Instructor: Gwen M. Udell
Contact Info: gudell@gmu.edu

Office hours: By appointment, available before or after class

Please check your Mason email. I will communicate regularly with students through Mason email. See http://masonlive.gmu.edu for information on how to use your account. If you prefer to use a different email address please notify me or set up forwarding to that address. I check my email frequently and it’s the quickest way to reach me.

Course description:
This course will focus on the fundamentals of crime analysis and an introduction to crime mapping. Throughout the course, students will examine concepts, theories, practices, data and analysis techniques associated with the field of crime analysis for law enforcement. Additional topics that will be covered include understanding criminal behavior, behavioral geography, linking crimes, forecasting, and prediction.

Required Textbook/Coursepack:
Coursepack containing readings from Tactical Crime Analysis, Chapter 3, Behavioral Geography & Exploring Crime Analysis: Readings on Essential Skills, Chapter 3, Understanding Criminal Behavior. Available at the PW Campus bookstore

Course Goals:
The student will gain a basic understanding of crime analysis for law enforcement. We will examine common analytical methods of crime data collection, pattern analysis, linkage of crimes and crime mapping.
After completing this course, the student will be able to:
Discuss the history of the field of crime analysis
Discuss the common theories of criminal behavior
Identify and explain analytical techniques used by crime analysts in the investigation process
Describe the principles of crime mapping and how crime mapping can aid in crime investigation and suppression
**Course Policies:**

**Attendance/Class Participation:**
Students are responsible to attend class. An attendance sheet will be passed around or taken during each class. Students are not permitted to sign the attendance sheet for another student. In-class participation is important and adds to the learning environment. Attendance/class participation will count towards your final grade. Electronic devices such as laptops, tablets and cell phones—please be respectful of your peers and instructor and do not engage in activities that are unrelated to class. Such disruptions show a lack of professionalism and will affect your participation grade.

**Honor Code:**
George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. All students are expected to be familiar with this Honor Code. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See honorcode.gmu.edu for more detailed information.

**Students with Disabilities:**
If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

**Add/Drop Period:**
Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. Available from the Registrar’s Website at registrar.gmu.edu

Last day to Add Tuesday, January 28th, 2014 (Full-Semester Course)
Last day to Drop Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 (Full-Semester Course)

After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from the class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

**Grading:**
Your final grade will be calculated as follows (total 100 points):
Attendance/Participation: 10 points
Exam #1: 25 points
Exam #2: 25 points
Assignments: Maximum 10 points each – total 40 point
Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97 – 100</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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Assignments:
You will have a total of 4 class assignments worth 10 points each. The assignments will be handed out during class and due on the dates listed below. There are no make-ups and late assignments will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to ensure assignments are completed on time. Details of these assignments will be given during class.

Assignment #1 given on January 28 – due February 11
Assignment #2 given on February 25 – due March 18
Assignment #3 given on March 25 – due April 8
Assignment #4 given on April 15 – due April 29th

Exams:
The midterm and final exams will most likely be closed book and will use a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blanks and short answer or essay. Make-up exams will only be given under exceptional, unavoidable circumstances. If you know in advance that you will have to miss an exam, please notify me ASAP.

Privacy Policy:
Please respect the privacy of any students who may disclose personal information in the class. Please respect everyone’s right to freely choose whether to disclose or not disclose personal information.

Bad Weather and Other Emergencies:
Check Mason’s homepage at www.gmu.edu or call GMU’s closing line at 703-993-1000 to see if classes are cancelled for inclement weather or other emergency circumstances. You can also register for Mason’s emergency alert system at https://alert.gmu.edu. If I should have to cancel class due to an emergency, I will attempt to email you ASAP at your GMU email address.
Tentative Course Schedule, subject to change:
*Chapter reference should be read prior to class to facilitate class discussion* Example- for the January 28th class you should have read Chapter 1.

January 21 (Class 1):
Welcome and Introduction
Review of syllabus
Overview of Crime Analysis and Crime Mapping

January 28 (Class 2):
Introduction to Crime Analysis
History/Foundations of Crime Analysis
Intro Types of Crime Analysis
Crime Analysis as a career choice
Assignment #1 handed out
(Chapter 1)

February 4 (Class 3):
Understanding criminal behavior—theories of criminal behavior as they relate to tactical crime analysis (Routine activities, Crime Pattern Theory, rational choice etc.)
(Chapter 2 & 3)
*Coursepack readings on Criminal Behavior, Tactical Crime Analysis, Chapter 3 & Exploring Crime Analysis: Readings on Essential Skills, Chapter 3, pages 51-69

February 11 (Class 4):
Police Strategies
Role of Crime Analysis
Crime Analysis process and data
(Chapter 4 & 5)
**Assignment #1 DUE**

February 18 (Class 5):
History of crime mapping
Geographic data & Crime Mapping
Geographic profiling info
Geographic behavior
(Chapter 6)
February 25 (Class 6):
Repeat incidents and tactical data collection
Pattern identification process
Assignment #2 handed out
(Chapter 8 & 9)

March 4 (Class 7):
*Mid Term Exam*

March 11 – NO CLASS/Spring Break

March 18 (Class 8):
Identifying meaningful and useful patterns
(Chapter 10)
Describing and disseminating known patterns
Time series analysis, DOW analysis
(Chapter 10 & 11)
**Assignment #2 DUE**

March 25 (Class 9):
Role of a Crime Analyst during an investigation
*Guest speaker*
Case Studies
Goes along with crime analysis purpose and audience (chapter 7)
Tactical Crime analysis products
Disseminating the final product
Assignment #3 handed out
(Chapter 10 & 11 continued)

April 1 (Class 10):
Strategic analysis
Analyzing Problems- Process and statistic
Common Crime Analysis statistical techniques
(Chapter 12) & Exploring Crime Analysis: Readings on Essential Skills, Chapter 3, pages 69-80

April 8 (Class 11):
Identifying hot spots
Best use of crime mapping
(Chapter 13 & 14)
**Assignment #3 DUE**
April 15 (Class 12):
Repeat victimization
Strategic crime analysis results and dissemination
Assignment #4 handed out
(Chapter 14 continued & Chapter 15)

April 22 (Class 13):
Administrative analysis
(Chapter 16)
Crime mapping for the public

April 29 (Class 14): *Last day in Class*
Resources for crime analysis
Current state and what the future holds
**Assignment #4 DUE**

May 6 – No Class *Reading Day*

May 13 (Class 15) **FINAL EXAM**