

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
CRIJ 3363.03
Violent Offenders
Spring 2018

Professor: Thomas Warren
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Class Hours: Tuesday night 6:00 – 8:50 pm
Classroom: Criminal Justice Center – A115
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 5:00 to 6:00 or by appointment

Required Text:

DeLisi, M., & Conis, P. (2018). *Violent Offenders: Theory, Research, Policy and Practice* (Third Edition). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Course Description:

This class will provide the student with a better understanding of violent offenders. The class will cover violent crime, victimization, violence in the community, predators, cyber-related violence, genetics, early risk factors, deviance, and deterrence. The objective will be to analyze the current procedures and practices in the field of criminal justice, help the students to think critically and logically, and provide the ability to plan for the future of criminal justice.

Course Objectives:

1. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories concerning violent offenders.
2. Discuss theory and research as well as policy and practices as they apply to violent offenders.
3. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems.
4. To increase understanding of violent offenders and how they impact our lives and society as a whole.
5. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view concerning violent offenders.
6. To learn different methodologies regarding handling violent offenders in the criminal justice environment.

Course requirements:

This course provides an introduction to psychological issues relating to understanding, assessing, managing criminal and other abnormal behavior. An overview of mental disorders and their relationship to criminality and violence is provided. Topics include sanity, psychopathy, criminal profiling, serial killers, stalking, women who kill, and threat assessment.

Grading Policy:

Student course grades are calculated on:

Test #1	80	A = 358-400
Test #2	80	B = 318-357
Test #3	80	C = 278-317
Test #4	80	D = 238-277
Test #5	80	F = 237 and below
Test #6	80	

Tests: Tests will be multiple choice and will cover material presented in class as well as material from the required text. Students will be required to bring scantron answer sheets to class for exams. You will be allowed to drop your lowest test grade at the end of the semester.

Make-Up Exams: Make up exams will only be given if a student has contacted the instructor prior to the exam and has a University recognized absence which includes illness documented by a physician, religious observance, or participation in University activities at the request of University authorities. Official documentation must be provided.

STUDENT ACADEMIC POLICIES concerning Attendance, Academic Honesty, Disabled Student and Services for Disabled Students, and Absences on Religious Holy days may be found at:

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

USE OF TELEPHONES AND TEXT MESSAGES IN ACADEMIC CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES:

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

Course Outline:

This outline is subject to change according to the needs of the course and the students.
The outline serves as a general overview of daily activities.

***Note: It is recommended that reading of the chapter(s) be completed PRIOR to the class to assist in the understanding of the material and participation in class.**

Tuesday: January 23

Read the Introduction to the text, Orientation, Overview of Course Syllabus, and expectations for the semester.

Tuesday: January 30

Read chapter 1 – The Importance of Violent Offenders to Criminology

Read chapter 2 – The Overlap of Violent Offending and Violent Victimization:
Assessing the Evidence and Explanations

Tuesday: February 6

Read chapter 3 – Community-Level Correlates of Crime

Read chapter 4 – Where I'm From: Criminal Predators and Their Environments

Tuesday: February 13 - **Test #1** – **Chapters 1-4 please bring scantrons for test**

Read chapter 5 – Toward an Understanding of Chronic, Serious, and Violent Offending

Read chapter 6 – Still Psychopathic After All These Years

Tuesday: February 20

Read chapter 7 – The Behavioral Genetics of Predatory Criminal Behavior

Read chapter 8 – Vigilance, Violence, and Murder in Mateships

Tuesday: February 27 - **Test #2** – **Chapters 5-8 - please bring scantrons for test.**

Read chapter 9 – Early Risk Factors for Young Homicide Offenders and Victims

Read Chapter 10 - Generality of Deviance and Predation: Crime-Switching and Specialization Patterns in Persistent Sexual Offenders

Tuesday: March 6

Read chapter 11 – Comparing Women and Men Who Kill

Read chapter 12 – Female Sexual Offending

Tuesday: March 13

Spring Break – No Class

Tuesday: March 20 - **Test #3** – **Chapters 9-12 - please bring scantrons for test.**

Read chapter 13 – Antisocial Trajectories of Sexual Aggressors of Women

Read chapter 14 – The Heterogeneity of Predatory Behaviors in Sexual Homicide

Tuesday: March 27

Read chapter 15 – Understanding Sexual Homicide Offending: Pre-Crime Behavior and Decision-Making of Sexual Murderers

Read chapter 16 – Focused Deterrence Strategies and the Reduction of Gang and Group-Involved Violence

Tuesday: April 3 - **Test #4** – **Chapters 13-16 please bring scantrons for test**

Read chapter 17 – Gang Involvement and Predatory Crime

Read chapter 18 – Arrested Today, Out Tomorrow: Patrol Officers' Perceptions of a Broken Justice System

Tuesday: April 10

Read chapter 19 – Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders and Implications for Juvenile Justice Systems

Read chapter 20 – Violent Offenders: A Perspective on Dynamic Federal Supervision Practices

Read chapter 21 – Prosecuting Criminal Predators

Tuesday: April 17 - **Test #5** – **Chapter 17-21 please bring scantrons for test**

Read chapter 22 – Alternative Adjudication Methods for Offenders with Mental Health Problem

Read chapter 25 – Institutional Misconduct Among Capital Murderers

Tuesday: April 24

Read chapter 26 – Civil Commitment Laws for Sexual Predators

Civil Commitment presentation Henry Henderson

Tuesday: May 1

Read chapter 27 – Novel Techniques to Detect the Multiple-Event Murderer: An Exploration of a Researcher's Field Notes

Read chapter 28 – Running to Stand Still? Reentry and Violent Offenders

Tuesday: May 8 – **Final Exam – 8:30 – 10:30**

Test #6 – **Chapters 22, 25-28 – please bring scantrons for test.**

Class Discussions and Mutual Respect: Each person in this course has unique prior experiences and a unique viewpoint to share. This offers a great opportunity for us to learn from each other throughout this course. Though disagreement and even conflict may occur, I encourage you to discuss your own personal experiences and relate them to other classmates. However, I do expect your cooperation in maintaining an atmosphere of mutual respect. Conflict is not negative, as long as there is a commitment to mutual respect. Hateful and demeaning speech will not be tolerated.