

## Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology

### CRIJ 4336-01

#### *Understanding Human Behavior Syllabus* Fall 2017

**Professor:** Dr. Kristen Welch

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**Class Hours:** *Online*

**Classroom:** *Online*

**Office Hours:** T&R 5-6 pm in office,  
M&W 3-4 online (virtual office)

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Bartol, C. A. & Bartol, A. M. (2017). *Criminal behavior: A psychosocial approach* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (ISBN: 9780134163741).

Additional readings will be assigned and provided by the instructor as handouts online.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The dynamics of human behavior; analysis of the biological, cultural, sociological and psychological factors. Credit 3.

This course examines various aspects of human behavior from a criminal justice perspective: the development of personality, psychological disorders, interpersonal relationships, violent offending, property and public order offending. This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of criminal behavior and psychological disorders which are encountered by criminal justice professionals. This course is aimed at future criminal justice professionals who may be exposed throughout the course of their career to individuals with a variety of psychological issues and problems.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The *course objectives* are:

1. To introduce the student to research and theory in psychology and sociology that is relevant to the problems of adjustment in a demanding criminal justice environment;
2. To improve students understanding of key concepts in human psychology & behavior; and
3. To provide a basic understanding of personality theory, psychological disorders, and various aspects leading to criminal behavior.

**Learning outcomes:** by the end of the semester, the students should be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the risk factors and origins of criminal behavior, including predictors and explanations of violent and property crime;
2. Define aggression and describe social learning factors associated with aggression and violence;
3. Describe mental illness and mental disorders, including their relationships to violence and crime, role in determining criminal responsibility and insanity defenses, and implications for the criminal justice system and criminal justice professionals.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

### Course Requirements:

1. **Discussions: 15 Points total (15%)**
2. **Weekly Assignments: 15 Points total (15%)**
3. **Quizzes: 10 points total (10%)**
4. **Exam I & II: 20 points each for 40 Points total (40%)**
5. **Final Exam: 20 points (20%)**

**Discussions (15%):** Students are required to participate in seven class discussions (2 per each of the 3 major course sections and one introductory discussion) during the semester. For each student, a minimum of 3 posts per required discussion session is required to meet this standard. One original post and two responsive posts per chosen discussion section are necessary. Please proofread your comments prior to submitting them for clarity, grammar, and tone. The goal of these discussions is to encourage a collaborative environment of learning and discussion, to foster teamwork, and not to engage in heated debate or confrontational rhetoric. Try to stay on topic and refrain from offensive remarks. Feel free to engage in more than the 7 required discussion sessions. Discussion participation comprises 15% of your final grade (15 points total).

**Weekly Assignments (15%):** Students are required to complete any homework assignments which may be assigned and turn them in on the assigned date. A digital copy of homework assignments must be completed and submitted via blackboard by *midnight on Thursday* the week the assignment is due, unless otherwise noted on the course schedule. Students will have 5 attempts to complete the weekly homework assignments with a grade of 70% or higher to take the chapter quiz. Students may access/complete the chapter homework assignment *any day or time prior to the deadline*. While students will have ample time to complete the weekly assignments and may turn them in at any point and time in advance of the final deadline, they are encouraged to complete them early in the week to study for the quiz and adequately participate in class discussions. Assignments must be submitted on Blackboard by the deadline, no exceptions since they are posted well in advance and can be completed early. **Deadlines are not recommended due dates, but are the last point in time the assignment will be accepted by the instructor.** The weekly assignments are worth a total of 15 points and will comprise 15% of the student's final grade. Students may review the corrected and graded assignment under the My Grades tab on the left navigational course menu after the deadline passes. \*Students are required to regularly access the Blackboard portal to check for announcements, assignments, course materials, and readings for this class. You should also regularly check virtual office for updates and clarification on assignments.

**Quizzes (10%):** Quizzes will be given throughout the semester to ensure students are keeping up with assigned readings. Quizzes may be composed of true/false, multiple choice, fill in the blank questions, or a combination of each. Chapter quizzes must be completed by *midnight on the Friday* night the week the chapter is assigned, unless otherwise noted on the course schedule. Students will receive 1 attempt to complete the chapter quiz. Students *will not* be allowed to access the chapter quiz until they receive a 70 or higher on the chapter homework. Students may access the chapter quiz *any day or time before the deadline* once the chapter homework requirement has been met. The quizzes are worth a total of 10 points and will comprise 10% of the student's final grade. Students may review the corrected and graded quiz under the My Grades tab on the left navigational course menu after the deadline passes.

**Exams (60%):** A total of three exams will be given on the dates listed in the course outline. Exam I and II will be worth 20 points each for a total of 40 points. The final exam is due by 11:59 **Wednesday, December, 6<sup>th</sup>** and is worth 20 points. Exams will be composed of a combination of multiple choice, true false, and fill in the blank questions. Questions will come from class discussion notes, homework assignments, and the required readings. Students are strongly encouraged to utilize the course resources to

enhance their understanding of the materials, to prepare for exams, and successfully complete assignments. Students will have to use Respondus Lockdown Browser software and the webcams for all exams. A practice quiz is set up for students to use throughout the semester to test the respondus software prior to taking an exam. For more information, contact SHSU online support at 936-294-2780 or email [blackboard@shsu.edu](mailto:blackboard@shsu.edu). See section on Technical Issues for more information.

#### **GRADING POLICY: (100 Points Possible)**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Course Points</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
A	90-100 points	Excellent
B	80-89 points	Above Average
C	70-79 points	Average
D	60-69 points	Below Average
F	Below 60 points	Fails to meet Basic Requirements

**Late Work:** *Late work will NOT be accepted without appropriate documentation of an extreme emergency and a University approved excuse.* Assignments will not be accepted after the deadline since the student has every opportunity to turn in assignments at any point in time online, well in advance of deadlines. Students are encouraged not to wait until the last minute or the deadline to submit their assignments. The deadlines are there to keep students from falling too far behind in the class so they may successfully complete a course in the online format. Deadlines are not the same as due dates, they are just the last day an assignment will be allowed to be handed in for a grade. Students are strongly encouraged to complete assignments earlier in the week for optimal learning. Students must provide a typed excuse for any late assignment to the professor with accompanying documentation that arises out of those rare emergency situations in which it is impossible to complete assignments due to a major illness or accident. This must be provided to the professor within five school days of the missed assignment. Failure to complete, submit, and/or present assignments on time will result in a **zero** for the assignment.

**Make-up Exam Policy:** Students are required to take the examinations on the dates indicated in the course schedule. Please make the necessary arrangements in advance to ensure your completion of the exams on the dates listed. If an emergency arises, students should notify the instructor as soon as possible **before** the exam. Notifications after the exam are not acceptable, barring extreme circumstances. If you miss an examination without prior approval from the instructor, the grade recorded will be a zero. If it is not possible to discuss the missed exam, prior to the exam date due to an emergency, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible after the emergency (within two days) to reschedule the exam. Appropriate **typed** documentation of the nature of the missed exam and why it meets the university guidelines for approved excuses must be provided to the instructor to receive a grade for the exam.

### **COURSE & ACADEMIC POLICIES**

**Virtual Office & Email:** All students are encouraged to use the *Virtual Office* to ask general questions about the course, course materials, and assignments. By posting to the Virtual Office, you are guaranteed a timely response (within 48 hours). I will also be holding virtual office hours (M/W from 3-4 pm) for speedier responses and chats. Before posting a question or emailing the professor, please check the virtual office to be sure another student hasn't posted the same question and received a response. Do not post anything of a personal nature that you do not wish other students to see to this forum as it is visible to all students in the class. If you have a more personal question, please feel free to email the professor directly. Although I try to respond quickly to emails, do not expect an email reply in less than 48 hours. Be sure that your emails include the **course and section number** in the subject heading and adhere to professional guidelines. Please phrase your questions clearly and concisely. Be sure to include your complete name, email address, and course number (CRIJ 4336\_01) in the text of the email.

**Participation & Attendance Policy:** Unlike the traditional face to face course, this course does not require you to show up in a specific classroom on specific dates and times. Instead, you will be required to make a regular and constant effort to complete the online course lectures, assignments, assessments, and participate in online class discussion. Regular and ongoing participation in this course is *required*. Among other things, this means that exams must be completed during the scheduled time and that assignments must be completed within the specified time. Participation is highly important because discussion groups and class assignments will be assessed throughout the session. The student is expected to review all class materials and actively participate in online class discussions. Because of this, students **should** complete the assigned readings **PRIOR** to reviewing the lecture notes and engaging in online discussions. In addition, you are expected to routinely check the course materials, notices, and resources online throughout the week.

**Academic Honesty:** Students are expected 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 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.

The University expects students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in all their academic experiences. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the University policy, please refer to Academic Dishonesty Policy Statement 810213 on the website: [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf).

**Student 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 observation of a religious holy day, including travel for the 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 provides the procedures to be followed and may be accessed online at [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf).

**Disabled Student Policy:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Any student with a disability that affects his or her academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the SHSU Lee Drain Building Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786; E-mail: [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu); Web Address: [www.shsu.edu/disability](http://www.shsu.edu/disability)) to request accommodations. In addition, students with a disability which affects their academic performance are encouraged to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. If you believe you may have a disability that would interfere with your work, I strongly encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center. **NOTE:** *No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. To review services provided to students with disabilities, see [www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html). To see the University policy on disabled students refer to [www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf). To review additional academic policies for students please refer to the documents provided online at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>.*

## TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

It is the students' responsibility to ensure that they have the computer hardware, software, and online access to fully participate in this course. Information technology problems are not an acceptable excuse for late or missing assignments, quizzes, or exams. You must complete all assignments and assessments on the dates listed in the course schedule. Try to have things completed early, so you do not have difficulties when it is time to upload assignments. Any blackboard, computer help, or technical issues should be immediately addressed via SHSU online support at 936-294-2780 or [blackboard@shsu.edu](mailto:blackboard@shsu.edu). **It is in your best interest to familiarize yourself with the course layout and materials to effectively navigate blackboard throughout the semester.** Because this is an online class that offers flexibility, there will be no make-up work accepted. If you become unable to participate for a period of time, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible.

## CONDUCT POLICY

**General Conduct - All students are expected to be respectful to others and the instructor at all times.** General civility and decorum are expected. Class discussions may include controversial topics. Students should be respectful of others' viewpoints and opinions, even those that they may not agree with. Debate is encouraged but disrespect is not acceptable. Please refer to the handout on **online etiquette** for further instruction.

**Professional behavior:** The University, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Statement of Civility:** The University has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

## ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Confidentiality:** If you would like to discuss your course performance or grades you are encouraged to email the instructor, come by during the posted office hours, or an appointment with the instructor may be made at a mutually agreeable time. In order to protect student confidentiality, it is against University policy for an instructor to discuss grades by telephone. In addition grades will be posted to Blackboard and students can review their graded assignments, quizzes, and exams under the "My Grades" link.

**Academic Advising:** Students should meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. If you have not already met with an advisor I strongly encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Student Advising and Mentoring Center, also known as the SAM Center, offers a wide variety of services for students at SHSU. An Academic Advisor can assist students in setting up a degree plan. Students **MUST** meet with an academic advisor per University requirements if the student does not have a SHSU GPA (new or transfer students), has below a 2.5 GPA, are subject to TSI requirements, and/or have 90+ hours including the current semester. It is mandatory for seniors to meet with an academic advisor early in the semester. Please refer online for additional information and advising locations at <http://www.shsu.edu/centers/sam-center/advising/index.html>.

**Extra Credit:** In general, extra credit opportunities are not given in this course.



## COURSE SCHEDULE & OUTLINE

The anticipated schedule of lectures, readings, and examinations is as follows:

Date	TOPIC	Assignments & Readings
Aug 23	<b>Introduction to Class</b> Review of the Syllabus	Read: Syllabus, & Introduction to Bartol & Bartol (B&B)
<b>SECTION I:</b>		
Aug 24-30	<b>Criminal Behavior: An Overview</b>	Read: Chapter 1 (B&B) & Handouts Review Chapter 1 Presentation
Aug 31 Sept 1	<b>Lecture 1: Criminal Behavior &amp; Developmental Pathways</b>	<b>HMWK Ch. 1 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 1 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read: Ch. 2 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept 2-8 Sept. 7 Sept. 8	<b>Lecture 2: Developmental Pathways &amp; Criminal Risk Factors</b>	Review Chapter 2 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 2 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 2 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read: Ch. 3 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept. 9-15 Sept. 14 Sept. 15	<b>Lecture 3: Origins of Criminal Behavior</b> <b>Biological Factors</b>	Review Chapter 3 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 3 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 3 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read: Chapter 4 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept. 16-22 Sept. 21 Sept. 22	<b>Lecture 4: Nature vs Nurture</b> <b>Learning and Situational Factors</b> <i>See Section I Review</i>	Review Chapter 4 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 4 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 4 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Review Notes, Chapters, & Handouts
<b>Sept. 25</b>	<b>EXAM I (deadline by 11:59 pm)</b>	Read: Ch. 5 (B&B) & Handouts
<b>SECTION II:</b>		
Sept 26-30 Oct 1 Oct 1	<b>Lecture 5: Aggression, Crime, &amp; Violence</b> <i>(Assignment deadlines extended this week due to exam*)</i>	Review Chapter 5 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 5 Due by Sun.*</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 5 (B&amp;B) Due by Sun.*</b> Read: Ch. 6 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct. 2-6 Oct. 5 Oct. 6	<b>Lecture 6: Juvenile Delinquency</b>	Review Chapter 6 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 6 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 6 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read: Ch. 7 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct. 9-13 Oct. 12 Oct. 13	<b>Lecture 7: Criminal Psychopathy &amp; The Mask of Sanity</b>	Review Chapter 7 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 7 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 7 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read: Ch. 8 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct. 16 Oct. 19 Oct. 20	<b>Lecture 8: Crime and Mental Disorders</b> <i>See Section II Review</i>	Review Chapter 8 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 8 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 8 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Review Chapters, Notes, & Handouts
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>EXAM II (11:59 pm deadline)</b>	Read: Ch. 9 (B&B) & Handouts

<b>SECTION III:</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>Assignments &amp; Readings</b>
Oct 23-29 Oct. 29 Oct. 29	<b>Lecture 9: Violent Crimes, Homicide and Assault</b> <i>(Assignment deadlines extended this week due to exam*)</i>	Review Chapter 9 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 9 Due by Sun.</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 9 (B&amp;B) Due by Sun.</b> Read Ch. 10 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct 30-Nov 3 Nov. 2 Nov. 3	<b>Lecture 10: Multiple Murders - Mass, Spree, and Serial Killings</b>	Review Chapter 10 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 10 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 10 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read Ch. 11 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov. 6-10 Nov. 9 Nov 10	<b>Lecture 11: Terrorism</b>	Review Chapter 11 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 11 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 11 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read Ch. 12 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov. 13 Nov. 16 Nov. 17	<b>Lecture 12: Sexual Assault &amp; Offender Typologies</b>	Review Chapter 12 Presentation <b>HMWK Ch. 12 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 12 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Read Ch. 13 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov. 20-21 Nov. 22-24	<b>Lecture 13: Paraphilia &amp; Pedophilia</b> <i>No Assignments due – HOLIDAY</i>	Review Chapter 13 Presentation <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>
Nov. 27 Nov. 30 Dec. 1	<b>Lecture 13: Paraphilia &amp; Pedophilia cont.</b> <i>See Section III Review</i>	Review Notes & Handouts <b>HMWK Ch. 13 Due by R</b> <b>Quiz Chapter 13 (B&amp;B) Due by F</b> Review Chapters, Notes, & Handouts
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> <b>11:59 pm deadline</b>	The final will cover all course materials from section 3 (chapters 9-13, handouts, & notes).