



**CRIJ – 3368**  
**Understanding Sexual Offending**  
**Fall 2017**

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Office hours: or by appointment

Days: Tuesday and Thursday  
Time: 11:00am to 12:20pm  
Place: A190 (lower auditorium)

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**Course Description**

Sex offenders represent a large percentage of the U.S. prison population and offenders on probation. Additionally, over the last few decades there has been a huge increase in the number of registered sex offenders. Few offenses arouse more public disgust, outrage, and policy reaction than sexual offenses. A number of strategies have developed in response to the problem of sexual assault. Along with longer sentences and civil commitment for the most serious offenders, there has been an explosion of techniques for maintaining less serious offenders in the community. Programs ranging from mandated treatment and electronic monitoring to involuntary commitment are in effect. This course provides an overview of sexual offending, etiology, sexual disorders, treatment, and policy.

**Learning Objectives**

1. Develop an understanding of the prevalence and impact of sexual offending.
2. To understand the difference between sexual deviance, disorder, and crime.
3. To understand and appreciate that sexual offenders are heterogeneous – not at all alike.
4. To understand the prevalence, characteristics, and recidivism risk of female sex offenders.
5. To understand the prevalence, characteristics, and recidivism risk of juvenile sex offenders.
6. To understand the characteristics and risk of cyber sex offenders.
7. Develop an understanding of the motivation and etiology of sexual offending.
8. To understand the assessment and treatment methods of sexual offenders.
9. Understand and evaluate the policies of registration and community notification.
10. Understand and evaluate sexually violent predator statutes.

## Required Readings

Terry, Karen (2013). *Sexual Offenses and Offenders: Theory, Practice and Policy* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth. (you can buy this book in paperback, etext, or rent it online)



Texas Penal Code – Sex Crimes (provided on blackboard)

There will also be a few other chapters/articles that are required, but these items will be placed on Blackboard for downloading or reading online.

## Student Responsibilities

Students are required to attend all classes, to read all assignments before they are due to be discussed in class, and to be prepared to discuss the reading assignments in class. Requirements for this course include attending class, taking all of the scheduled exams, and participating in course discussions. You will also be required to utilize TopHat for attendance, class participation, and lectures. You can purchase access for the semester at TopHat.com. \*Note: If you already have it for another course, you do not need to purchase it again. I will take attendance and you will lose points (5 per class missed) if you miss more than three classes.

## Exams

There will be four exams in this course. They will consist of multiple-choice items and will cover lectures, readings, discussion, and video clips. Each exam will be worth 50 points. Examinations will not be comprehensive. **No make-up exams will be given.** You can drop your lowest exam score.

## Participation

We will use the program TopHat. I will ask you 25 questions during class over the semester. For each question you answer, you will receive a point (whether it is right or not). Sometimes the question will be at the beginning of class, sometimes at the end.

## Grading

Your final course grade will be based on a point system (breakdown below). Letter grades will be assigned to your appropriate percentage:

A 90-100%		
B 80-89%	Exams are worth 50 points each X 3	= 150 points
C 70-79%	Participation	= 25 points
D 60-69%		
F 59% and below		
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Total		= 175 points

## **Lectures**

Lectures will serve to elaborate upon and explain some of the more significant and/or difficult topics in the readings. Lectures will also supplement the readings by covering additional topics and by providing more in-depth extensions of topics. The lectures will often contain information that is not found in the readings, but you will be responsible for knowing on the exams.

## **Disabled Student Policy**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf)

Services for disabled students:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

## **Academic Honesty**

The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects students to conduct their academic work with extra integrity and honesty. Acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion – the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled *Student Guidelines*, distributed by Division of Student Services.

(Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines)

[http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf)

In a large auditorium class there are different temptations, if you will, to engage in academic dishonesty. For example, having someone else sign in for your attendance or looking at someone else's exam. If you engage in any academic dishonesty in this course you will be given an F for the course and referred to the Dean of Students.

Students, take the academic honesty policy seriously in EVERY class. If you have academic dishonesty on your transcript you will find it very difficult to obtain employment! It is not worth the risk.

## Schedule and Readings

Topic	Text/Chapter	
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Course Introduction	
<b>UNIT 1 - History, Statistics, and Etiology of Sexual Offending</b>		
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	History of sexual deviance to crime	Terry 1 and 2; TX Penal Code
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Survey	
Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Statistics of sexual crimes	
Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Societal and personal effects of sexual offending	Terry 9
Sept. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Societal and personal effects of sexual offending Guest Speaker	Terry 9
Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Voices of victims <u>Video</u> : Sexual Assault Victims Speak Out <u>Video</u> : Hide No More	
Sept. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Etiology (causes) of sex offending <u>Video</u> : Dr. James Cantor: The Pedophile’s Brain	Terry 3
Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	The cycle of sexual abuse	Terry 4
<u>Sept. 26<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Exam 1</u>	
<b>UNIT 2 - Disordered and Illegal Sexual Behavior</b>		
Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Philias - Types	Miller handout; Holmes & Holmes 6
Oct. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Philias – Pedophilia	Terry 5 pgs 101-111
Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Isms	Terry 3 pgs 44-53; L&O 4 H&H 4; L&O 12 pgs. 213-220
Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ographies - Pornography Guest Speaker	Terry 7
Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Ographies – Online sex offending	L&O 24
Oct. 17 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Exam 2</u>	

### **UNIT 3 – Sexual Offending Types**

Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Male Sex Offenders – Rape/sexual assault Guest Speaker	Terry 5; L&O 20
Oct. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Male Sex Offenders (ATSA)	
Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Male Sex Offenders – Sexual assault of a child (ATSA)	L&O 10
Oct. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Female Sex Offenders Guest Speaker	Miller Handout
Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Female Sex Offenders	
Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Juvenile Sex Offenders	Terry 6
Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Non-contact Sex Offenders	H & H 8
<u>Nov. 14<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Exam 3</u>	

### **UNIT 4 – Responses to Sexual Offending**

Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Risk and Strength Assessment of Sex Offenders	Miller Handout
Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Treatment of Sex Offenders	Terry 11
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sex offender policy and legislation – Registration	Wright 3, 4
Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) Legislation Guest Speaker	Terry 12
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Prevention of sexual offending	Kaufman 1
<u>Dec. 7<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Exam 4 --- 12:00pm – 2:00pm</u>	