

SOCI 3313

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

Spring 2019
<https://elearn.uta.edu>
www.grtep.com

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EMAIL: SDUTOIT@UTA.EDU

OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

CLASS MEETINGS: ONLINE

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 online book, 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 material. 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 this class, 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 8th at noon** (Quizzes 1 – 3), **Friday, March 1st at noon** (Quizzes 4 – 6), **Friday, March 29th at noon** (Quizzes 7 – 9), and **Friday, April 26th at noon** (Quizzes 10 – 12). All quizzes are available to students from the beginning of the course 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. Ideally, you will take one quiz per week.

You will access the quizzes from Blackboard. The quizzes are open book and open note (but you may not consult with a friend/classmate 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 am 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, and that you are using a computer with reliable internet access. 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 for students who miss a deadline contact me to request this option. I will not reach out to students who have missed quizzes, so if you miss a quiz, it is your responsibility to request a make-up quiz. Any make-up quizzes allowed will be made available to students after they finish the rest of the quizzes in the course, and will be due, without exception, by noon May 3rd. Students who contact me after noon on May 3rd to request one or more make-up quizzes will not be allowed to make up missed work, regardless of circumstance, so please plan accordingly.

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 (so if you miss a question on your first attempt, review the material in the online book and try again.). 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 May 3rd. 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 12 required quizzes and chapter exercises. There are 160 chapter quiz questions, each worth 2.5 points, for a total of 400 points. The 50 graded chapter exercises are each worth 2 points, for a total of 100 points¹. The online book also has 50 extra credit 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 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 working with you this semester!

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.

¹ Note that exercise 4 on chapter 11 is worth 6 points, and exercise 1 on chapter 12 is worth 4 points.

EXPECTAITONS FOR STUDY TIME

For on-campus courses, a general rule of thumb is that for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class in addition to time in class. Therefore, a 3-credit course has a *minimum* weekly expectation of 12 hours of reading, study, etc. The same applies to online courses. Although we will not meet in class, the expectation is that you will spend 9 hours preparing for assignments in this class – reading, taking notes, re-reading, reviewing and organizing your notes, quizzing yourself over the material, completing online exercises, and communicating with the instructor regarding questions about the material.

There are 14 week in the semester and 12 chapters, so you are expected to prepare for and complete the assignments for one chapter each week. Therefore, it is expected that you will spend at least 12 hours preparing for each chapter and set of online exercises. If your schedule will not allow this sort of time commitment, please set your expectations to be okay with finishing the course with a C or lower.

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>.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

TITLE IX POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

CAMPUS CARRY

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

At the end of each term, students are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

FINAL REVIEW WEEK

for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have

a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Assigned Reading	Graded Chapter Exercises	Bonus Chapter Exercises	Chapter Quiz	Deadline
1/14 – 2/8	Ch. 1	2, 3, 5, 6	1, 4, 7, 8	Ch. 1	2/8 noon CST
	Ch. 2	1, 2, 3, 7	4, 5, 6, 8, 9	Ch. 2	
	Ch. 3	1, 3a, 5, 7	2, 3b, 4, 6	Ch. 3	
2/11 – 3/1	Ch. 4	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9	2, 3, 7	Ch. 4	3/1 noon CST
	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 – 3/29	Ch. 7	1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10	3, 5, 6, 7	Ch. 7	3/29 noon CDT
	Ch. 8	2, 4, 5	1, 3, 6, 7	Ch. 8	
	Ch. 9	2, 4, 6	1, 3, 5, 7	Ch. 9	
4/1 – 5/26	Ch. 10	2, 4, 7	1, 3, 5, 6	Ch. 10	5/3* noon CDT
	Ch. 11	2, 4, 8, 9	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	Ch. 11	
	Ch. 12	1, 5, 7	2, 3, 4, 6	Ch. 12	

***Note about the final deadline:** ABSOLUTELY NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER NOON ON 5/3. The grade you've earned by noon on 5/3 will be your final grade. If you miss a quiz during the semester and contact me to arrange a make-up quiz, noon on May 3rd will be the final deadline for make-up quizzes without exception. Please note that if you wait until a day or two before (or the morning of) May 3rd to take one or more make-up quizzes and experience a personal tragedy or illness, technical problem, or other event that prevents you from completing your quizzes by noon, no exceptions to the final deadline will be made. **Therefore, I strongly suggest that you mark in your calendar that April 29th is the final deadline for the course, giving yourself an extra week before the actual deadline in case you encounter a problem.**