

SOCI 3313

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

Spring 2017
<https://elearn.uta.edu>
www.grtep.com

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COURSE INFORMATION

In this online course, we introduce the field of criminology and discover what criminologists do, the legal system they work within, and how they gather information about crime. Students will learn to identify and categorize multiple types of crimes, going beyond learning definitions and statistics about their prevalence to considering how individuals' criminal behavior is influenced by their interaction with the social environment. In addition, we will examine multiple theories that attempt to explain the causes of and reactions to crime to broaden students' understanding of the variation in how people have thought about crime and criminals across history.

COURSE MATERIALS

The course requires only one textbook: *Introduction to Criminology* by Raymond Eve. This is an online textbook that contains all of the reading for the semester, as well as some of the assignments for the course. If you do not buy access to the book, you will not have access to the material you will need to prepare for the quizzes (which you will take on Blackboard), nor will you be able to complete the graded and extra credit exercises. The book will be available instantly after purchase. Therefore, no deadline will be extended for students who do not have access to the book.

Once you have access to the course, you will be able to login from any computer, tablet, or phone to read the assigned material, and complete course exercises. In Blackboard, you will find all of the quizzes for the semester, as well as your grades for the course.

You can access the book from the publisher, Great River Learning, at www.grtep.com and clicking on "Click Here to Purchase" under the First Time User (without access code) field. You will choose University of Texas - Arlington from the list of Institutions and Introduction to Criminology – Eve from the list of publications. You will then be prompted to set up a username and password that you will use to access the course from this website. This username and password does not need to be the same as your UTA login credentials, but make sure you keep a record of the username and password that you select because you will need this information each time you log into the course. Finally, you will enter your payment information. Once this is complete, you will have purchased access to the book and will have access to the course. When you are ready to login to the course, you can return to www.grtep.com and enter your username and password in the Login field.

You can also purchase access to the book from the UTA bookstore. The cost is the same either way. When you purchase the book from the UTA bookstore, you will be given an access code to enter into the Access Code field on the www.grtep.com website rather than clicking "Click Here to Purchase."

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RESOURCES

QUIZZES

During the semester you will take a series of 12 quizzes, one associated with each chapter in the online book. There is no comprehensive final. There are four deadlines for course completion: Friday **February 10th at noon** (Quizzes 1 – 3), **Friday March 3rd at noon** (Quizzes 4 – 6), **Friday April 7th at noon** (Quizzes 7 – 9), and **Friday April 28th at noon** (Quizzes 10 – 12). All quizzes are available to students from the beginning of the semester and can be taken at any time before the deadlines, including in the middle of the night or on weekends. Therefore, if you would like, you may take all the quizzes early in the semester and be done with the class. While it is permissible to wait until the deadline day to take each set of assigned quizzes, this is not advisable.

You will access the quizzes from Blackboard. The quizzes are open book and open note (but you may not consult with a friend on the quizzes). Each quiz will consist of either 13 or 14 multiple choice and true/false questions, and you will have 20 minutes to complete each quiz. Please note that all quizzes are due by noon on their deadline days. Should you wait until 11:50 pm to begin a quiz, you will only have ten minutes in which to take that quiz, not the full 20 minutes. Please ask if you have any questions about this, but be aware that this policy is not negotiable.

Before you begin a quiz, be sure that you will have a sufficient amount of uninterrupted time in which to complete it. Once you begin a quiz, you must answer each question, save each answer, and submit the quiz. No second entries to any quiz will be allowed. You will be given only one try and will then receive your score, with no further comment on the material.

It is your responsibility to maintain access to a computer with reliable internet connection throughout the semester. If internet connection on your home or work computer is lost, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to use another computer. Technical difficulties are not a valid excuse for failing to submit a quiz by the deadline.

After you complete each quiz, you will see your score immediately. For security reasons, **you will not be able to view the quiz questions once you have submitted your answers.** If this will be a problem for you, you should reconsider your decision to take SOCI 3313, as this is non-negotiable (so don't waste your time asking.)

Make-up quiz Policy

A limited number of make-up quizzes will be allowed in cases of documentable medical or family crises, if the student contacts me within two days of missing a quiz deadline.

CHAPTER EXERCISES

In addition to 12 chapter quizzes, there are also graded and bonus exercises within each chapter of the online book. The graded chapter exercises are similar to quiz questions, and check your comprehension of the material as you're reading. You may attempt each question as many times as you'd like. All graded quiz questions for a chapter are due at the same time as the quiz for that chapter. The bonus questions are all optional, and are each worth 1 extra credit point. Bonus questions are graded for completion rather than accuracy, and are all due by noon on April 28th. The course schedule (on the last page of the syllabus) indicates which chapter exercises are graded and which are bonus.

COURSE GRADING

Final grades will be based on twelve required quizzes and chapter exercises. There are 160 chapter quiz questions, each worth 2.5 points, for a total of 400 points. There are 50 graded chapter exercises, each worth 2 points, for a total of 100 points. (Note that exercise 5 on chapter 3 has 3 parts, so it's worth 6 points, and exercise 5 on chapter 11 has 2 parts, so it's worth 4 points). The number of points you earn from these quiz and graded exercise questions will be added to any extra credit points you earn from the 50 bonus chapter exercises, each worth 1 point (graded for completion). Your final grade will be scored using the following criteria:

- A: 450+ points
- B: 400-449 points
- C: 350-399 points
- D: 300-349 points
- F: below 300 points

To access your quiz and exercise scores, click on 'Gradebook' from the top of the online textbook page, just below the grey bar. You will see the number of points earned on each exercise. **Please disregard the part of the gradebook that gives you the "Grade to Date" column. It is incorrect.** Therefore, after each quiz deadline, I will update your gradebook in **Blackboard** with your current average to keep you informed about your progress in the class, and will post your final grade to your Grades page as soon as I have calculated it. Should you have any questions or concerns about your grade between emails, feel free to get in touch with me.

GETTING HELP

Contacting Me

You can contact me via email at sdutoit@uta.edu. I strive for a 12-hour turnaround time on emails, but will guarantee an answer every email within 48 hours, handling priority issues first. If I need to get in touch with you, I will use the email address that you have registered with the MyMav system. I look forward to interacting with you via the discussion and email and seeing what you have to say regarding what you are learning about marital and sexual lifestyles in the United States!

Technical Help

Questions related to course content should be addressed to me via email. If you are experiencing technical difficulties, please contact 24/7 help web support system at Great River Learning (the publisher of the textbook) by clicking the Help link at the top of the page within the online book, and then clicking on "Support Form." From here you can describe your problem or question. Or, you can also email web support using this email: websupport@greatriverlearning.com. During very busy times (such as the beginning of the semester), it might take 12 – 24 hours to receive a response, but at all other times, they attempt to respond to questions within a few hours.

Please note that the UTA help desk and Blackboard Support lines will not be able to assist you with technical difficulties with the online textbook, as they do not have access to our book.

Technical difficulties are not a valid excuse for not completing the course on schedule. While technical difficulties are rare, they do occur. Plan your work schedule to allow you sufficient time to complete all course requirements.

Should you find your course connection repeatedly lost or interrupted, you will need to quickly find a more secure connection. Local students can make use of UTA facilities at campus computer labs; distant students are urged to make use of their own local colleges or public libraries to re-establish their course access.

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

After you have finished all course requirements, please complete the confidential, online course evaluation form. A link to the evaluation will be emailed to you near the end of the semester. Please take the time to provide this important feedback on your educational experience. Student evaluations for the course are compiled and summarized by the distance education server administrator and reported to me after grades are submitted. During the semester, students are encouraged to share individual comments with me as well.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

DROP POLICY

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to complete the course after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non participation. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://uta.edu/ses/fao>).

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

UTA is committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Assigned Reading	Graded Chapter Exercises	Bonus Chapter Exercises	Chapter Quiz	Deadline
1/17 – 2/10	Ch. 1	2, 3, 5, 6	1, 4, 7, 8	Ch. 1	2/10 noon CDT
	Ch. 2	1, 2, 3, 8	4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10	Ch. 2	
	Ch. 3	1, 2, 5a, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12	3, 4, 5b, 8, 10	Ch. 3	
2/11 - 3/3	Ch. 4	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9	2, 3, 7	Ch. 4	3/3 noon CDT
	Ch. 5	3, 4, 7	1, 2, 5, 6, 8	Ch. 5	
	Ch. 6	2, 4, 6	1, 3, 5, 7	Ch. 6	
3/4 – 4/7	Ch. 7	1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10	3, 5, 6, 7	Ch. 7	4/7 noon CST
	Ch. 8	2, 4, 5	1, 3, 6	Ch. 8	
	Ch. 9	2, 3, 5	1, 4	Ch. 9	
4/8 – 4/28	Ch. 10	2, 4	1, 3, 5, 6	Ch. 10	4/28 noon CST
	Ch. 11	3, 5, 9	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8	Ch. 11	
	Ch. 12	1, 6	2, 3, 4, 5	Ch. 12	