class:</b>	<b>*MUST BRING LAPTOP TO CLASS</b>	<b>LIVE CLASS MEETS: Tuesday, Sept.</b>

<p>Tuesday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 6-8:45pm in San Antonio Room GR 2.326</p>	<p>Graduate Student Curriculum Vitae/Understanding Ranks of Professors</p>	<p>Review professor CV's in eLearning AND Read the CVs of Ph.D. candidates</p> <p>AND read: "The Truth About Tenure" [3 pages] "University Celebrates Newest Endowed Chairs" [3 pages] "Classification of Ranks and Titles" [3 pages]</p>		<p>26th 6-8:45pm in GR 2.326 San Antonio Room</p>
<p>Week 6 CONTINUED  Saturday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday, Sept. 29th</p>	<p>Text: General Theories of Crime &amp; Policy and begin Policy Implications of Theory Applied to Specific Crime Types</p> <p>Course Module Topic: Understanding a Curriculum Vitae &amp; Developing Student CVs</p>	<p>Barlow &amp; Decker text Chapters 3-8 (pp. 45-165)</p>	<p>2 Discussion Board questions</p>	<p>Readings and discussion board posts due <u>before</u> Friday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> at 12pm</p>
<p>Week 7  Saturday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday, Oct. 6th</p>	<p>Text: Policy Implications of Theory Applied to Specific Crime Types</p> <p>Course Module Topic: Thinking Ahead: The Ph.D. Program Curriculum</p>	<p>Barlow &amp; Decker text Chapters 9-14 (pp. 166-276)</p> <p>Required additional reading: Copes, Cardwell &amp; Sloan (2012) [17 pages]</p>	<p>2 Discussion Board questions</p>	<p>Readings and discussion board posts due <u>before</u> Friday, Oct. 6th at 12pm</p>
<p>Week 8  Monday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> -</p>	<p>Class Wrap-Up  FINALS WEEK</p>	<p>No reading- work on final reflection paper</p>	<p>Assignment #3 due (see syllabus for full details)</p>	<p>Assignment #3 due <u>before</u> Monday, Oct. 9th at 12pm</p>

***Updated 8/16/17***