

The University of Texas at Tyler

CRIJ Victimology 3340.060

Spring 2026

Online Instruction



Course Logistics

Course Title: Victimology

Course Number and Section: CRIJ 3340.060

Scheduled Class Dates: 01/12/2026 – 05/01/2026

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online Instruction

Scheduled Classroom Locations: Online Instruction

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Benjamin T. Kemper, MS

Office: Online Class – Meetings by appointment only

Email: bkemper@uttyler.edu

Phone: Use Remind App

Best Way to Contact: Via email. Please note: please send me an e-mail from your UT-Tyler email account. This assures me that the message is, in fact, coming from you. I am regular in habit of checking email, so you should never have to wait more than a day or so for a response. You should include your course title and number in the subject line of the email (e.g. “Question regarding CRIJ-3340.040, Victimology”).

Course Description

An analysis of the literature, research and current trends concerning the victim in the criminal justice system. Includes the history of the victims' movement, victim rights and compensation, and the impact of victimization on the individual, family, workplace, and community as well as the needed criteria for a thorough investigation of abuse.

Census Date

The census date for the Spring 2026, semester is January 26th. This is the final date for many enrollment-related actions, including adding new courses, changing sections, or dropping courses without incurring grades of “W” or “Q.” The census date is also the second drop for non-payment date each academic session.

Course Information

The purpose of this course is to expose you, the student, to a working definition of victimology in contemporary society. Additionally, this course will discuss in detail the evolution of victimology, measuring victimization, helping, and advocating for victims, and the types of crimes associated with victimization in contemporary society.

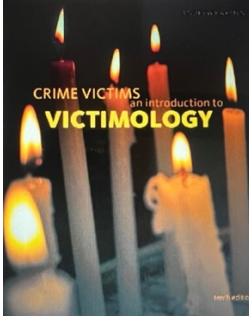
Course Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Think critically about prominent issues in victimology.
2. Identify distinct types of research studies in victimology.
3. Problem-solve solutions to issues in current policy and practice.
4. Identify the criminal justice resources needed to prosecute and convict criminals while preserving the integrity and empowerment of the victim.

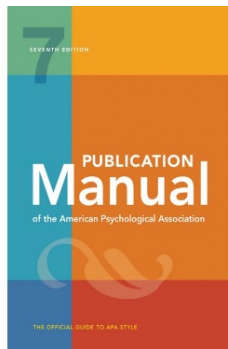
Required Textbook

Karmen, A. (2020) *Crime Victims Intro to Victimology*. Cengage Learning ISBN: 978-0357037799



Recommended Book

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication of the American Psychological Association Official Guide* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.



Grading Policy

- A: $\geq 90\%$
- B: 80%-89%
- C: 70%-79%
- D: 60%-69%
- F: $<60\%$

Course Weighting

- Discussion Posts: 15%
- Weekly Quizzes: 15%
- Case Study – Short Answer Essay: 20%
- Unit Exams: 30%
- Final Exam: 20%

Grading Criteria

- **Discussion Posts:** Discussion posts will be on the material covered each week. You will have a topic from the reading in the book or a national news event to research and comment on. Discussion posts are designed to open your mind to the assigned topic and make an educated comment, argument, or thought on the subject. Discussion posts have a required minimum word limit of at least a 150-word original response to the topic. Your original response is due on Wednesday each week. Then, you are required to reply to at least one of your classmates' posts with a minimum response of at least 75 words. However, the minimum work is not the desired work. Longer, more detail-oriented original responses and replies will generate higher scores.
- **Case Study – Short Answer Essay:** Each chapter has a case study at the end. After reading the case study, you will answer a question related to the case study in essay format. The essay will be a minimum of 150 words. Once again, the minimum word limit is not the desired response. Longer more detail-oriented answers will generate higher scores.
- **Weekly Quizzes:** Weekly quizzes will be based on the reading material and assigned chapter readings. You will have quizzes at the end of each week, which are due each Sunday at 11:59 pm. Quizzes will be available to take beginning on Thursdays.
- **Unit Exams:** These are exams given at the end of each 5-week unit. These exams will be based on the material from the unit covered. Questions on the exam will be multiple choice or true/false. Studying your weekly quizzes will make a HUGE difference in how well you do on the exams. Unit exams will be posted in CANVAS beginning on the Friday of the end of the unit. These exams will be due on Sunday at 11:59 pm. There are no make-up dates for a missed unit exam.
- **Final Exam:** The final exam will cover all the material you've learned over the course of the semester. Studying your quizzes and unit exams will make a HUGE difference in how well you do on the final. Questions on the exam will be multiple choice or true/false. The final exam will be given online via CANVAS and will be due on May 1, 2026, at 11:59 pm. There are no make-up dates for a missed final exam.

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 I will be making important announcements in the course Canvas site and sending you emails---but most importantly because this is an online course. Also, I will post your grades in Canvas so you will have an "at a glance view" of your current standing in the course. Additionally, you will be required to upload assignments using Canvas.

Course Requirements

It is essential that students read the selected readings detailed in the Course Schedule section of the syllabus prior to the class session. This course is designed with a seminar format in mind, which will require active participation from everyone. Each student is responsible for all the readings and discussion material as they are an integral component for success on the examinations.

Attendance Policy

This is an online course, therefore attending to the assigned materials and assignments is on your own time. Materials for assignments will be posted each week with deadlines. You are expected to complete chapter readings and assignments each week by the required deadline.

Late Assignments

Assignments are expected to be completed by the assigned due date and time. That said, I understand that unforeseen circumstances can arise, such as serious illnesses, deaths in the family, or other traumatic events, which are part of life. Such events are unwelcome and because I understand how difficult these times can be on our lives. Therefore, if you contact me within 24 hours of the event **and** provide a valid excuse, which may require documentation, I will work with you to extend your assignment deadline. However, if you simply do not complete your work on time, you will not get an extension and will receive a zero for the assignment. Please communicate with me. It's that simple.

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:

1. Remain current with the weekly course material.
2. Read all the information in its entirety. A college student is expected to read and complete all work on time.
3. Be an active participant in all discussions.
4. Complete all assignments, projects, and assessments.
5. Submit all assignments on or before the due date.
6. If you need additional clarification, you should contact me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for help. Use the messaging function in Canvas or email to send me your concerns. I have also set up a class in the Remind App for messaging. Register for the class as soon as possible. (The instructions are listed in the announcements)

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:

1. You should expect me to have class material ready for you each week.
2. I will return all your written work in a timely fashion. The written assignments take time to grade, but I will do my best to have them returned within one week.
3. I will also return any emails and messages I receive from you within 24 hours.

Policy on Artificial Intelligence

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tool's ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

The work submitted by students in this course will be generated by themselves. This includes all process work, drafts, brainstorming artifacts, editing, and final products. This extends to group assignments where students must collaboratively create the project. Any instance of the following constitutes a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code: a student has another person/entity do any portion of a graded assignment, which includes purchasing work for a company, hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, using a previously submitted assignment and/or using AI tools (such as ChatGPT).

Weekly Discussion Posts (15%)

Each week, there will be a weekly discussion post assignment. The post is created for you to answer a question in essay format to properly articulate your answer/opinion. Writing is a critical component of communication. Therefore, it is essential that you, as a student, have a basic understanding of the mechanics of how to write effectively and at a college level.

The weekly discussion questions will be answered in the following format:

1. Essay style format in which your responses are submitted in paragraphs, spell checked, with proper punctuation, and proper grammar.

2. The question is completely answered. If the student is using the assigned textbook or an outside source, it is expected that he or she will properly cite and reference those sources in the [APA 7th Edition format](#).

For example, from the assigned text:

- Research shows that Blah, blah, blah (Karmen, 2020).
- According to Karmen (2020), “Blah, blah, blah” (p.24). – Direct quote from the text.

All weekly discussion questions are due by 11:59 pm every Sunday.

Weekly Quizzes (15%)

Each week, there will be a quiz over the assigned readings for that week. The quizzes will be timed (60 minutes), and the content will be from only the assigned reading(s) for that particular week. The quizzes may contain multiple-choice and/or true/false questions. Weekly quizzes become available in Canvas each Thursday.

All weekly quizzes are due by 11:59 pm every Sunday.

Case Study – Short Answer Essay (20%)

Each chapter of the book has a case study at the end. After reading the case study, you will utilize information from the chapter to answer a question in essay format. The essay will have a minimum requirement of 150 words. While this is a minimum, the desire is that the writer will answer the question in their essay with a detailed and thought-provoking answer. As with the discussion posts, the expectation is a well-written essay using paragraphs, spell check, proper punctuation, and proper grammar.

All Case Study Essays are due by 11:59 pm every Sunday.

Unit Exams (30%)

There will be three examinations for this course:

- Unit Exam I - Chapters 1-4
- Unit Exam II - Chapters 5-8
- Unit Exam III - Chapters 9-13

Details for the exam are in Canvas; each examination is an opportunity for you to demonstrate your knowledge and proficiency of the course concepts.

Unit Exams are due by 11:59 pm on Sunday of the assigned week.

Final Exam (20%):

- Final Exam: Comprehensive exam covering materials from all chapters.
 - Studying weekly quizzes and unit exams will make a difference in how you do on the final exam. Some questions for the final exam will come from these quizzes and exams, but not all.

The Final Exam is due at 11:59 pm on May 1, 2025.

Tentative Course Schedule for Spring Semester 2026

Week & Learning Objectives	Reading Assignment	Class Assignments	Due Dates
Week 1 January 12, 2026 (L01-L06)	Ch 1: What is Victimology	Week 1: Discussion Post - Class Introductions Ch 1: (L01-L06) Weekly Quiz	Sunday January 18, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 2 January 19, 2026 (L07, L12)	Ch 1: What is Victimology	Week 2: Discussion Post Ch 1: Case Study Ch 1:(L07-L12) Weekly Quiz	Sunday January 25, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 3 January 26, 2026	Ch : The Rediscovery of Crime Victims	Week 3: Discussion Post Ch 2: Case Study Ch 2: Weekly Quiz	Sunday February 1, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 4 February 2, 2026	Ch 3: Victimization in the United States: An Overview	Week 4: Discussion Post Ch 3: Case Study Ch 3: Weekly Quiz	Sunday February 8, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT.
Week 5 February 9, 2026	Ch 4: A Closer Look at the Victims of Interpersonal Crimes of Violence and Theft	Week 5: Discussion Post Ch 4: Case Study Unit Exam I (Ch1-4)	Sunday February 15, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 6 February 16, 2026	Ch 5: The Ongoing Controversy Over Shared Responsibility	Week 6: Discussion Post Ch 5: Case Study Ch 5: Weekly Quiz	Sunday February 22, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 7 February 23, 2026	Ch 6: Victims and the Police	Week 7: Discussion Post Ch 6: Case Study Ch 6: Weekly Quiz	Sunday March 1, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 8 March 2, 2026	Ch 7: Victim's Rights and the Criminal Justice System	Week 8: Discussion Post Ch 7: Case Study Ch 7: Weekly Quiz	Sunday March 8, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 9 March 9, 2026	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
Week 10 March 16, 2026	Ch 8: Victimized Children	Week 10: Discussion Post Ch 8: Case Study Unit Exam II (Ch 5-8)	Sunday March 22, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 11 March 23, 2026	Ch 9: Victims of Violence by Lovers and Family Members	Week 11: Discussion Post Ch 9: Case Study Ch 9: Weekly Quiz	Sunday March 29, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 12 March 30, 2026	Ch 10: Victims of Rapes and Other Sexual Assaults	Week 12: Discussion Post Ch 10: Case Study Ch 10: Weekly Quiz	Sunday April 5, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 13 April 6, 2026	Ch 11: Additional Groups of Victims with Special Problems	Week 13: Discussion Post Ch 11: Case Study Ch 11: Weekly Quiz	Sunday April 12, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 14 April 13, 2026	Ch 12: Repaying Victims	Week 14: Discussion Post Ch 12: Case Study Ch 12: Weekly Quiz	Sunday April 19, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 15 April 20, 2026	Ch 13: Victims in the Twenty-First Century: Alternative Directions	Week 15: Discussion Post Ch 13: Case Study Unit Exam III (Ch 9-13)	Sunday April 26, 2026, by 11:59 PM CT
Week 16 April 27, 2026	Final Examination Week	Final Examination Ch: 1-13	Friday May 1, 2025, by 11:59 PM CT

Student Resources

[Student Resources](#)

University Policies and Information

[University Policies and Information](#)

I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS SYLLABUS AT ANY TIME. THEREFORE, YOUR 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.