

The University of Texas at Tyler

Criminal Justice Program

Criminal Justice



CRIJ 1301-060

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Spring 2024

Online

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Office Hours: By virtual appointment since this is an online course.

I welcome you to contact me outside of class and during my student office hours. To leave a message, I prefer you email me. I check my email regularly and will return your emails within 48 hours, if not sooner.

Course Description:

This course provides a historical and philosophical overview of the American criminal justice system, including the nature, extent, and impact of crime; criminal law; and justice agencies and processes.

Course Format:

This course is taught entirely online. All course interactions will take place through Canvas, UT-Tyler's learning management system. Video lectures are provided for each module, and there are a variety of other online technologies used to facilitate class assignments. In order to be successful, you will need to complete all online components of the course. To help you stay organized, a course schedule is provided for you in Canvas.

Course Overview:

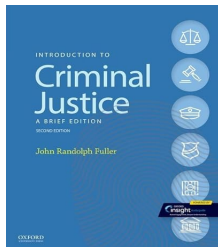
The purpose of this course is to expose you to the complex criminal justice system and the problems it confronts. You will become familiar with the workings of law enforcement, the courts, the correctional system, as well as juvenile justice. This course will review what constitutes crime and how crime is measured. You will evaluate the future of the criminal justice system and outline some of the current pressing issues that continue to challenge crime control in a democratic society.

Textbooks:

Required:

Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice: A Brief Edition - With Access, by John Fuller

ISBN: 9780197504048



Supplementary Materials:

Your textbook includes a free student companion website (link below). The companion website includes chapter outlines, flashcards, and practice quizzes. Use of the student companion website is not required but is highly recommended for students seeking additional instruction or assistance with the course material.

www.oup.com/he/fuller2e

Internet Access:

It is imperative **you have reliable internet access**. If you do not have it at your residence, you will be required to spend time in the Computer Lab. This is important because this is an online course, which will require you to complete all course activities online. I will also be making important announcements in the course Canvas site and sending you emails. Furthermore, I will post your grades in Canvas so you will have an “at a glance view” of your current standing in the course.

Course Objectives: At the end of the semester you will be able to:

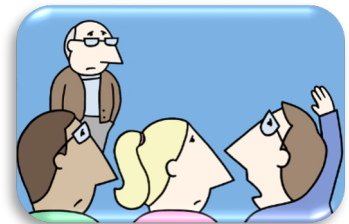
1. Critical Thinking: Design policy recommendations based on crime trend data.
2. Written Communication: Design written arguments that use high-quality and credible sources to support your opinion.
3. Quantitative Reasoning: Construct tables, graphs, and other visuals to explain crime trends..
4. Social Responsibility: Evaluate criminal justice practices in the United States from the perspective of diverse international cultures.
5. Describe the history, philosophy, and structure of the American criminal justice system.
6. Explain the nature and extent of crime in America.
7. Compare American criminal justice practices with those of global partners.
8. Assess criminal justice policy developments and their applications.
9. Communicate empirical findings from criminal justice policy research to appropriate laypersons.

Attendance Policy:

This is an online course and it is not self-paced as there are assignments due every week. Direct your attention to the due dates for the assessments. Your success requires you to remain current with the course material. This means you will be devoting several hours to complete the course material every week. I understand extenuating circumstances arise that can make it difficult to complete work on time. In other words, life happens! If a serious family emergency occurs, please let me know as soon as the event occurs or within 24 hours. This will enable us to decide on the most appropriate course of action. Be aware that Canvas has great analytics, so I can easily determine how much time you are dedicating to the course and if you are even watching the videos!

Class Participation:

I hope you actively participate in this course. I say this because I found it the best way to engage you in learning the material. It also makes the learning process more fun because everyone gets the opportunity to learn from each other. Be prepared for every activity. In other words, read and study the material!



Missed Exams/Late Assignments:

Unfortunately, illnesses, deaths in the family, or other traumatic events are part of life. Such events are unwelcomed and because I understand how difficult these times are, if you contact me within 24 hours of the event **and** provide documentation, I will be happy to give you a make-up exam or extend an assignment deadline.

The general rule is I will not accept any late assignments. Please devote particular attention to the due dates for each assignment. All due dates are specified in each module; **basically, all work must be completed for each module by 11:59pm on Sundays. The semester final exam will be due by 11:59pm on Friday, May 3, 2024.**

Student Expectations:

You may be wondering what is expected of you? I have listed the minimum (basic) items that are in your best interests to adhere to because it will help you be successful in the course:

- Remain current with the course material. **You must read the material prior to engaging in any of the learning activities.**
- Read all the information prior to engaging in the learning activities. This means you must **read the chapter**. I have heard many students do not read the material. However, it is in your best interest to do so because the online activities are related to the reading material. Reading and being prepared is important for your success in this course.
- **Complete all online work prior to 11:59pm each Sunday.**
- Complete all assignments, projects, and assessments on or before the due date. Your success in the course depends upon your engagement in all the learning activities.
- **Check the course in Canvas regularly for any announcements. Turn on your notifications to receive announcement alerts. This is where I push out important information and any changes to the syllabus, due dates, etc.**
- Check your Patriots email (that is the email account the university provides to you and all my correspondence with you via email will be sent to your university email account).
- Send emails in the subject line: **CRIJ 1301-060** (*then list the item that is the subject*)
- If you need additional clarification, you should be contacting me as soon as practical. Do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for help.

Disruptive Activities:

I reserve the right to assess any activity that is not stipulated in this syllabus as disruptive. If anything arises that hinders the learning environment, I will restrict that activity from occurring in the virtual classroom.

Instructor Expectations:

I believe teaching is a two-way street. Therefore, you should also have expectations of me. Here is what you can expect from me.

- You should expect me to communicate important events with you as they arise.
- I will return all of your work in a timely fashion. This means I will do my best to provide you feedback on each and every item that is graded within 1 week.
- I will also return any emails I receive from you within 48 hours. (Generally, emails will be returned much sooner. I am often complimented by students with the quickness of my responses to emails. I respect you and will make every effort to respond quickly; but keep it in mind that most of my responses will be in the evenings.

How to Contact Me:

I am very approachable. I am here to help you understand the importance of the criminal justice system today. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the earliest convenience possible.

Email me with any questions you may have through **my University email** account. My email BCharlson@uttyler.edu. Or, you may call my phone at 903-399-4881. If I am not in, please leave a message. I can set up a video conference appointment as necessary.

When sending an email, please write in the subject line CRIJ 3311-060 (then list the item that is the subject of the email).

Evaluation of Grades:

Module Assignments:

Welcome Module Scavenger Hunt	15 points
Plagiarism Certificate	20 points
Criminal Justice Interest Survey & Exit Survey	10 points
Reading Quizzes (14)	140 points
Lecture Videos (14)	140 points
Final Exam	50 points
Module Assignment Points	375 points

Online Activities

Crime Trend Infographic	25 points
Day in the Life of a Law Enforcement Officer	25 points
International Perspectives on the Death Penalty	25 points
Presentence Investigation Report	25 points
Juvenile Justice Timeline	25 points
Online Activity Points	125 points

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE

500 points

Chapter Reading Quizzes:

Readings are a vital part of this course because you will put the concepts into action during the module's laboratory activity. To promote retention and comprehension of the material, you will complete a short reading quiz each week. Quizzes will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions only. You may take each quiz up to three times. Only the highest score will count towards your final grade.

Plagiarism Certificate:

While some forms of plagiarism are intentional, often plagiarism results from lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism and awareness of how to avoid plagiarized material. At the beginning of this course, you will complete an online certificate to help you recognize and avoid plagiarism. The course is self-paced and takes most students approximately two hours to complete. At the end of the course, you will complete a plagiarism test and receive a plagiarism certificate. You will present your certificate for a grade. **Your certificate must be dated in January of 2024 to receive credit.** You may not submit a certificate from a past semester!

Lecture Video Quizzes:

Since this is an online course, all lecture material will be provided in online lecture videos. Every week, you will complete a series of mini-lectures, each lasting between 5 and 10 minutes. You can post time-stamped text questions onto any lecture video for review and response by the course instructor within one business day.

All lecture videos include multiple choice and true/false quiz questions embedded directly into the video. You must complete the lecture video and submit the quiz in order to earn full points for the week. Lecture quizzes are automatically scored and entered into your Canvas gradebook, but you may retake the video again for a higher score. Only the most recent score will be applied to your final grade.

Online Activities:

Your textbook is split into five parts. At the end of each part, you will complete an online activity that synthesizes the course material into a cohesive project, activity, or writing assignment. Online activities are worth 25 points each. Below is a list of the learning activities you will complete. More detailed instructions, including grading rubrics is provided to you on the respective assignment page in Canvas.

Day in the Life of a Law Enforcement Officer – comic book illustration

International Perspectives on the Death Penalty – foreign country research/written response

Crime Trends Infographic - infographic

Presentence Investigation Report – complete a risk assessment

Juvenile Justice Timeline – past and future interpretation of court rulings

Final Exam:

Your exam will be a synthesis of the concepts you have learned this semester. The exam will be cumulative relating to material covered in your text. The exam is intended for you to reflect upon the course concepts and to demonstrate your ability to apply the knowledge in a concise, yet thorough manner. The test is an open-note, open-book exam over all the lecture material and assigned readings from the course.

Grading Scale:

A=450 or more points

B=400-449 points

C=350-399 points

D=300-349 points

F=Less than 300 points

Library Resource:

Check out the library resource page for assistance with this course and others you are taking within the Social Sciences Department. The resource page can be accessed through <http://libguides.utt Tyler.edu/sociology>.

Technology within the Classroom:

This should be obvious, but I will mention it anyway. Technology will be used in this course. After all, this is a fully online (100%) course. There will be interactive activities in the class that will

require you to have a laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Again, you will also be required to use technology. Therefore, you must use and be proficient in the use of technology to be successful.

Netiquette as detailed by UT Tyler's best practices for online education:

"Netiquette" is, simply, internet etiquette, or a set of expectations that describe appropriate behaviors when interacting online. It is important to understand that you will be held to the exact same standards of UT Tyler's Face-to-Face traditional courses. In fact, for 100% online courses, your online classroom behavior may be the only interaction you have with your faculty and classmates, therefore making your netiquette even more important. Remember, you only get to make a first impression once, irrespective of the course delivery method. **Be courteous.** You only get one chance for an online first impression. Make it count. Do not say or do anything in an online classroom that you would not do in a face-to-face classroom. This includes not "YELLING" (typing in all caps), not "flaming" (attacking someone, such as insults and name-calling), and/or not dominating the discussion. **Be human.** Remember there is another person on the other side of the screen. Remain patient, ask and wait for clarification if you do not understand something, and avoid assumptions and rushed judgments. Forgive mistakes, and apologize for your own errors. **Be a good classmate.** Remember your own role as a student. Follow your instructor's directions at all times. Be authentic and collaborative with fellow students. Be aware of cyberbullying and make every attempt to eliminate it. Appreciate the diversity and different communication styles of your peers. Remember, since this class is online, you may have classmates from all over the world. **Be professional.** Proofread your own writing for spelling, grammar, and punctuation to prevent miscommunication. Avoid slang, sarcasm, or emotionally-charged writing, as tone can be difficult to translate online. Profanity and offensive language will not be tolerated. Do not use abbreviations (2moro, 2T, B@U) or emoticons in your online class unless your professor approves and supports such writing styles. **Be a responsible digital citizen.** What you post online is difficult to retract once it is published. What you post online can follow you for your lifetime. Do not share personal information you would never want public, and respect other people's privacy. Do not share someone else's work without their permission. (<https://www.uttyler.edu/online/files/netiquette.pdf>)

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is simply using someone else's work and presenting it as your own. You must avoid this at all costs! Your credibility is on the line. Your work product must be your own. If you are borrowing someone else's facts, ideas or opinions without providing the individual proper credit you are stealing. In the academic world this is referred to as plagiarism and the penalty is severe. If the thought is not your own, you must cite your source to give proper credit. If you are borrowing someone else's words, you must enclose them in quotations as well as citing the source. Plagiarism also includes you borrowing, buying, or stealing someone else's work product and presenting it as your own. DO NOT commit intellectual theft because you will compromise your academic future.



Penalties for Cheating

Should I discover you have cheated on any assessment, you will receive a “zero” for the assessment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident will be reported to the chair of the department and (more importantly) to Student Conduct.

Statement Regarding Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a violation of University policy and professional standards. If compared to a violation of the criminal law, it would be classed as a felony. Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating, plagiarism, or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses. The penalty for academic dishonesty in this class will be no less than immediate failure of the course and a permanent student record of the reason therefore. In most cases, a written record of academic dishonesty or an instructor’s report of same to an agency investigator during a background check will bar an individual from employment by a criminal justice agency as it is considered indicative of subsequent corrupt acts.

Many students have an inadequate understanding of plagiarism. Any idea or verbiage from another source must be documented. Anytime the exact words from another author are used they must be enclosed with quotation marks and followed by a citation. However quotations should only be used on rare occasions. Student papers should be written in the student’s own words; therefore excessive quotations will result in a failing grade.

Make-up Tests: The *University Catalog* does not establish make-ups as a student right. Major tests are forecasted; therefore, no make-up opportunities are contemplated. Opportunities to make-up missed examinations will be provided only for exceptional reasons and must be documented (e.g., hospital records, obituaries). Make-up examinations may be in forms completely different from original examinations and will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor.

Important Information:

Please refer to the course Canvas site on a frequent basis. You should be referring to the Canvas site prior to each class session because I may post an important announcement. Also, you must check your university email! **I do not tolerate the excuse, “I don’t check my patriots email or Canvas, so I never received the course announcement.”** Checking Canvas and your university email is your responsibility as a student.

Handguns in the Classroom:

The University of Texas at Tyler respects the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

Tentative Course Schedule: Remember the course module assignments for each week are due no later than 11:59pm every Sunday.

Course Schedule:

Week #	Module#	Material Covered	Dates
1	1	Chapter 1	1/16-1/21/24
2	2	Chapter 2	1/22-1/28/24
3	3	Chapter 3	1/29-2/4/24
4	4	Chapter 4	2/5-2/11/24
5	5	Chapter 5	2/12-2/18/24
6	6	Chapter 6	2/19-2/25/24
7	7	Chapter 7	2/26-3/3/24
8	8	Chapter 8	3/4-3/10/24
9	9	Chapter 9	3/18-3/24/24
10	10	Chapter 10	3/25-3/31/24
11	11	Chapter 11	4/1-4/7/24
12	12	Chapter 12	4/8-4/14/24
13	13	Chapter 13	4/15-4/21/24
14	14	Chapter 14	4/22-4/28/24
15	15	Final Exam	4/29-5/3/24

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT MUST APPEAR IN EACH COURSE SYLLABUS

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling,

quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade.
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when

your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices> , the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

Revised 05/19 If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 - copying from another student's test paper;
 - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
 - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;

- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
 - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
 - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
 - iii. iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
 - iv. iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.5746)

These policies are also available on the university website, please click the link <https://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf> to confirm the policies are accurate as the university makes changes to the policies periodically. From experience, changes to these policies have occurred without faculty knowledge to ensure this syllabus is updated at the same time as the university makes policy changes. Thus, please verify through the university website. <https://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS SYLLABUS AT ANY TIME. THEREFORE, YOUR ATTENDANCE AND ATTENTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CANVAS ARE CRUCIAL BECAUSE IT WILL ASSIST YOU REMAIN

CURRENT ON THE MATERIAL AND KNOW WHEN THE SYLLABUS MAY BE MODIFIED.