

**Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology**  
**CRIJ 3350 VICTIMOLOGY**  
**Fall 2017**

Professor: Dr. Stephanie Bluth  
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Email: [sjb024@shsu.edu](mailto:sjb024@shsu.edu)  
Class Hours: Arranged  
Classroom: Online

Office Hours: T & Th 11:00 AM-12:00 PM or By appointment

Online Course Information: Blackboard (BB); Please check this regularly

**I. Textbooks & Required Reading:**

Because this class is structured around a lecture/discussion format, keeping up-to-date with weekly reading assignments (see the "Course Calendar" for specific reading assignments), as well as class participation in discussions, is especially important. Any questions you may have about reading materials should be posted to the virtual office or emailed to me directly.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Daigle, L. E. (2012). *Victimology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Perry, B. D., & Szalavitz, M. (2006). *The boy who was raised as a dog: What traumatized children can teach us about loss, love, and healing*. New York: Basic Books.

Seabold, A. (2002). *Lucky*. New York: Little Brown and Company.

Smith, L., & Coloma, C. (2009). *Renting Lacy: A story of America's prostituted children*. Shared Hope International.

Kennedy, S. (2011). *Why I didn't Say Anything: The Sheldon Kennedy Story*. Insomniac Press  
ISBN-10: 1554830362

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Victimology is the scientific study of crime victims and impact of their victimization experiences. This course is designed to provide a historical overview of the study of victimization in addition to existing theories, specific types of victimization, and criminal justice/social service responses to crime victimization. Furthermore, this course will examine interagency collaboration efforts and policies to effectively respond to survivors of multiple forms of crime victims.

**At times, the issues raised in this course may be controversial and/or highly emotionally charged for some students. I ask and expect that every member of this class respect each person's position, regardless of your agreement or disagreement with a particular view.** Students who become uncomfortable with particular topics are encouraged to talk with the

professor or other professionals, such as the SHSU Counseling Center 936-294-1720 (<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/>); the SAAFE House (for sexual assault and intimate partner violence) 24-hour crisis line 936-291-3369 or 936-327-2513; the 24-hour national crisis hotline 1-800- 659-6994; or the 24-hour national suicide hotline 1-800-273-8255. Students may also schedule counseling with the campus Psychological Services Center 936-294-1210 (<http://www.shsu.edu/~clinpsy/psc/>).

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After completing this class, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a solid understanding of the different types of victimization and criminal justice/social service responses to crime victims.
2. Develop an awareness of the history and development of the Crime Victim's Rights and the Women's Rights Movements in United States.
3. Define basic prevalence estimates, terminology and theories related to victimology.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking by applying course material to victimization experiences discussed in the supplemented books, class discussions, and group activities.

### **A Note from Dr. Bluth about the Subject Matter of Upcoming Lectures**

Over the course of the semester we are going to cover various topics that may be considered controversial and/or emotionally charged. While these are very important topics (both academically and socially), you may find that some of the material presented in class, or that is assigned for you to read, is disturbing because of the very nature of the subject matter it addresses. In addition, I understand that some students may find this exercise difficult, either because of violence that they themselves have experienced or that persons they know and love may have experienced. In short, it has been my experience that very few students who take this course experience the material as purely academic. If you find yourself overwhelmed with feelings, or are in abusive relationship, I urge you to take one or more of the following actions:

- Call a trusted family member. Call a trusted friend.
- Talk with a trusted mentor or professor (*see X/II-H. above*) on campus.
- Seek support, help, or assistance from any of the following local resources:
  - o **SHSU Counseling Center** 936.294.1720 (<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/>)
  - o the **SAAFE House** (for sexual assault and intimate partner violence) 24-hour crisis line 936.291.3369 or 936.327.2513
  - o **National Domestic Violence Hotline** 800.799.SAFE
  - o **24-hour national suicide hotline** 1.800.273.8255
  - o Students may also schedule counseling with the campus **Psychological Services Center** 936.294.1210 (<http://www.shsu.edu/~clinpsy/psc/>).

**I do not advise taking this course if a student is at a point where therapy would be a better alternative: This course is not a therapy session**

## Course Requirements:

**Discussions.** (52%) Students will discuss points of interest from the course material each week. In an effort to facilitate meaningful discussions, students will be required to submit (1) “**original posts**” and (1) “**reply**” to other students’ original posts:

- (1) **Original Posts:** Students will respond to 13 weekly discussions. These are designed to promote critical thinking about a number of controversial victimization issues. Discussions will be based on lecture/text material, and must also incorporate supplemental material (such as related news articles, video clips). Each posting must be a meaningful contribution to the discussion (see instructions in the course). Original posts must be submitted before each Wednesday at 11:59pm during the weeks that posts are due (see course calendar for details). ***Late original posts will be eligible for half credit and will only be accepted until the close of the session (Sundays).***
- (2) **Replies:** Given that discussions work best when students contribute to other posts, students are also required to respond to one other student’s original post for each of the 13 weekly discussions. Replies must be meaningful (see instructions in the course). Replies must be submitted before each Sunday at 11:59pm. ***Late replies will not be accepted.***
- (3) Students can earn a total of 12 points each week for their **original posts** and **replies** for a maximum semester total of 156 points (13 weeks x 12 points).

It is very important to read all original posts and replies before posting so you do not repeat content. Do not attempt to stop a discussion, but rather move it forward. Be respectful of others who disagree with you.

Additional instructions about original and reply discussion posts are available on the course website.

## **Writing Assignments: (30 Points Each = 120 Total Points):**

Each student is required to complete four writing assignments worth 30 points each (24%). All writing assignment instructions are located in the **Writing Assignment** folder on the left hand side of the course on Blackboard under **Course Information**. These assignments can be completed at your discretion, but **MUST** be completed by the due date specified in the **Course Schedule**. These assignments will require students to read the 4 supplemental texts (novels) and submit a 3 to 5 page paper describing their response to the book(s) in context of the assigned readings. Each assignment should be well-developed, show a strong understanding of the assigned reading material, and demonstrate correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure. Assignments should be a minimum of three FULL pages, double-spaced with Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. Each Writing Assignment will be graded according to the grading rubric. The rubric can be found in the **Course Information** section on Blackboard.

Additionally:

- 1) Have a cover page with your name, course number, title of paper, and date. This **DOES NOT** count toward the 3-5 page limit.
- 2) Each paper should use 3 reference sources and they can be: the actual book, the textbook, and 1 other source.
- 3) Each paper will have a reference page which **DOES NOT** count toward the 3 to 5

- page minimum.
- 4) 3 to 5 page minimum means written text. It cannot not be shorter than 3 full pages of written text or you will lose points.
  - 5) Properly cite your work. If you have questions, make sure to ask in a timely manner.

To submit your writing assignment via Blackboard, navigate to the [Writing Assignment](#) link. Click on the “Writing Assignment” folder (or current assignment folder), and use the TURNITIN link provided to submit your assignment. Your assignments must be typed in Microsoft Word and uploaded to the TURNITIN link by attaching it and submitting it. Should you have issues submitting your assignment, please contact the SHSU Online Helpdesk at (936) 294-2780.

### **Grading:**

**Exams. There will be one exam for this class: The FINAL.** The final will be based on the course material (worth 24% of your grade) and will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exam is **non-cumulative** and will cover assigned readings (including all books), videos, assignments, and lecture material and has been designed to assess knowledge, comprehension, and critical thinking skills. The exam must be completed and submitted on the date of the Final as featured on the course calendar. While the exams are “open book” and students will be permitted to use notes and the textbook, it is timed and will be impossible to locate the answers without having read the material in advance. To do well on exam, students should view lectures and complete assigned reading before beginning.

**Grades** - Your grade will not be curved or bartered. It is recommended that you monitor your own progress. To protect your privacy, grades will not be discussed via phone, email, or anywhere other than in the professor’s office.

**A:** 100-90%      **B:** 89-80%      **C:** 79-70%      **D:** 69-60%      **F:** <59

### **Make-Up Exams: (Online Course)**

There will be **NO make-up exam** in the absence of an extreme documented medical or personal emergency. In the event that a make-up is granted, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and make an arrangement. **All make-up exams will be in the short-essay format.**

**Annotated Outline of Topics to be Covered for Each Class: See Blackboard Course Schedule**

### **TRIGGER WARNING**

Please note that the required readings, topically-relevant documentaries, discussions, and exercises in this class involve extraordinarily sensitive material. In addition, it is likely that students in this classroom may have had experiences with or know someone who has experienced some form of victimization. Therefore, it is possible that students may experience discomfort and/or emotional responses. Please plan accordingly.

## MANDATORY REPORTING

As an instructor at SHSU, I am under federal obligation to relay information regarding victimization disclosure to our University's Title IX Coordinator for the purpose of ensuring appropriate services and accommodations are provided to anyone who has disclosed victimization. If you disclose ongoing or past victimization in your assignments, during class, or to me personally, I am legally obligated to relay this information to the Dean of Students Office in order to facilitate appropriate service provision. While I do not want this to deter you from seeking help or disclosing, it is important that you understand my federal legal obligations.

**Title IX Mandatory Reporting** – As a professor at SHSU, I am under federal obligation to relay information regarding victimization disclosure to our University's Title IX Coordinator for the purpose of ensuring that appropriate services and accommodations are provided to anyone who has disclosed victimization. It is important that you know, should you disclose ongoing or past victimization in writing assignments, during class, or to me personally, I am legally obliged to relay this information to the Dean of Students office in order to facilitate appropriate service provision. While I do not want this to deter you from seeking help, it is important that you understand my federal legal obligations.

## ADDITIONAL POLICIES

All emails to the professor must be written in a formal style to receive a response. This means you must include a greeting and sign the email.

Any email received after 5 p.m. will be responded the next business day after 8 a.m.

Please give me 24 hours to reply before sending another email.

I will not discuss your grade via e-mail. You **MUST** come to my office. I do not round any grades up.

- **Grade verification forms MUST be brought to me in my office to sign or sent via email as a pdf attachment.**

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

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 dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, collusion –the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, etc. You can find more information at: [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf).

Any violation of these regulations will be dealt with in accordance to the severity of the misconduct. If there are ANY doubts concerning what constitutes a violation, please ask me.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Academic dishonesty of any kind will NOT be tolerated.

- **Any instance of cheating on an exam will result in a "O" for the exam•**
- **If you are a habitual cheater** (i.e., you cheat on 2 or more occasions over the course of the semester), **you will fail the course** (i.e., receive a final letter grade of a "F")

- ALL instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean's Office•
- Further information concerning academic honesty is available at the following address: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

**Disabled Students:**

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/disability/>

**Religious Holy Day Observances:**

<http://www.shsu.edu/Vaf/www/aps/documents/861001.pdf>

**TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES**

If technical difficulties occur with Blackboard, please contact the IT Center (contact information is provided below). Please email and notify the professor as soon as possible:

**SHSU Online Technical Team**

Email: [delta@shsu.edu](mailto:delta@shsu.edu) Phone: (936) 294-2780

Available: Monday-Saturday (Sam-7pm)

**Technical Assistance** - This course requires regular access to the Internet, Microsoft Word, and Adobe PDF files. If you do not know how to use Blackboard or if you encounter technical difficulties with the course website, contact SHSU Online at (936) 294-2780 or email [delta@shsu.edu](mailto:delta@shsu.edu). Hours for SHSU Online are Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. – midnight.

**Annotated Outline of Topics to be Covered for Each Class: See Blackboard Course Schedule**

**Final Exam: will open on blackboard at 12:01am Tuesday December 5, 2017. Students will have until 11:59pm on Tuesday December 5th to complete the exam.**

**Course Schedule**

\*\*The following schedule may be modified with notice at the discretion of the professor. Students are responsible for ANY schedule changes even if they are not present when the changes are discussed.

Assignment/Exams	Points	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">A</div> <div>90-100%</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">B</div> <div>80-89%</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">C</div> <div>70-79%</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">D</div> <div>60-69%</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">F</div> <div>59% or less</div> </div>
Discussion post and responses	(13 weeks x 12 points)	
	156	
Syllabus Quiz 1/Introduction	4	
Writing Assignments 30 points each (4x30)	120	
Final Exam- 12/05	120	
<b>Course Total</b>	<b>400</b>	

Week	Topic	Readings	Requirements	Due @ 11:59p Central Time Original Post are Due on Wednesday and Reply Post are due Sunday
Week 1 Aug 23rd	Introduction to course and syllabus Chapter 1: Introduction and history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Read syllabus</li> <li>▪ Chapter 1</li> </ul>	(4) Introduce yourself in student lounge (5) Quiz #1 (Syllabus & FAQ's)	(Sun)
Week 2 Aug28	Chapter 2: Extent, Theory, and Practice of Victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #1 (Ch. 2)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #1</li> </ul>	08/30 (Wed) 09/03 (Sun)
Week 3 9/4	Chapter 4: Consequences/victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #2 (Ch. 4)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #2</li> </ul>	09/06 (Wed) 09/10 (Sun)
Week 4 9/11	Victim Blaming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>"The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog"</b></li> </ul>	None <b>"The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog"</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #3 (Victim blaming)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #3</li> </ul>	09/13 (Wed) 09/17 (Sun)
Week 5 9/18	Chapter 7: Homicide victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 7</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #4 (Ch. 7)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #4</li> </ul>	09/20 (Wed) 09/24 (Sun)
Week 6 9/2 Why5	Chapter 8 Females as victims: Sexual Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 8</li> <li>▪ Olga video</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #5 (Ch. 8)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #5</li> </ul>	09/27 (Wed) 10/01 (Sun)
Week 7 10/2	Chapter 9: Intimate partner abuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>"Lucky"</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 9</li> <li>▪ "Lucky"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #6 (Ch. 9)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #6</li> </ul>	10/04 (Wed) 10/08 (Sun)
Week 8 10/09	Stalking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fox article</li> </ul>		<b>10/11 (Wednesday)</b>

Week 9 10/16	Chapter 3 Victim/Offender Overlap- Corporal punishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Straus article</li> <li>▪ Chapter 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #7 (Straus article)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #7</li> </ul>	10/18 (Wed) 10/22 (Sun)
Week 10 10/23	Chapter 10 & 12: Child victims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Why I didn’t Say Anything”</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 10 &amp; 12</li> <li>▪ “Why I didn’t Say Anything”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #8 (Ch. 10 &amp; 12)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #8</li> </ul>	10/25 (Wed) 10/29 (Sun)
Week 11 10/30	Chapter 10: Elder victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #9 (Ch. 10)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #9</li> </ul>	11/01 (Wed) 11/5 (Sun)
Week 12 11/6	Chapter 15: Hate crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #10 (Ch. 15)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #10</li> </ul>	11/8 (Wed) 11/12 (Sun)
Week 13 11/13	Chapter 11: Special Victim Populations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Renting Lacy”</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 11</li> <li>▪ “Renting Lacy”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #11 (Ch. 11)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #11</li> </ul>	11/15 (Wed) 11/19 (Sun)
Week 14 11/20	Chapter 6 Compensation/Restitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #12 (Ch. 6)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #12</li> </ul>	11/22 (Wed) 11/26 (Sun)
Week 15 11/27	Chapter 6: Victim Rights/Victim impact statements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra Credit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chapter 6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Original post #13 (Ch. 6)</li> <li>▪ Reply post #13</li> </ul>	11/29 (Wed) 12/03 (Sun)
Week 16 12/4	Nicole Martingano and Matt Shepard Victim Impact Statements	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>EXAM(Comprehensive) FINAL</b></li> </ul>	<b>12/5 (Tues)</b>