

## Problem Analysis in Victim Studies Fall 2017

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Electronic Reserve Password: to be announced in class

### **TEXT:**

**Erin Pizzey.** *Scream Quietly or the Neighbors Will* London: Ridley Winslow Publishers, 1977. Ms. Pizzey has granted permission for the entire book to be placed on Library Electronic Reserve for this course during this semester. The professor checked and several used copies are available on Amazon and perhaps other sites at reasonable prices. Otherwise, you may go to the SHSU Library Electronic Reserve site for this course and download the entire book (free).

**Course Description:** The course has two primary objectives. The first is to provide students with an overview of the information learned over the course of their studies in the victim studies program. The second purpose is based on a belief that those students who are about to graduate from college should have acquired the following basic skills: the ability to think critically, to write clearly, and to speak effectively. During the course of the seminar students will have an opportunity to display their command of these skills through series of written assignments and class participation.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Learn how to research key issues relevant to a victim studies major.
2. To write clearly and professionally.
3. To develop presentation skills in class.
4. To gain an improved understanding of key issues of the victim studies field.

Note that the **FINAL EXAM** date listed by the registrar's office is:  
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Makeup Exam(s):** Makeup exams will be scheduled at a time mutually convenient to the professor and the student.

**There are no provisions for earning extra credit for the course.**

### **Course Grades:**

1. There will be one exam over the Erin Pizzey book. (10% of course grade)
2. A short assignment over the Eris Pizzey book. (5% of course grade)
3. Assignment over the article on Victims and non-Victims (5% of course grade)
4. Victim compensation assignment (25% percent of course grade)
5. Legal research assignment (25% of course grade)
6. Victim interview (25% of course grade)
7. Assignment over protective orders (5% of course grade)

The professor cannot accept late assignments. Failure to turn in an assignment will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment.

Specific details and instructions regarding assignments may be found on Blackboard.

**Course Calendar:** The course calendar may be changed from time to time due to unexpected circumstances such as class cancellations due to weather, illness, and so forth. Changes may also be made in order to accommodate guest speakers.

August 24.	First day, introduction to the course
August 29.	Class discussion of students' professional goals.
August 31.	Lecture Criminal Victims versus non-victims
	<b>Read and bring to class the following article found on Blackboard.</b>
	Article: Ronnie Janoff-Bulman. "Criminal vs. Non-Criminal Victimization: Victims' Reactions." <i>Victimology: An International Journal</i> , Vol. 10. 1985, pp. 498-511.
Sept. 5	Assignment 1 due. Crime victims vs. non-criminal victims. Class presentations.
Sept. 7	Guest speaker
Sept. 12	Lecture on crime victim compensation in Texas
Sept. 14	Review crime victim compensation assignment with class (Assignment 2)
Sept. 19	Overview of Assignment 3. Research of legal cases.
Sept. 21	Guest speaker
Sept. 26/28	Crime victim compensation assignment due. Class presentations
Oct. 3	As needed, review with students their progress on legal cases project.
Oct. 5	Guest speaker
Oct. 10	Review with class Victim Interview Assignment
Oct. 12	Guest speaker
Oct. 17	Lecture on protective orders
Oct. 19	Protective orders assignment due. Class presentations
Oct. 24	Guest speaker
Oct. 26	Guest speaker
Oct. 31	Legal cases assignment due. First day of presentations on legal cases assignment
Nov. 2	Guest speaker
Nov. 7	Continuation of legal case presentations

Nov. 9	Victim interview assignment due. Class presentations.
Nov. 14.	Erin Pizzey exam
Nov. 16	Erin Pizzey assignment due
Nov. 21	Open date for catching up on presentations and/or guest speakers
Nov. 28	Guest speaker
Nov. 30	Guest speaker

**SPECIAL EVENING CLASS:** Preparations are being made for a special evening presentation by a panel from the Parents of Murdered Children—date to be announced. The special evening class will meet from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The presentation will be in the Courtroom (unless otherwise informed) immediately to your left when you enter the front of the Criminal Justice Center. The class will not meet on either one or two days in exchange for this special class—depending on class progress during the semester. The date or dates on which class will not meet in exchange for this special evening class will be announced later.

**ATTENDANCE:** Students are allowed three absences, excused or unexcused. Not taking an exam at the scheduled date and time counts as an absence. Each absence in excess of three will reduce the final course grade average by 3 points per absence. There are no “excused” absences—only absences. Illness, inclement weather, vehicle problems, family illnesses, job interviews, traffic accidents/delays, and so forth are not excused absences—they are absences. There are three exceptions—an official university sponsored event, or required military event, may be excused. The professor will need a letter in writing from the appropriate university sponsor. The other is absence for a sanctioned religious holiday. See procedures for this below. **There is no need to inform the professor if you are absent due to illness or other reasons as these still count as absences. However, you may do so a record will be made in case of a catastrophic illness, serious auto injuries, or very exceptional circumstances. ANY STUDENT WITH MORE THAN EIGHT (8) ABSENCES, EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED, WILL RECEIVE A COURSE GRADE OF F.** Arriving after the lecture has begun and the roll has been taken/signed will count as an absence. Departing before class has ended, unless prearranged with the instructor, will count as an absence. Signing the roll for another student or having another students sign the roll for you is, by definition, cheating. **A student is responsible for making certain that he or she signed the roll.** If you did not have a chance to sign the roll during class then be certain to inform the professor immediately after class. The professor cannot take your word later in the semester that you were present on a specific date. Failure to be present for an examination counts as an absence. Your total number of absences will be posted from time to time on Blackboard—but only up until that date. Because of the short class time and the large number of students a roll sheet will start from the front and the back. Students need to sign only one of the roll sheets.

**LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH A GRADE OF Q:** Check the registrar's schedule for this semester.

**CLASS PREPARATION:** The only text for this course is the book by Erin Pizzey.. From time to time students may be provided with additional material to read. Supplemental reading material to assist students will be provided on Blackboard or Library Reserve.

**CLASSROOM DECORUM:** As much as I regret having to add this note to the syllabus times seem to have changed. I am going to ensure that the classroom provides a meaningful learning environment for each and every student who is interested in learning. Therefore, these are basic rules that will be enforced.

1. Use of cell phones for any reason once the professor starts to call the roll will result in the student being automatically dismissed from the class. The student will have to meet with the department chair before I will consider allowing the student back into the classroom. Any reason includes texting. Turn all cell phones off during class. In the past students dismissed from class have not been allowed to return and complete the semester.
2. Casual talking in class for any reason once the professor starts to call/take the roll will result in the student being automatically dismissed from the class. The student will have to meet with the department chair before I will consider allowing the student back into the classroom. If I determine that it is egregious I will not allow the student back into the classroom for the semester. I do understand that you may miss a point be made during the lecture and need to ask another student—but please be careful. It is much better and wiser to ask the professor if you missed something during the lecture. If students around you are talking tell me and I will act immediately. Do not let other students disturb you.
3. Reading material in the classroom other than material directly related to the class for any reason once the professor starts to call/take the roll will result in the student being automatically dismissed from the class. The student will have to meet with the department chair before I will consider allowing the student back into the classroom.
4. Any behavior or actions that interfere with the learning environment, including repeatedly arriving late for class, will result in the student being automatically dismissed from the class. Eating in the classroom is not allowed by university policy and will be strictly enforced. You must also take your material and drinks with you when you leave the classroom.

See the SHSU policy on cell phones in the classroom attached at the end of the syllabus. In this class use of a cell phone during an exam will result in a grade of F for the course.

**USE OF LAPTOPS OR SIMILAR DEVICES IN CLASS:** Students may use laptops or similar devices during class to take notes—if approved in advance by professor. See request sheet at end of syllabus.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** The faculty has been asked to draw students attention to Section 5.3 of “Guidelines: Sam Houston State University,” regarding academic honesty. These guidelines will

apply to this class. The class policy will be that students found to be cheating, including plagiarism, will receive a grade of F in the course.

Professors in the College of Criminal Justice have been requested to add the following statement. "The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects students to conduct their academic work with 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 honesty 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.)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday and Thursday. 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Occasionally, the professor may be required to attend meetings or undertake other obligations during the time scheduled for office hours. It is strongly recommended that students contact the professor and make certain that the professor will be in the office during office hours. The professor is always open to making appointments at times other than the posted office hours in order to accommodate students. The professor's home telephone number is (936) 295-6274 and students should not hesitate to contact the professor at home at any time he cannot be reached at the office. The best email to use for contacting the professor for making an appointment is [rteske@suddenlink.net](mailto:rteske@suddenlink.net).

**DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:** The university administration has requested that the following statement be added to the syllabus. The university requires that students be provided with the following statement. "Students with a disability that affects their academic performance are expected to arrange a conference with the professor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by telephone (ext. 1720)."

**SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS:** The university's information on services available for disabled students may be found at the following internet address.  
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

**STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY:** Section 51.91 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student 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 subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provided the procedures to be followed by the

student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe a religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer semester session in which the absences(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable time frame in which the missed assignment and/or examinations are to be completed.

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

**Sam Houston State University**  
**Academic Policy Statement 100728**  
**Use of Telephones and Text Messagers in**  
**Academic Classrooms and Facilities**

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**USE OF TELEPHONES AND TEXT MESSAGERS IN ACADEMIC CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES**

Telephones and similar devices have become increasingly a part of everyday life. In the academic classroom, however, during class these devices can be a serious distraction and during tests they can be a serious problem. The technology is constantly changing and evolving. So, the present policy does not specify particular devices or device types. Rather, the policy applies to any device that performs the function of a telephone or text messenger.

1.0 Each course syllabus must contain a policy statement as to the disposition of telephones and text messagers (1) in the classroom, (2) during testing periods, and (3) for emergency considerations.

2.0 The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text messenger during class-time may be prohibited if deemed disruptive by the instructor to the conduct of the class. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor's policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course.

3.0 Any use of a telephone or text messenger or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty (see student code of conduct

<http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/StudentGuidelines2010-2012.pdf#page=29>).

**4.0 EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy becomes effective spring 2010.

APPROVED: /signed/

Dana L. Gibson, President

DATE: 11/4/10

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