

Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology

CRIJ 4336-02

Understanding Human Behavior Syllabus Fall 2017

Professor: Dr. Kristen Welch

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Class Hours: T&R 3:30-4:50

Classroom: A201

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* (11th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (ISBN: 9780134163741).

Additional readings will be assigned and provided by the instructor as handouts or placed 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. **Weekly Assignments: 30 Points total (30%)**
2. **Quizzes: 15 points total (15%)**
3. **Exam I & II: 15 points each for 30 Points total (30%)**
4. **Final Exam: 25 points (25%)**

Weekly Assignments (30%): Students are required to complete all homework and weekly assignments and turn them in on the assigned date. In addition, there will be a number of in-class assignments/discussions that students must complete in class. Copies of the in-class assignment must be turned in on the due date. Students must have finished the required readings to participate in the in class assignments. Failure to come to class prepared will result in a **zero** for the in class assignment. A digital copy of chapter homework assignments must be completed and submitted via blackboard by the due date. Students will be apprised of the due date in class and will have 5 attempts to complete the weekly chapter homework assignments online. Students must complete the chapter assignment with a grade of 70% or higher to take the chapter quiz. Once posted, students may access/complete the chapter homework assignment *any day or time prior to the due date*.

While students will have ample time to complete the weekly chapter assignments and may turn them in at any point in advance of due date, 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. The weekly assignments are worth a total of 30 points and will comprise 30% of the student's final grade. Students may review the corrected and graded chapter assignments 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 (15%): 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. Weekly chapter quizzes must be completed on blackboard by the due date of the week the chapter is assigned. Students will be apprised of the due date in class and will receive 1 attempt to complete the chapter quiz online. 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. Students may also be given pop quizzes in class to ensure they are keeping up with the readings. The quizzes are worth a total of 15 points and will comprise 15% 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 (55%): A total of three exams will be given on the dates listed in the course outline. Exam I and II will be worth 15 points each for a total of 30 points. The final exam is on **Thursday, December, 7th from 5-7 pm** and is worth 25 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.

GRADING POLICY: (100 Points Possible)

Letter Grade	Course Points	Interpretation
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. 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_02) in the text of the email.

Attendance Policy: Regular and ongoing attendance and 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. Attendance is highly important because discussion groups, and in class assignments will be assessed throughout the session. The student is expected to attend all classes and actively participate in class discussions. Because of this, students **must** complete the assigned readings **PRIOR** to the scheduled class meeting to contribute to meaningful class discussions. In addition, you are expected to check the course materials, notices, and resources online throughout the week.

Class attendance is mandatory and attendance requirements will be followed in accordance with University Policy. You may review University Policy 800401 on class attendance and student absences online at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>. Attendance will be recorded pursuant to University policy. Penalties for absences will be governed by rules promulgated by the University. A student may be penalized for more than three hours of absence at the discretion of the instructor.

It is the responsibility of the student to monitor his/her number of absences. The instructor will deduct points from the FINAL COURSE GRADE based on the following scale:

- 3 unexcused absences = 10 point reduction in final grade**
- 4 unexcused absences = 20 point reduction in final grade**
- 5 + unexcused absences = 30 point reduction final grade**

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.

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 within the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will notify the student of a reasonable time frame in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

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/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.

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; Web Address: 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. To see the University policy on disabled students refer to 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>.

CLASS CONDUCT & TELEPHONE 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.

Conduct deemed by the instructor to be disruptive to the class and learning environment may result in the student's removal from the class. The removal will count as an unexcused absence. Excessive tardiness (2+) without a legitimate excuse may be counted as an absence at the discretion of the instructor.

A. Classroom/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. Classroom 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. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

B. 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.

Tobacco Products - No tobacco products allowed in the classroom at any time. Violations will result in the student's removal from the class and the removal will count as an unexcused absence.

Use of Electronic Devices in the Classroom - Turn off all cell phones, pagers, iPods, and any other distracting devices prior to class.

- This means no **texting** during class! I do not want to see your phones out during class unless they are being used for class purposes (at the professor's instruction). You must keep them on silent.
- Laptops or tablets may be used in class **with** prior approval from the instructor for class purposes only (no surfing, email, or IM services may be accessed).
- **To review the University policy on telephones and texting in academic classrooms and facilities refer online to the following site:** <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>.
- The use of Blackboard to aid in course management and learning is required. Announcements, the course syllabi, assignments, courses materials and resources will be placed on Blackboard.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Confidentiality: If you would like to discuss your course performance or grades you are encouraged to 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 or through email. Any discussions on student's course performance must be conducted with the instructor in person.

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 students 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>.

Technology Issues: It is the students' responsibility to ensure that they have access to the computer hardware, software, and online access to fully participate in this course and use Blackboard. Information technology problems are not an acceptable excuse for late or missing assignments or quizzes. Students may use one of the many computer labs available on campus if they do not have a computer at home to access resources from blackboard or complete assignments. 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. **It is in your best interest to familiarize yourself with the course layout and materials to effectively navigate blackboard throughout the semester.**

Extra Credit: In general, extra credit opportunities will not be given, but may be offered at the instructor's discretion. However, if an extra credit opportunity is extended to one student, then all students will be given the opportunity to complete the same assignment for extra credit.

COURSE SCHEDULE & OUTLINE

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

Date	TOPIC	Assignments & Readings
Aug 24	Introduction to Class Review of the Syllabus	Read: Syllabus, Introduction to Bartol & Bartol, & Chapter 1 (B&B)
SECTION I:		
Aug 28-Sept 1 Aug 29 Aug 31	Lecture 1: An Overview of Criminal Behavior	Review Presentation 1 & Handouts HMWK Ch. 1 Due by T Quiz Chapter 1 (B&B) Due by R Read: Ch. 2 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept 4-8 Sept. 5 Sept. 7	Lecture 2: Developmental Pathways & Criminal Risk Factors	Review Chapter 2 Presentation HMWK Ch. 2 Due by T Quiz Chapter 2 (B&B) Due by R Read: Ch. 3 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept. 11-15 Sept. 12 Sept. 14	Lecture 3: Origins of Criminal Behavior Biological Factors	Review Chapter 3 Presentation HMWK Ch. 3 Due by T Quiz Chapter 3 (B&B) Due by R Read: Chapter 4 (B&B) & Handouts
Sept. 18-22 Sept. 19 Sept. 21	Lecture 4: Nature vs Nurture Learning and Situational Factors <i>See Section I Review</i>	Review Chapter 4 Presentation HMWK Ch. 4 Due by T Quiz Chapter 4 (B&B) Due by R Review Notes, Chapters, & Handouts
Sept. 26	EXAM I	Read: Ch. 5 Handouts
SECTION II:		
Sept 28	Media & Violence	Read: Ch. 5 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct 2-6 Oct 3 Oct 5	Lecture 5: Aggression, Crime, & Violence	Review Chapter 5 Presentation HMWK Ch. 5 Due by T. Quiz Chapter 5 (B&B) Due by R. Read: Ch. 7 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct. 9-13 Oct. 10 Oct. 12	Lecture 7: Criminal Psychopathy & The Mask of Sanity	Review Chapter 7 Presentation HMWK Ch. 7 Due by T Quiz Chapter 7 (B&B) Due by R Read: Ch. 8 (B&B) & Handouts
Oct. 16-20 Oct. 17 Oct. 19	Lecture 8: Crime and Mental Disorders	Review Chapter 8 Presentation HMWK Ch. 8 Due by T Quiz Chapter 8 (B&B) Due by R Review Chapters, Notes, & Handouts
Oct. 24	<i>In Cold Blood</i> <i>See Section II Review</i>	In class assignment, discussion & review
Oct. 26th	EXAM II	Read: Ch. 9 (B&B) & Handouts

SECTION III:		
Date	TOPIC	Assignments & Readings
Oct 30-Nov 3 Oct. 31 Nov. 2	Lecture 9: Violent Crimes, Homicide and Assault	Review Chapter 9 Presentation HMWK Ch. 9 Due by T. Quiz Chapter 9 (B&B) Due by R. Read Ch. 10 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov 6-10 Nov. 7 Nov. 9	Lecture 10: Multiple Murders - Mass, Spree, and Serial Killings	Review Chapter 10 Presentation HMWK Ch. 10 Due by T Quiz Chapter 10 (B&B) Due by R Read Ch. 12 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov 13-17 Nov. 14 Nov. 16	Lecture 12: Sexual Assault & Offender Typologies	Review Chapter 12 Presentation HMWK Ch. 12 Due by R Quiz Chapter 12 (B&B) Due by F Read Ch. 13 (B&B) & Handouts
Nov. 21	Lecture 13: Paraphilia & Pedophilia	Review Chapter 13 Presentation
Nov. 23	<i>NO CLASS – HOLIDAY</i>	Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov. 27-Dec 1 Nov. 28 Nov. 30	Lecture 13: Paraphilia & Pedophilia cont. <i>See Section III Review</i>	Review Notes & Handouts HMWK Ch. 13 Due by R Quiz Chapter 13 (B&B) Due by F Review Chapters, Notes, & Handouts
Dec 7	FINAL EXAM (5-7pm on Thursday)	The final will cover all course materials from section 3 (chapters 9-13, handouts, & notes).