

CRIJ 1301
INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Fall 2017

Professor: Mario V. Cano, Ph.D.
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COURSE OVERVIEW

This course examines the sources of social control and policy associated with crime and delinquency. The course discusses the nature of criminal law and crime, and the structure of the criminal justice system, particularly law enforcement, courts and sentencing, and institutional and community corrections. The course is designed to help students understand the significance and complexity of the American criminal justice system.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Winfree, L. Thomas, G. Larry Mays, and Leanne Fiftal Alarid. 2015. *Introduction to Criminal Justice: The Essentials*. Wolters Kluwer: New York.

*Criminology/Criminal Justice Book for Book Paper Assignment

*Additional readings will be made available in Blackboard or through UTEP Library resources.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND GRADING

Chapter Quizzes: A total of ten online chapter quizzes will be administered (see course schedule). Each quiz is comprised of ten multiple choice questions of the readings that will be discussed the upcoming week. The scheduled quizzes will open in Blackboard on Fridays at 8:00 am and will close on Mondays at 11:59 pm. The quizzes last an hour once opened, and may only be taken once. Please notify the UTEP Technology Center first if you experience technical issues during any quiz and be certain that a ticket number is produced. **No makeup quizzes are offered.** Each quiz is worth one point. The lowest quiz grade of the ten quiz grades will be dropped. The quiz assignment is worth ten points or ten percent of the overall course grade.

Annotated Bibliography: An annotated bibliography of one research article is required. Detailed information and a list of research articles to select from will be posted in Blackboard. The assignment consists of reading the research article and summarizing it in your own words. More specifically, an annotated bibliography should include a description of the purpose statement or research question(s), theory and research hypotheses, methods, results, and discussion. Papers should be at least two and a half pages in length (not including the title and reference pages), double-spaced, use Times New Roman twelve-inch font with one-inch margins, and use APA, MLA, or Chicago format. The objective of the assignment is to help students learn how to read and synthesize peer-reviewed journal articles. **To receive credit, the assignment should be submitted as a hard copy and electronically on the Blackboard**

assignment link by the due date. The assignment is due on **September 21st** and is worth ten points or ten percent of the overall grade. Late papers are not accepted.

Book Paper: Students will be required to write a short paper on a book that has drawn considerable attention among students, academics, professionals, and policy makers in criminology/criminal justice. Approximately half of the paper should be devoted to a synthesis of the book, whereas the other half of the paper should be devoted to a critical analysis of the book. A list of books that may be used for the assignment, including in-depth assignment instructions, will be posted in Blackboard.

With respect to mechanics, papers should be double-spaced, use Times New Roman twelve-inch font with one-inch margins, be four pages in length (not including the title and reference pages), and use APA, MLA, or Chicago format. Please contact Professor Cano if you have questions on any steps of the paper. **To receive credit, the book paper should be submitted as a hard copy and electronically on the Blackboard assignment link by the due date.** It is strongly recommended that preparation for the assignment begin early in the semester, as the paper is due the third week of November. The book paper is due on **November 21st** and is worth twenty points or twenty percent of the course grade. Late papers will only be accepted one day after their due date and will receive a ten percent grade deduction.

Exams: There will be three non-comprehensive exams administered in the classroom (see schedule). Exams consist of multiple choice and potential short answer questions. Exams cover all assigned readings from the textbook and supplemental readings assigned during Week 4. No makeup exams are offered unless the student can provide documentation for a medical emergency or a university-sponsored activity. With the exception of documented medical emergencies, arrangements for a makeup exam must be made at least twenty-four hours before the regularly scheduled exam. Makeup exams may be administered in a different format from the original exam. **Makeup exams are given at the discretion of the professor.** Each exam is worth twenty points or twenty percent of the course grade.

Class attendance is not mandatory but is highly encouraged. Opportunities for extra credit will only be offered in class, and are at the professor's discretion. The professor does not post slide presentations online or share lecture notes. Please make sure that you have immediate access to the personal email linked to your Blackboard account, as all course emails and notifications will be sent through Blackboard. Professor Cano reserves the right to make any changes to course requirements or deadlines.

Point values and percentages for course requirements:

Quizzes	10 points	10 percent
Annotated Bibliography	10 points	10 percent
Book Paper	20 points	20 percent
Exam 1	20 points	20 percent
Exam 2	20 points	20 percent
Exam 3	<u>20 points</u>	<u>20 percent</u>
	100 points	100 percent

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

The University of Texas at El Paso has a system of Academic Integrity and Scholastic Integrity based on personal integrity of all scholastic work undertaken at the University. Academic dishonesty comprises, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, or submitting work for credit that is fully or partially completed by someone else. In addition to other guidelines of academic integrity, submitting work (e.g., annotated bibliography or book paper) that is identical or relatively similar to work submitted in a different course is considered plagiarism. At a minimum, students who engage in academic misconduct will receive a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Please become familiar with the University policy on academic integrity and honesty outlined in Student Conduct and Discipline, Section II, Chapter I of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. Information can be found on the website of the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution: <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/student-conduct/>.

EXPECTATIONS FOR CLASSROOM CONDUCT

No texting is permitted, as it is a great distraction to the professor. Use of a cellular phone in case of an emergency should be discussed with the professor before class. Electronic devices are only permitted for taking notes. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment may be asked to leave the class. All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the provisions of the policy on Student Conduct and Discipline, Section II, Chapter I of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

Copyright 2017 (Mario Cano) as to this syllabus and all lectures. During this course, students are prohibited from selling notes, lectures, and presentations or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course.

EMAIL POLICY

The professor will answer emails in a timely manner. As most of you are currently or will be professionals (criminal justice or otherwise), a certain amount of professionalism is expected in your communications. As such, all emails will be expected to contain proper grammar. They must be formatted in a professional manner as well (salutation and closing, etc.). If your emails are not well-articulated and professional, there is a high likelihood that there will be no response. In particular, this means no “text speak” or “Internet lingo,” use of all caps, and no swearing. **The email should indicate the course in which you are enrolled.**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Professor Cano is committed to assisting students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email at cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

- 08/29 Course Introduction
- 08/31 Chapter 1: Overview of Criminal Justice

Week 2

- 09/05 Chapter 2: Defining and Reporting Crime
 - 09/07 Chapter 2: Defining and Reporting Crime
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 3

- 09/12 Chapter 3: Criminal Law and the Legal Environment
 - 09/14 Chapter 3: Criminal Law and the Legal Environment
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 4

- 09/19 Read Supplemental Reading on Nature of Crime
 - 09/21 Supplemental Reading: Nature of Crime
- Annotated Bibliography Due**

Week 5

- 09/26 Exam Review
- 09/28 **Exam 1**

Week 6

- 10/03 Chapter 4: Introduction to Policing
 - 10/05 Chapter 4: Introduction to Policing
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 7

- 10/10 Chapter 5: U.S. Law Enforcement Agencies
 - 10/12 Chapter 5: U.S. Law Enforcement Agencies
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 8

- 10/17 Chapter 6: Issues in Law Enforcement
 - 10/19 Chapter 6: Issues in Law Enforcement
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 9

- 10/24 Chapter 7: Local, State, and Federal Courts
 - 10/26 Chapter 7: Local, State, and Federal Courts
- Online Chapter Quiz**

Week 10

10/31 Chapter 8: Trials and Trial Procedures

11/02 Chapter 8: Trials and Trial Procedures

Online Chapter Quiz

Week 11

11/07 Chapter 9: Issues in the Judiciary

11/09 Chapter 9: Issues in the Judiciary

Online Chapter Quiz

Week 12

11/14 Chapter 10: Probation and Community Corrections

Exam 2 Review

11/16 **Exam 2**

Online Chapter Quiz

Week 13

11/21 Chapter 10: Probation and Community Corrections

Book Paper Due

11/23 No Class: University Holiday

Week 14

11/28 Chapter 11: Institutional Corrections

11/30 Chapter 12: Living and Working in Prison

Online Chapter Quiz

Week 15

12/05 Chapter 13: Issues in Corrections

12/07 Chapter 13: Issues in Corrections

*Chapter 14: The Future of Criminal Justice (not discussed in class but on Exam 3)

Exam 3 Review

12/12 **Exam 3**, 10:00 am to 12:45 pm