**CRMJ 2400 – 01**

**CRIMINOLOGY**

**(3 credits)**

### **Professor:** Dr. Clair White **Semester/Year:** Spring 2020

**Phone:** 307-766-2919 **Class Day/Time:** Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-9:50am

**Email:** [cwhite41@uwyo.edu](mailto:cwhite41@uwyo.edu) **Class Location:** Classroom Building, Rm 214

**Office:** Arts & Sciences 310

**Office Hours:** Mondays 10am-10:50am

Thursdays 10:30am-12:30pm

Or by appointment

**Graduate Teaching Assistant:** Samuel Brodie

**Email:** sbrodie@uwyo.edu

**Office:** Arts & Sciences, 313C

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:30am-11am

**Availability:** Monday through Friday 9:00am-5:00pm, I typically respond to emails within 4 hours. If you email me after 5pm, I may not get back to you until the next morning. If you email me Friday evening, you may not hear from me until Monday morning. If you plan to come in during office hours, please let me know in class or send me an email so I am prepared to meet. I also tend to have an open door policy, so if I am in the office with the door open, feel free to stop by and chat.

\*\*\*Please use Wyo email for all correspondence

**Required Text and Resources:** Siegel, L. (2019). *Criminology: The Core.* (7th Edition). Cengage.

**Course Prerequisite**: SOC 1000 or equivalent

**Course Description**: This course provides a broad survey of criminal behavior and the major theories that attempt to explain crime. Topics include definitions and measurement of crime, theories of crime causation, and crime types.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Define criminological theory
2. Develop an understanding of the nature and common explanations for the causes of crime;
3. Identify basic facts about crime, including the source of criminal information and how the information is used to explain or understand crime;
4. Articulate major criminological theories and their components
5. Apply criminological theory to different types of crime and practical examples

**Course Organization**: The course learning goals will be achieved by readings, lectures, in-class quizzes, and exams.

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is your responsibility. Although attendance will not be taken, missing class tends to be detrimental to students’ grades. Regardless of the reason for missing class, all students are responsible for knowing the material covered in class, including material from class lectures, video, discussion and all announcements made in class. I suggest becoming acquainted with someone in the class so they can provide you with information if you miss a class.
2. **Readings**: Unless otherwise specified, reading assignments are taken from the required resources specified above. The reading assignments listed for each class are those readings, which a student must complete *before* the class in order to be prepared for class that week. Not all of the readings will be discussed in class; however, all assigned readings may be covered on exams or other assignments.
3. **Lectures**: Many of the topic areas will be covered within lecture. Topics covered within lecture may be covered on quizzes or exams.
4. **In-class Quizzes**: There will be a total of twelve (12) in-class, short answer quizzes. These quizzes are designed to assess your knowledge on each chapter and better prepare you for the exams. Quizzes will take place on the last day we cover each chapter. Each quiz is worth 10 points and your top 10 quiz scores will contribute to your final grade (dropping your lowest two quizzes), for a total of 100 points.
5. **Exams** *(100 points x 3):* There will be a total of three (3) exams over the course of the semester. The exams are not cumulative. The exams will cover material in the readings, regardless of whether or not it was discussed in class, and will also cover the information covered in lectures, regardless of whether or not it was discussed in the book. The exams will take place in-class and consist of multiple choice, fill-in the blank, and short answer questions. A green Scantron is required for each exam. Students are responsible for bringing their own Scantron to class, which can be purchased in the UW Bookstore or in the Classroom Building store.

Missing a scheduled exam due to an unexcused absence will result in a grade of zero. In order to be permitted to make up an exam, the absence must be due to an authorized excuse. Make-up exams will be given only under the following conditions:

1. Participation in organized school activity.

2. Death in the immediate family.

3. Illness (with doctor’s written excuse).

4. Special circumstances that are approved to be appropriate by the instructor.

**FOR EACH OF THESE EXCUSES, YOU MUST HAVE DOCUMENTATION TO MAKE UP YOUR EXAM!** Make up exams will only be given to those students who have discussed their absence with the instructor and have a legitimate excuse. Legitimate excuses do not include sleeping in, leaving early for breaks, work schedule, and other such excuses.Make-up exams will need to be scheduled with the instructor and will need to be completed within one week of the excused absence.

1. **Optional Final Paper**: You have the option of writing a research paper on a topic of your choosing on a criminological theory that will replace your lowest exam score. The paper is 6-8 pages (double-spaced) and due May 1. The topic must be approved by me and I’m happy to look over outlines, drafts, etc.

**University Excuse**: In order to be excused from an examination, a valid University excuse or doctor’s excuse must be obtained. University excuses can be obtained from the Office of Student Life. The Office of Student Life (OSL) will provide the excuse, provided the students' absence meets the criteria for an authorized absence. For further information on obtaining an excused absence, contact the OSL or visit their website at: <http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/OSL/absences.htm>. Doctor’s excuses must be obtained from your attending physician. Be advised that student health does not provide excused absences. These excuses must be for the exam date and must state that you were unable to attend the class period that day. Doctor’s appointments do not constitute an excused absence. Excuses need to be presented to the instructor by the class period following the excused absence to be accepted.

**Grading:** The final grade distribution and grading scale are as follows:

In-class quizzes (12; drop lowest 2) *10 pts. each 100 pts.*

Exams (3) *100 pts. each 300 pts.*

Optional Final Paper (1) *100 pts.*  *Replaces Lowest Exam*

**Total 400 points**

***Grading Scale*:**

A 90% – 100%

B 80% – 89.9%

C 70% – 79.9%

D 60% - 69.9%

F 59% or less

**All assignments will be lowered 5% each day they are late. They are considered late if not received by the specified due date and time.**

**Writing Center:** I highly encourage every student to visit the UW Writing Center for assistance with writing for all your courses. To make an appointment, click “Schedule a Consultation” at http://www.uwyo.edu/ctl/writing-center/index.html.

**WyoCourses:** WyoCourses is the University’s online supplemental course website. As a resource for this class, a WyoCourse site is available to you. This site provides the opportunity to have all of the course materials in one place that is accessible to everyone. Assignments and announcements will be posted to this site. As part of the requirements for this class, you are expected to check and use this site regularly. **Make sure to check your UW email as this is the address that will be utilized for any posted announcements.** If you have difficulties with WyoCourses at any time during the semester, use the technical support available by calling 307-766-3726 or emailing [wyocourses@uwyo.edu](mailto:wyocourses@uwyo.edu).

Additional student resources regarding UW’s commitment to diversity, upholding non-discriminatory policies and Title IV, duty to report, academic dishonesty, as well as other resources can be found on the class WyoCourse site under the **Classroom Climate &Conduct** and **Learning Tools** tabs. Please do not hesitate to ask me if you have trouble findings any of this information.

**Sharing Mutual Expectations:** Since we are engaging in the process of learning about an area of study, it is vital that we all understand the expectations we have for one another.

***What You May Expect of Professor White***

***A sincere effort*** to help you learn the course material. I intend to spend enough time and effort in class preparation to make the material as understandable and interesting as we possibly can. If something is unclear, please ask questions.

***Accessibility-*** I agree to be available to you outside of class should you desire help, clarification, etc. Naturally, I cannot promise to be free to talk with you at length at any time during the day or night. If you get in touch with me at a time when I am occupied with something that can’t wait, I will gladly set another time to meet with you.

***Attention/courtesy****-* When you are speaking, you have my full attention. I will not ridicule you or express disagreement in an impolite way.

***Fairness****-*Your grade will be based upon what you have learned and participation. It will not be based upon personal consideration nor whether I agree upon an issue.

***All students will be treated the same way.*** Please do not ask me to round up your final grade, give you extra credit work etc. I need to treat all students the same way to be fair and equitable.

***What I Will Expect of You***

***A sincere effort***to learn the course material and participate in class. It is difficult to understand course material and do well in the course if you do not read the material, think critically about your discussion questions, and spend a few hours a week studying and preparing for the exams. I expect you will be motivated to understand the course material and discuss material with other class members. This will enable us to have lively discussions in class and allow you to ask pertinent questions regarding the material.

***Careful and complete reading***of the assignments.

***Attention/Courtesy***Just as I will not be inattentive or impolite to you, I expect your full attention in class. When a student or instructor is speaking, I expect you to give that person your undivided attention. Also, please do not engage in side-bar conversations during the class. This makes it difficult for other students to hear and to follow the content of the presentation. ***Although this may seem obvious, turn off your (or silent) cell-phone before the class begins, do not read the newspaper, work on crossword or Sudoku puzzles, play on your laptop, etc. If you are expecting a call, please let me know BEFORE class and sit near the door.***

***Promptness--***Come to class on time and leave class at the end of the class period. If you need to leave early for some valid reason, please sit at the back of the classroom and, before the class begins, inform me that you will need to leave early. Also, I fully expect you will comply with all due dates. **Due dates are firm.**

***Courtesy/Civility***—I expect that you will treat me with respect both inside and outside of the classroom. As college students, you are considered adults and I will treat you accordingly. I expect that you act accordingly. Your college experience is training for present or future job opportunities and should be treated as such. Non-passing grades are your responsibility, not the professor’s. Do not ask me to change your grade based on how hard you have worked, the number of times you have taken the course, losing your scholarship, how angry your parents will be, how we have ruined your life etc. Do not ask me to round up your final percent so you can get a higher grade.

***E-mail interaction***—I am happy to respond to your e-mail questions and seeking of information. Please be polite when you write these e-mails, address them to Prof. or Dr. White, use proper English and letter formatting.

**Class Cancellations:**

If it is necessary to cancel class, I will make every effort to contact you before you come to campus or class through sending an email. However, if that is not possible, students should wait at least 15 minutes before assuming class is cancelled. If an examination was scheduled the day of the cancellation, it will be held at the next class period.

**Disclaimer**: Everything in this syllabus is subject to change at my discretion. However, any changes will be announced in class or on the course website. The syllabus is meant to be an outline of what to expect during the course and may not be followed exactly.