CRIME IN AMERICA
CRIJ 1301-23401
SPRING 2015
JANUARY 20 to MAY 14

Professor: Eddie R. Flores
Email:
Office Hours: By appointment
Meeting Days & Time: Tues-Thurs 10:30AM to 11:50AM
Room Number: K111
Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours
Division: Social Science Division
Office Phone: 972-860-4130

CRIME IN AMERICA CRIJ 1307
Crime in America
This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course. Course Description:
American crime problems are studied in the historical perspective. Social and public policy factors affecting
crime are discussed. The impact of crime and crime trends are shown along with the social characteristics of
specific crimes. The prevention of crime is emphasized. (3 Lec.) Coordinating Board Academic Approval
Number 4504015225

EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES
Students in Criminal Justice will learn to employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social
and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
1. Students will examine social institutions and process across a range of historical periods, social structures,
and cultures.
2. Students will learn to use and critique alternative explanatory systems of theories.
3. Students will analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the
area of study.
4. Students will learn to understand the evolution and current role of the Criminal Justice system in the United
States.

CORE CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES
1. READING: the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials at the college level.
2. WRITING: the ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and
audience at a college level.
3. CRITICAL THINKING: think and analyze at a critical level.
4. COMPUTER LITERACY: to understand our technological society and use computer based technology in
communication and the acquisition of information.

Course Materials/Supplies Needed
Textbook:


Student Learning Outcomes
After successful completion of this course the student should be able to:
1. Define and identify concepts, theories and social traits that are used to explain how and why crimes
occur.
2. Calculate and arrange statistical research that purports to give numerical and/or mathematical
explanations for criminal behavior.
3. Explain and/or describe in professional terms, the various concepts, theories and practices used in
the criminal justice system to eliminate or reduce crime.
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Evaluation Procedures:
Students enrolled for SPRING 2015 semester will be graded on the following:

a. 4 examinations covering the book and classroom lectures
   (50 questions correct for 100 pts)
b. 5 Discussion Board assignments
   (20 points each for total of 100 pts)
c. 16 Chapter Review Questions (Complete after finishing each chapter)
   (100 pts each chapter)

EXAMINATIONS:

- There will be a total of 4 examinations and during the course of instruction. The test structure will be composed of 50 multiple choice and true-false questions.
- The exams will cover material in the book, chapter notes and any online material I send to you.
- Exams will be taken ON BLACKBOARD, WILL HAVE A TIME LIMIT AND MUST BE COMPLETED BY MIDNIGHT ON EXAM DATE
- NO MAKE UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN
- Exam results will be given to you immediately following the exam on Blackboard, and can also be obtained in the grade book for this class.

Discussion Board Assignments

There are 5 Discussion Board assignments, which coincide with the chapters being tested for each exam. The purpose of the Discussion Board assignments is to enable you to think critically regarding the topic presented to you. I DO NOT want you to answer these assignments with one-sentence answers. Your answers should be thorough enough that I can see that you have thought out the answer and that you can understand the topic presented to you.

I also want to see dialogue between you and other students regarding the topic, since this provides different perspectives on the topic at hand. REMINDER: This is a college class, and therefore THERE WILL BE RESPECT AND COURTESY on the Discussion Board when you reply to other students. You may disagree, but everyone is entitled to their opinion. IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO AT LEAST ONE CLASSMATE ON THEIR POST FOR EACH TOPIC, I WILL DEDUCT POINTS FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT. So choose ONE student for each topic and respond to them about their response to the topic.

YOUR ANSWERS SHOULD BE A MINIMUM OF 500 WORDS

The Discussion Board assignments can be accessed through the Discussion Board button on the left side of the course page.

Each assignment is worth 20 POINTS. Total accumulation for the 5 assignments is 100 points.

Chapter Review Questions

At the end of chapter, I want to test your knowledge of what you just read. These assignments are on eCampus under the unit we are currently covering. Please review the class calendar, located on page 2 of the syllabus, for the due dates. If you fail to turn the assignments in on the due date, I will deduct 5 points for each subsequent day they are not turned in. These assignments are not very difficult and are there to make sure you have comprehended the chapter prior to taking your exams. Do not take this assignment lightly; these questions are there for a review of the upcoming exams.

Each chapter review question assignment is 20 questions each and is worth 100 points.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students have the responsibility to attend class and to consult with the instructor when an absence occurs. If for some reason you must leave class early, you should inform the instructor prior to the start of class of your reason for leaving early.

Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid will not be granted to students who have been certified as not attending, by the certification date. For this lecture course, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date will allow you to receive credit for FA purposes. For certification dates, check with the division or FAO for further information. Students, who are not certified as beginning class, are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-certification, to include the dropping of courses.
TARDY POLICY:
There is a good possibility that you will run late occasionally due to traffic conditions. If you are late, enter the classroom and take the first seat available and sit down to minimize distractions.

Grading Scale:
COURSE GRADING:
90 – 100 = A
80 – 89 = B
70 – 79 = C
60 – 69 = D
59 and Below = F

Late Work Policy:
Student should have their assignments in by the date due on the class schedule.

Makeup Exam Policy:
No makeup exams will be given. Students will have one week to complete the exam from the date exam is posted on Blackboard. I will send an email to you when I post the exam. You can take the exam from that point until midnight on exam night.

Cell phones, electronic devices and pagers:
Students are expected to turn off all cell phones, electronic devices and pagers during class time.

STUDENT ALERT:
ALL STUDENTS THAT ARE ENROLLED IN CRIME IN AMERICA (CRIJ 1307) ARE FOREWARNED THAT ADULT LANGUAGE, SEXUALLY EXPLICIT TERMS AND DEPICTIONS AS WELL AS SENSITIVE ISSUES RELATED TO RACE, GENDER, AND SOCIAL CLASS WILL BE OPENLY VERBALIZED AND DISCUSSED IN THE CLASSROOM. STUDENTS THAT TAKE ISSUE/OFFENSE TO THIS METHOD OF INSTRUCTION MUST MEET WITH THE INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLASS TODAY.

DROP/WITHDRAWAL POLICY: Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which YOU must initiate; the instructor cannot do it for you. You may withdraw from a class in either the Admissions office or Advising Center. If you stop attending or are unable to complete this class and you do not withdraw before the official drop date, you will receive a performance grade, usually a grade of “F.” Students sometimes drop a class when help is available that would enable them to continue. Please discuss your plans with the instructor if you feel you need to withdraw. The full drop and withdrawal policy is online in the college catalog. https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/dw.cfm?use_nav=acad_info&loc=econ

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP:
For students who enroll in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your college counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated six non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W.” Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. The full drop and withdrawal policy is online in the college catalog. https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

FINANCIAL AID STATEMENT: Failure to attend classes could result in a loss of Financial Aid (FA). If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Students on an F-1 visa cannot withdraw from classes without jeopardizing their official status. If you are on an F-1 visa, you MUST NOT withdraw from any class without the permission of an International Student Advisor in the Multicultural Center, in Room S-136 or at 972-860-4192.
RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: A student shall be excused from attending classes, or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this provision may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

ADA STATEMENT: If you feel you may need special assistance or accommodation (such as help with taking notes, extra time on tests, etc.) because of any type of physical disability or learning difference, please contact the Special Services office in Room S124 or at 972-8604673.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and is punishable as stated in college policies. Please review the full Student Code of Conduct as listed in the college catalog for additional information. https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/code.cfm. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to provide guidelines for the educational environment of the Dallas County Community College District. This environment views students in a holistic manner, encouraging and inviting them to learn and grow independently. Such an environment presupposes both rights and responsibilities.

REPEATING THIS COURSE: Each college of the DCCCD charges additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and continuing education/workforce training courses will result in additional tuition being charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts included courses taken at any of the DCCCD colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. The District’s policy for tuition charges relating to a third attempt is in the college’s catalog. https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/ss/oep/third_attempt.cfm?loc=econ

GRADE REPORTS: Final grade reports are not mailed to students. You may obtain your final grades online at eConnect, https://econnect.dcccd.edu/. From the student menu, select “My Grades” under “My Personal Information.” If you are not already logged in, you will be prompted to do so. Select the grade type you wish to review. Press the submit button and all grades for the selected grade type will be displayed.

INSTRUCTOR’S RIGHT TO MODIFY: The instructor has the right to add, delete, or revise segments of this course syllabus.

FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. More information about the FERPA guidelines is available online in the college catalog at https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/about/privacy.cfm

IMPORTANT DATES FOR REGULAR SEMESTER LENGTH COURSES:
- January 19 (M): Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- January 20 (T): Classes Begin
- February 2 (M): 12th Class Day
- March 9-13 (M-F): Spring Break
- March 16 (M): Classes Resume
- April 3 (F): Holiday
- April 6 (M): Classes Resume
- April 16 (R): Last Day to Withdraw with W
- May 11-14 (M-R): Final Exams
- May 14 (R): Semester Ends