

## **Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology**

**CRIJ 3550.05 ONLINE**

**Victimology**

**Spring 2018**

**Instructor:** Mark Bull, MS

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**Office Hours:** Primary contact through SHSU email and Black Board Virtual Office.

**Textbooks:** Wallace, H. & Roberson, C. (2014). Victimology: Legal, Psychological, and Social Perspectives. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Pearson Publishing. ISBN 978-0133495522

### **Course Description:**

Victimology is the scientific study of crime victims and focuses on the physical, emotional, and financial harm victims suffer due to crime. The purpose of this course is to examine victim-offender relationships, the interactions between victims and the criminal justice system, and the connections between victims and other institutions (such as the media, advocacy groups, and government). In exploring these connections, we will address the theory, research, legislation, and policy implications related to victimization. Students are expected to read assignments, use critical thinking skills, and analyze and evaluate victimization issues.

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**

- (1) To gain *factual knowledge* about the study of crime victimization
- (2) To learn to *analyze and critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view

**Technical:** 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 the helpdesk at 1-800-870-9214 or <mailto:helpdesk@shsuonline.net>

## **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 (2) “replies” to other students’ original posts. 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).

(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 (11:59 pm, 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.

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.

**Exams.** (48%) Two (2) exams will be based on the course material. Each exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exams are non-cumulative and will cover assigned readings, videos, assignments, and lecture material. Exams are designed to assess knowledge, comprehension, and critical thinking skills. Exams must be completed and submitted by the due dates featured on the course calendar, although early submissions are encouraged. While the exams are “open book” and students are permitted to use notes and the textbook, the exams are timed and it will be impossible to locate the answers without having read the material in advance. To do well on exams, students should view lectures and complete assigned reading before beginning each exam.

**Make-Up Exams:** Non-Applicable (Online Course)

## Extra Credit

There will be two extra-credit assignments this semester. During Session 6, you may write an essay related to a series of videos about “Olga,” an abuse survivor. More details are provided in Session 6. During Session 15 you may present an essay related the media and victimization. Each is worth up to 2 points to be applied to the final grade.

**Grading:** Your grade will not be curved or bartered. It is recommended that you monitor your own progress.

A: 100-90%, 276-248	B: 89-80% 247-220	C: 79-70%, 219-193	D:69-60%, 192-165	F: <59%, <165
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Academic Dishonesty - Do not cheat! Each student is required to do his or her own work in this course. To submit someone else’s work, steal someone’s words or ideas, submit duplicate copies of a paper, cheat on an examination, or allow another to commit an act of academic dishonesty corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced and acts of, or attempted acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. I take academic dishonesty very seriously. Students who violate the academic honesty code will be failed in the course. For further information, please discuss the matter with the instructor or consult the Sam Houston State University Rules (<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/728eec25-f780-4dcf-932c-03d68cade002.pdf>).

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> I take academic dishonesty very seriously. Students who violate the academic honesty code will be failed in the course.

Use of Telephones and Text Messages in Academic Classrooms and Facilities:

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

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

**CRIJ 3350.05 Victimology (Online) Course Schedule – Sam Houston State University – Spring 2017 M. Bull**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Session / Dates (Mon-Sun)</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Due @ 11:59pm Central Time</b>
Week 1	Session 1 1/17-1/21	Introduction to course and syllabus Chapter 1: Introduction and history	▪ Read syllabus ▪ Chapter 1	▪ Introduce yourself in student lounge ▪ Quiz #1 (Syllabus & FAQ's)	1/22 (Sun)
Week 2	Session 2 1/22-1/28	Chapter 2: Measurement of crime	▪ Chapter 2	▪ Original post #1 (Ch. 2) ▪ Reply post #1	1/25 (Wed) 1/29 (Sun)
Week 3	Session 3 1/29-2/04	Chapter 3: Consequences/victimization	▪ Chapter 3	▪ Original post #2 (Ch. 3) ▪ Reply post #2	2/01 (Wed) 2/05 (Sun)
Week 4	Session 4 2/05-2/11	Victim Blaming	None	▪ Original post #3 (Victim blaming) ▪ Reply post #3	2/08 (Wed) 2/12 (Sun)
Week 5	Session 5 2/12-2/17	Chapter 5: Homicide victims	▪ Chapter 5	▪ Original post #4 (Ch. 5) ▪ Reply post #4	2/15 (Wed) 2/19 (Sun)
Week 6	Session 6 2/19-2/25	Chapter 6: Females as victims <b>Extra Credit #1</b>	▪ Chapter 6 ▪ Olga video	▪ Original post #5 (Ch. 6) ▪ Reply post #5	2/22 (Wed) 2/26 (Sun)
Week 7	Session 7 2/26-3/04	Chapter 7: Intimate partner abuse	▪ Chapter 7	▪ Original post #6 (Ch. 7) ▪ Reply post #6	3/01 (Wed) 3/05 (Sun)
Week 8	Session 8 3/05-3/11	Stalking	▪ Fox article	▪ <b>EXAM 1</b> (Sessions 1-8)	<b>3/12 (Sun)</b>
Week 9	Session 9 3/19-3/25	Corporal punishment	▪ Straus article	▪ Original post #7 (Straus article) ▪ Reply post #7	3/22 (Wed) 3/26 (Sun)

Week 10	Session 10 3/26-4/01	Chapter 8: Child victims	▪ Chapter 8	▪ Original post #8 (Ch. 8) ▪ Reply post #8	3/29 (Wed) 4/02 (Sun)
Week 11	Session 11 4/02-4/08	Chapter 9: Elder victims	▪ Chapter 9	▪ Original post #9 (Ch. 9) ▪ Reply post #9	4/05 (Wed) 9/09 (Sun)
Week 12	Session 12 4/09-4/15	Chapter 10: Hate crimes	▪ Chapter 10	▪ Original post #10 (Ch. 10) ▪ Reply post #10	4/12 (Wed) 4/16 (Sun)
Week 13	Session 13 4/16-4/22	Chapter 11: Special Victim Populations	▪ Chapter 11	▪ Original post #11 (Ch. 11) ▪ Reply post #11	4/19 (Wed) 4/23 (Sun)
Week 14	Session 14 4/23-4/29	Chapter 16: Compensation/Restitution	▪ Chapter 16	▪ Original post #12 (Ch. 16) ▪ Reply post #12	4/26 (Wed) 4/30 (Sun)
Week 15	Session 15 4/30-5/04	Chapter 17: Victim impact statements Nicole Martingano and Matt Shepard Victim Impact Statements <b>Extra Credit #2</b>	▪ Chapter 17	▪ Original post #13 (Ch. 17) ▪ Reply post #13	5/03 (Wed) 5/07 (Sun)
Week 16	Session 16 5/07-5/10	<b>Final Exam:</b> Exam 2	None	▪ <b>EXAM 2</b> (Sessions 9-16)	<b>5/11 (Thurs)</b>