

Serial Killers
Criminal Justice 4890, 28239, Spring 2017

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Office hours: W: 9:30-11:30 a.m. R: 11-12 p.m., or by appointment.

Readings: Holmes, R. M., & Holmes, S. T. (2010). *Serial murder* (3rd Ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Sage.

Other readings on DocSharing of ECompanion, & Emailed links

Prerequisites: Jr. or Sr. Standing & Completion of 3 CJ Foundation Courses, Completion of two upper division CJ courses, or Consent of Instructor

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of specific cases of serial murderers
2. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the techniques used to investigate serial murder cases.

To measure your mastery of these objectives you will have three examinations.

Examinations: There will be three exams during the session worth 60% of your grade. The tentative dates of the three tests are listed on the timetable at the end of the syllabus. The exams are multiple choice and consist of 50 questions. The exams will test over material covered in the weeks prior only (i.e. no comprehensive exams). The tests cover the videos, podcasts, and readings equally. There are no make-ups without an excuse from the university. Unless you are sick, you cannot leave the room during a test. I do not reschedule tests for preplanned events (e.g. weddings, birthdays, etc.). I will direct any such requests to the Dean of Students, where you must get an excused absence. No one will be permitted to begin the exam after the first test has been completed. The exams are always scheduled on Thursdays at 7pm Mountain Time. Unfortunately, there is NO flexibility in the time so that test security is ensured. Please plan accordingly.

Homework: You will need to turn in a 1000 word minimum piece on five topics. Writing must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, and double-spaced with 1" margins (default on most word processor programs is 1.25" so check!). Assignments must include a title page and reference page in correct APA format. Failure to correctly use 6th edition of the APA format will result in a deduction up to half the grade! Assignments must include a title page and reference page in correct 6th edition APA format (these do not calculate towards the word count). You must cite and reference a minimum of three independent

peer-reviewed journal articles per assignment. All sources must be a journal reference from a refereed academic journal (i.e. Justice Quarterly, Law and Human Behavior, Criminology, Psychology, Crime and Law, etc.). You cannot use materials provided to meet this requirement, but you can incorporate them in addition to your work. Any use of Wikipedia, or web resources of its kind (e.g., Murderpedia), is an automatic F. You need to find RESEARCH and simply using Google does not count as research! If you have a doubt or question, just ask.

The five assignments constitute 20% of your total grade. The homework is divided into two parts. In addition to the initial 1000-word piece, you will critique two other student's work at 250 words minimum each. The first part of the assignment is worth 7 points and the critiques are worth 3 points.

Please upload Level 1 (1000 minimum words) in the assignment section first. These are due by 12:00pm the Friday indicated on the syllabus. Any late papers will not be able to participate in the subsequent critiques and thus will lose the opportunity to earn the other 3 points. Late is considered 12:01pm. After Saturday 12:01pm the paper will NOT be accepted for any credit.

Each student will then be responsible for commenting/critiquing two other postings at a minimum of 250 words each (Level 2). Students will be alerted as to which two postings they are responsible for via WyoCourses on Friday afternoon directing them to which students they are responsible for reviewing on WyoCourses. These are due by 12:00pm the following Monday. Late postings receive 0 points. Late is considered 12:01pm. NO EXCEPTIONS (e.g. computer crashes, internet down, etc.)!

*Important note: These discussions WILL be civil. No disrespectful commentary will be tolerated. Disagreement is perfectly fine, but it will be done with logic and reason and not personal attacks. Furthermore, Level 2s are to be constructive, not "I agree" and done. Thoughtfulness in your responses is expected and graded.

You will find the assignments, as well as due date reminders, posted on WyoCourses.

Paper: The Perfect Serial Killer

Your task is to invent the perfect serial killer. The killer can be anything you want him/her to be. Papers must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, and double-spaced with 1" margins (default on most word processor programs is 1.25" so check!). You need to divide the work into six sections: a) personal factors of the killer's background, b) current aspects of the killer's life, c) H&H and, if appropriate, FBI classification of the killer, d) targets, e) method of killing, and f) post-mortem behaviors. Every detail you provide needs to be justified with an explanation. **More importantly, you need to cite any supporting research you can identify.** You can use any of the materials I have provided, as well as any journal articles you find. Any use of Wikipedia, or web resources of its kind, is an automatic F. You need to find RESEARCH and simply using Google does not count as research! This will require you to go through the library databases of articles. This paper is not for a class on literature or fiction. Likewise, this paper is not about what other killers have done. Do not write about other killers and their behaviors. Those killers were not perfect, hence their infamy. When you present facts about your killer, note the research corresponding to your work.

The paper requires a minimum of 10 peer-reviewed independently located journal articles. There is a 10% deduction for each missing source. There is a 10-page minimum

and no maximum number of pages. Doing minimum work gets minimum grades. There is a 10% deduction for each page short of the minimum. There is a 10% deduction for each page short of the minimum. Proper APA formatting is required and will be a 25% component of the grade. This means you will need a title page and reference page (these do not count toward the total pages). An abstract is not necessary. The more information you present the more complete view of your killer and likely the better paper. If you have questions, please feel free to email me. The paper is due before 12:00 pm on May 5th. Failure to turn in your paper on time will result in a 10% reduction in the grade of the paper for each day it is late. This penalty includes any time after 12:00 pm on May 5th.

An assignment has been created in WyoCourses for your work. You will upload your work in .docx format (.doc, .rtf, .wps, etc. is not acceptable and will be penalized). The paper constitutes 20% of your overall grade.

Extra Credit: No extra credit is scheduled.

Reading: All readings should be completed prior to the class indicated on the syllabus. Readings will either be chapters Holmes and Holmes or pdf files located under the Files link of your WyoCourses for this class.

Videos: In addition to the lecture Podcasts on Youtube, there are a series of other videos that you will stream from the WyoCourses Modules website. Please make sure to view these videos prior to the class date indicated on the syllabus.

Grading:

Test 1	50 points	20%	A	-	89.50 – 100.00%
Test 2	50 points	20%	B	-	79.50 – 89.49%
Test 3	50 points	20%	C	-	69.50 – 79.49%
Paper	50 points	20%	D	-	59.50 – 69.49%
Homework	50 points	20%	F	-	00.00 – 59.49%
Total	250 points	100%			

Disruptions

Cheating & Plagiarism: Do not do it! If caught, you will be reported to University Administration. Plagiarism is defined as taking or using the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another as one's own. It also means using direct quotations without credit and quotation marks, as well as using the ideas of another without proper credit. Some ideas in criminal justice, however, are so general that credit need not be given. Ask your instructor when in doubt. Cheating is defined as any intent to deceive the instructor in his or her effort to grade fairly. Anything that can possibly effect the fairness of grading is cheating, which I interpret to include any collaborative, mischievous, or disruptive behavior. In this course, pay special attention to gleaning information off the Internet, and do NOT pass it off as your own, or without proper citation. Learn to paraphrase ideas in your own words. Do not purchase, borrow, or revise another student's work. Do not "double dip" an assignment you did in another class to

turn it in for this one, unless special arrangements have been made with the instructors.

Disabilities: If you have a disability requiring assistance please contact Disability Support Services at Student Educational Opportunity (SEO) at 766-6189 (TTY: 766-3073). They will give you the proper paperwork to turn in to me. Please do this as soon as possible.

Withdrawal: The last day to withdraw from the class with a W is April 7th.

Incompletes: Incomplete grades are very rarely given and only under special circumstances. No incompletes are given if the student's current grade does not allow for at least the possibility of C with the completion of the remaining work. See the general bulletin for more information about incompletes.

Timetable

(Week) Date	Topic/Area	Video	H&H	Packet Reading
(1) Jan 23	Introduction	Inside the Killer's Mind Lectures 1&2	Chs. 1-4	Theories of SK Serial Murder in US
(2) Jan 30	Letters from Death Row Classifications	Rifkin Lecture 3		Rifkin Writings Jablonski Writings Introduction (Hickey)
February 3		Discussion 1: Most Notorious? (Level 1 due 12:00pm; Level 2 due Feb 6 12:00pm)		
(3) Feb 6	Historical Cases Ed Gein	Jack the Ripper Lectures 4&5	Ch. 5	Jack the Ripper Psycho-Killer
(4) Feb 13	Team Killers Lucas & Toole, Hillside Stranglers	Hillside Stranglers Lectures 6&7		Bianchi: A Case Study
February 17		Discussion 2: Bio/Psych/Soc? (Level 1 due 12:00pm; Level 2 due February 20 12:00pm)		
(5)	February 23 (Thursday 7pm Mountain Time)		Exam 1	
(6) Feb 27	Manson Family	Manson Lectures 8&9 Schram Audio File (under files section) Helter Skelter Watch Mason Women: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goSxSbA-c2o		History of Murder & Manson Family Rolling Stone Interviews* Graham Book Excerpts, Fromme, & Tate
(7) Mar 6	Bundy Greenriver	Bundy Lecture 10	Chs. 6, 7, 10	Bundy: A Case Study FBI Bundy Profile & King Co. Report (Skip individual cases)
		Watch Bundy Trial (Only first 19 minutes): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVV3XeAevc8 Watch Bundy Last Interview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uh3rXV-uP9U		

March 10

Discussion 3: Granting Parole/Time? (Level 1 due 12:00pm; Level 2 due March 12 12:00pm)*****
Special Due Date because of Spring Break

(8) Mar 13

Spring Break

(9) Mar 20

Gacy
Dahmer

Gacy
Lectures 11&12

Chs. 8, 9

Gacy: A Case Study
Crime scene...
Lust Murderer

(10) Mar 27

Satanic Murders
Ramirez

Ramirez
Lecture 13

Killing Cults
Richard Ramirez
Satanic Serial Murder

March 31

Discussion 4: Prison Treatment of S.K. (Level 1 due 12:00pm; Level 2 due April 3 12:00pm)

(11) April 6 (Thursday 7pm Mountain Time) Exam 2

(12) Apr 10

Female Killers
Aileen Wuornos

Wuornos
Lecture 14
Monster

Ch. 11

Female Teams
Female Serial Murderers

(13) Apr 17

Controversial Convictions
Boston Strangler/
Berkowitz

Boston Strangler
Berkowitz (Son of Sam)

Confessions 1&2
Berkowitz Letters
Son of Sam Clues
Strangler News Article*

April 21

Discussion 5: Reopening Cases? (Level 1 due 12:00pm; Level 2 due April 24 12:00pm)

(14) Apr 24

Serial Murder in the World
Forensics

Perfect Murder
Lecture 15

Ch. 12

Serial Murder in Japan/S.A.
German Serial Murder
Forensic Paraphilia

(15) May 1 Profiling
Victims

Profiler
Lecture 16

Chs. 14,15 Profiling
Tracker 4&5
Victims

May 5 Final Paper Due @ 12pm

May 11 (Thursday 7pm Mountain Time)

Exam 3

*The Manson interviews can be found here:

<http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/charles-manson-today-the-final-confessions-of-a-psychopath-20131121>

<http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/news/charles-manson-the-incredible-story-of-the-most-dangerous-man-alive-19700625>

The Boston Strangler News Article can be found here:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/boston-strangler-case-solved-50-years/story?id=19640699>

****All information is tentative. I will make any changes necessary for the benefit of students.****

I have read and understand the terms of the syllabus

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Acknowledgement of the syllabus is listed on WyoCourses. Please go to the section listed as “Syllabus Acknowledgement” and enter your name and date. Thanks!