

Serial Killers
Criminal Justice 4890, 27798, Spring 2017
TR 9:35 a.m.-10:50 a.m., AG 41

Instructor: Scott Culhane, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice
Office: 322B Arts & Sciences
Phone: 766-2945
Fax: 766-3913
E-mail: sculhane@uwo.edu (Works best for communication. Do NOT send emails through WyoCourses. Send them directly and only send emails from your uwo.edu account.)

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 Files of WyoCourses

Prerequisites: Jr. or Sr. Standing & Completion of 3 CJ Foundation Courses, or 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, a series of homework assignments, and a group project.

Attendance: Attendance will not be calculated into your grade. However, it is very important that you attend, as each class is the equivalent of a week of class. Any missed assignments that are the result of an excused absence need to be brought to my attention no later than the next class after the recorded absence. Unexcused absences are handled at my discretion, but also need to be brought to my attention no later than the next class after the absence.

Examinations: There will be three exams during the semester 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, lectures, and readings equally. Bring 2 BLUE Scantrons (bubblesheets) and two number 2 pencils to each test. DO NOT MISS ANY EXAM COMPONENT!!! 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.

Homework: Prior to each class discussion you will need to turn in a 1000 word minimum piece on the topic given. The minimum is pending. If discussions are not successful in class, the minimum will be increased. 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!). 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.

Assignments must include a title page and reference page in correct 6th edition APA format (these do not calculate towards the word count). Failure to use APA format correctly throughout the paper will result in a deduction up to half the grade. The four assignments constitute 20% of your total grade, or 12.5 points each. The assignments are very short and basic and are designed to help facilitate the class discussions. The work is due on the date noted on the timetable as Discussion. You will post your work on WyoCourses. A discussion assignment has been created for your work. You will upload your work in .docx format (.doc, .rtf, .wps, etc. is not acceptable and will be penalized). You will find the assignments, as well as due date reminders, posted on WyoCourses. Work must be submitted before class the day it is due. Any late assignments are docked 30%. Late = 1 second after class has started. No credit is given for work submitted after two full days.

Two Person Group Project: 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) background of the killer, b) current aspects and lifestyle, c) H&H and, if appropriate, FBI classification of the killer, d) targets, e) method of killing, and f) post-mortem behaviors. All parts are equally important. Separate the paper into those six sections and identify the sections completed by each member of the group with the heading. 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, but you will need journal articles you find independently. 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. The more articles you have to support your claims, the better the paper.

There is a 20-page minimum and no maximum number of pages. The paper requires a minimum of 20 independently located peer-reviewed journal articles. There is a 10% deduction for each missing source. Doing minimum work gets minimum grades. 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 pages (these do not count toward the

total pages). An abstract is not necessary, nor are author notes on the title page. I take this seriously. Again, this is a senior level class and students should be able to follow instructions and present the paper in the format required.

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 hard copy of the project is due in class on **May 4th**. Failure to turn in your project 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 class has started on May 4th. A portion of the grade will be the overall project as well as your individual contribution. A group 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.

Grading:

Test 1	50 points	20%
Test 2	50 points	20%
Test 3	50 points	20%
Group Project	50 points	20%
<u>Homework</u>	<u>50 points</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	250 points	100%

A	-	89.50 – 100.00%
B+	-	86.50 – 89.49%
B	-	79.50 – 86.49%
C+	-	76.50 – 79.49%
C	-	69.50 – 76.49%
D+	-	66.50 – 69.49%
D	-	59.50 – 66.49%
F	-	00.00 – 59.49%

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. Penalties may include an F for an assignment, an F for the course, or possible dismissal from the university. ***Remember, no penalty for academic dishonesty can be imposed unless the student is given full due process under university policy.***

Tardiness: Do not do it either! If you cannot be on time, you may be asked not to join the class for that day.

Pagers and Cell phones: Turn them off or mute them. They are disruptive to the rest of the class and to the lecture. If one rings in class, I get to answer it. Furthermore, if you have either of them out during class (texting, playing video games, etc.), they will be confiscated and you can retrieve them during office hours only or you will be asked to leave the class.

Computers: Please refrain from distracting your neighbors with your computer. Facebook, youtube, email, twitter, games, and other websites serve as such distractions, so please utilize computers for note taking and research only. If you cannot respect this policy, you will be barred from using computers in class.

Food: No eating during class.

Talking: Please refrain from talking to your neighbor during class. This is also disruptive.

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.

**All information and dates are tentative. I will make any necessary changes in order to meet the needs of the students.

Timetable

Dates	Topic/Area	H&H	WyoCourses
January 24	Introduction & Video - Inside the Killer's Mind		Jablonski & Rifkin Writings Introduction (Hickey)
	Homework: Watch Rifkin: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n12LczinKG0	1, 2	
January 26	Discussion - Most Notorious?		Serial Murder in the US
January 31	Bio/Psy/Soc	3, 4	Theories of SK
February 2	Bio/Psy/Soc		
February 7	Discussion - Bio/Psy/Soc?		
February 9	Classifications		
February 14	Historical Cases/Jack the Ripper	5	Jack the Ripper
February 16	Ed Gein/Team Killers		Psycho-Killer
February 21	Team Killers/ Lucas & Toole		Bianchi: A Case Study
	Homework: Watch Hillside Stranglers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pV-jANF-eb8		
February 23		Exam 1	
February 28	Manson Family Murders		History of Murder & Rolling Stone Interviews*
March 2	Video - Manson		Manson Encyclopedia
March 7	Manson Family Women		Graham Book Excerpts, Fromme, & Tate
	Homework: Watch Mason Women: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goSxSbA-c2o		
March 9	Movie - Helter Skelter		
March 14 & 16		No Class – Spring Break	
March 21	Movie - Helter Skelter		Schram Audio File
March 23	Video – Bundy/ Last Interview	7, 10	Bundy: A Case Study & FBI Bundy Profile
	Homework: Watch Bundy Trial (Only first 19 minutes): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVV3XeAevc8		
March 28	Discussion - Granting Parole/Time?		
March 30	Green River	6	King Co. Report (Skip individual cases)
April 4	Gacy/Dahmer	8, 9	Gacy: A Case Study
April 6	Dahmer/FBI Organized/Disorganized		Crime scene... & Lust Murderer
April 11	Satanic Murders/Ramirez		Killing Cults & Satanic Serial Murder Ramirez Encyclopedia

April 13**Exam 2**

April 18	Female Killers/Wuornos	11	Female Teams Female Serial Murderers
April 20	Homework: Watch Monster: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKYcmc2UE3o Boston Strangler/ Video – Son of Sam		Confessions 1&2 & Boston Strangler News* Berkowitz Letters & Son of Sam Clues
April 25	Discussion – Reopening Cases?		
April 27	Serial Murder in the World	12	Serial Murder in Japan and S.A. & German SM.
May 2	Video – Perfect Murder/Profiling	15	Forensic Paraphilia Profiling & Tracker 4&5
May 4	Victims	14	Victims

May 9 (T: 10:15 – 12:15; Same location)**Exam 3**

*The Manson Rolling Stone 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 article can be found here:

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

I have read and I understand the terms of the syllabus. I understand that the syllabus may change based on the needs and participation of the students in the class.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____