

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

**CRIJ 4383
Family Violence (Online)
7 B Fall 2017**

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Preferred Communication: Email, you may use the e-mail function in Blackboard under Course Information. For questions regarding blackboard please contact SHSU Online technical support.

*All communication relating to this course (whether through e-mail, phone, discussion boards, or student lounge) should maintain a high level of professionalism and respect. This includes grammar, spelling, punctuation, complete sentence structures, and no abbreviations or “text talk.”

Course Meetings: Asynchronous with Blackboard. Weekly classes begin at 8am on Mondays and conclude at 11:59pm on the following Sunday. Materials and tasks will be posted during these times for students to access.

Required Textbook:

Wallace, Harvey and Cliff Roberson. 2016. *Family Violence: Legal, Medical, and Social Perspectives*, 8th Ed. Routledge; Taylor & Francis Group, London and New York.

Course Description:

This course addresses the theoretical and sociological issues associated with family violence. Pertinent aspects of family violence to be explored include child abuse, sibling abuse, intimate partner violence, stalking, and elder abuse. In addition, the criminal justice response to family violence by law enforcement, judicial, and legislative agencies is examined.

Online Classroom Demeanor:

Issues surrounding family violence involve many sensitive topics. Estimates of the prevalence of family violence suggest that the vast majority of college students have either directly experienced some form of family violence or have a close friend or family member who has

been a victim of family violence. It is imperative that we are mindful of these facts in discussing topics across the semester. It is my policy that I will not allow any form of joking, sarcasm, or otherwise insensitive remarks about violence during this course. Students found to be in violation of this policy will be immediately dropped from the class.

As an online course, our discussions and conversations will take place through written communication. One main disadvantage of this mode of communication is that we cannot hear the tone of voice nor read facial expressions/body language. **Therefore, it is crucial that we take our time and are deliberate in crafting any postings on the Discussion Board.**

***Do not disclose that you or someone you know has been a victim of family violence.** While the content of this course certainly affects people (perhaps you or someone you know), this is an academic setting and it is important to distinguish between anecdotes and trends based on research.

In addition, some topics may be disturbing to students. If a student experiences distress or discomfort during the semester they are encouraged to contact a counseling professional such as the SHSU Counseling Center 936-294-1720 (<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/counseling/>). Additional resources include: the SAAFE House (for sexual assault and family violence) 24-hour crisis hotline 936-291-3369 or 936-327- 2513; the Montgomery County Women's Center 24-hour crisis hotline 936-441-7273; the 24 -hour national crisis hotline 1-800-659-6994; or the national suicide hotline 1-800-273-8255. Students may also schedule an appointment with the SHSU Psychological Services Center 936-294-1210 (<http://www.shsu.edu/~clinpsy/psc/>).

Course Objectives

1. To gain *factual knowledge* (terminology, trends, and concepts) of the estimates of prevalence, severity, and types of family violence.
2. To have students *analyze and critically evaluate* the myths and facts regarding issues in family violence.
3. To learn to *apply course materials to improve thinking and problem solving* abilities regarding issues of family violence.

Course Requirements (See Class Schedule for Due Dates for all Required Work)

Exams: (20 Points Each = 80 Total Points):

Each student is required to take four 20-point examinations, for a total of 80 points. These exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. Questions will be composed of information from the textbook and lectures. The exams will be open book and will be timed for a *one-hour* time period. It is important that the student is prepared to take the exam before opening the test. Experience shows that students who are not well prepared in advance will not do well on the timed tests. The exams are to be taken during the time allotted.

In the event of an *extenuating circumstance* and with *prior notice* to the Professor, students may make up **ONE** exam during the semester. All make-up exams will be given during the **week before finals week (Week 14: November 27th to December 3rd, 2017).**

Writing Assignments: (5 Points Each = 20 Total Points):

Each student is required to complete four writing assignments worth 5 points each. All writing assignment videos are located in the **Writing Assignment Videos** 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 watch one or more videos and submit a 3 to 5 page paper describing their response to the video(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 5 reference sources and they can be: the video, the textbook, and 3 other sources.
- 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, please feel free to contact me.

To submit your writing assignment via Blackboard, navigate to the [Writing Assignment Videos](#) link. Click on the “Writing Assignment 1” 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.

In the event of an extenuating circumstance and with prior notice to the Professor, students may make up **ONE** Writing Assignment. One late paper will be submitted by 11:59pm, Sunday night the week before finals week.

Plagiarism and Written Assignments

Please be advised that all written materials turned in throughout the semester will be run through a plagiarism detection software package. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course and will result in sanctions such as a zero for the assignment, an “F” for the course grade, or

expulsion from the University. Read, learn, enjoy, synthesize materials, and do your own original work. Please read the SHSU Academic Dishonesty policy via the link at the end of this syllabus. Students who remain in this class after the first week of the semester are presumed to have read the Academic Dishonesty policy and agree to abide by the policy. “Not knowing” what plagiarism is and how to avoid is an unacceptable defense. Cite your sources all of the time and use quotation marks and citations for direct quotes. The Writing Center provides handouts for citing various sources. The links to these handouts may be found at the end of the syllabus.

Requirements:

Test One - Due 10/29/17 by 11:59 pm	20
Test Two - Due 11/12/17 by 11:59 pm	20
Test Three - Due 11/26/17 by 11:59 pm	20
Final Exam - Due 12/07 by 11:59 pm	20
Writing Assignment #1 – Due 11/05 by 11:59 pm	5
Writing Assignment #2 – Due 11/19 by 11:59 pm	5
Writing Assignment #3 – Due 11/26 by 11:59 pm	5
Writing Assignment #4 – Due 12/01 by 11:59pm	5
Total	100

Grading Policy:

Grades will not be curved.

90 - 100 points = A
80 - 89 points = B
70 - 79 points = C
60 - 69 points = D
Below 60 points = F

Course Expectations and Policies

Class Attendance and Participation:

As a distance-learning course, your log-on in the class on a daily/weekly basis will serve as your attendance record. Students who do well in this course will be engaged in the materials on a weekly basis.

Make-Up Work:

In the event of an extenuating circumstance and with prior notice to the Professor, students may make up **ONE Exam** during the semester and **ONE Writing Assignment**. All make-up exams will be given during the **week before finals week only**. One late paper will be due that week as well.

At the end of this semester, you should have developed an understanding of how family violence affects victims emotional, physical, sexual and financial well-being. As well as the impact it has on legal and social systems.

Important University Policies to Read

Academic Policy:

See <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

Writing Center Link

For assistance with using the writing center, please use the link below.

<http://www.shsu.edu/~wctr/Handouts/Citations/APA/APA.-.3.-.In-Text.Citations.pdf>