

The University of North Texas
Department of Criminal Justice
CJUS 2100.002: U.S. Crime and Justice
Spring 2026

Instructor: Andrekus Dixon, M.S. Criminal Justice

Time: MWF: 9:00am – 9:50am

Room: Matt 311

Office Hours: Chilton Room 265 B
Monday: 10:00am – 12:00pm or by appointment

Phone: 940-565-4475 (office)

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Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 2100) in the subject line of the email. Only emails sent from your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

****Note:** Emails sent after 5pm *or* on the weekends (holidays) will be answered the following business day. **Do not send messages through Canvas “Inbox”.** Please email either Jennifer or myself through the UNT Outlook portal (Eagle Connect) with the aforementioned email addresses.

GA: Jennifer Manrique
Email: Jennifer.Manrique@unt.edu

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus

Course Description:

This course examines the societal responses to people and organizations that violate criminal codes; discusses the history, development, organization and philosophy of the justice process; and analyzes the complex inter-relationships between the major components of the criminal justice system (i.e., police, courts, and corrections)

Goals and Objectives:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- 1) To identify the major foundations of crime and justice including the nature of law, behavioral aspects of crime, and measurement of crime;
- 2) To identify the major components of the criminal justice system including the police, courts, and corrections;
- 3) To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories;
- 4) To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for crime;
- 5) To examine criminal justice institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures and cultures;
- 6) To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural and global forces on criminal justice.
- 7) To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.
- 8) To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social scientists use to investigate criminals and the criminal justice system.

Textbook:

The assigned text listed below is required for all students enrolled in this course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the Course Calendar. The assigned readings will serve as a foundation for the discussion of the issues in class, as well as test material.

Required:

Bohm, R.M., & Haley, K.N. (2020). *Introduction to Criminal Justice* (10th). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Grade Breakdown

Grades are based on your earned point totals for the semester.

Exams	300 points (3 @ 100 pts each)
Quizzes	50 points (5 @ 10 pts each)

Canvas Discussions 100 points (5 @ 20 pts each)
Class Research Project 100 points (1 @ 100pts)

Total Points 550 points

<u>Final Grade Scale</u>
A= 495 - 550
B= 440 - 494
C= 385 - 439
D= 330 - 384
F= 329 and below

Final grades will be calculated based on the total points earned in the course, using the indicated scale, rather than as a percentage. I reserve the right to resolve borderline grades only after students have completed all course assignments.

Exam:

There will be 3 exams given, each worth 100 points. Exams will be given online in Canvas. You will have **60 minutes** to complete your exam. You must complete your exam in one sitting; you cannot save and resume later. On the day of the exam, it will open at 6:00am and close at 11:59pm. **No late work will be accepted.** Your exam may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, or short-answer questions. Exams will be in Canvas under the Module labeled "Exams".

****Note: It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have a reliable Internet connection. It is highly recommended that students take the exam on campus (in the library or in a computer lab).**

Quizzes

There will be 5 online quizzes administered throughout the semester. Once the Professor announces that there will be a quiz in the class, you will have until 9:00 AM on the next class day to complete the quiz. For example, if the Professor announces that the quiz will open at the end of class on Monday, you will have until Wednesday at 9:00 AM to complete it. You will have **15 minutes** to take each quiz. **No late work will be accepted.** Quizzes will be in Modules under the section labeled "Quizzes". The quizzes will reinforce the fact that you are keeping up with the reading and lecture notes. Quizzes will consist of 10 questions, potentially including multiple-

choice or true/false items. The correct answers to the quiz will be revealed once the quiz period expires.

Canvas Discussion Assignments/Activities:

Each student will be responsible for completing 5 Canvas Discussion Assignments throughout the course, with each discussion assignment being worth 20 points (for a total of 100 points). This will be located in Canvas under Modules in the section labeled “Discussions”. This assignment will be completed via Canvas outside of class. **Each discussion board will remain open from Friday at 6:00 A.M. until Sunday at 11:59 P.M.** Your initial discussion post must be a minimum of **250 words**. Moreover, for each discussion, students must reply to *at least 2 classmates* for full points. Participation post responding to your classmates should be a minimum of **50 words each**. All responses should contain 100% original content for this course and should contain appropriate citations when necessary. If you do not know what APA format is, please visit https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html or you can visit the UNT writing center.

You are also required to cite at least 1 scholarly source in your initial post. Yes, you can use your textbook as a source.

Responses are not based on your personal opinion (unless the Professor asks you to provide it), but should reflect careful consideration of the course materials and required readings. Failure to respond to the specific discussion assignment will result in a loss of points. To earn points, such comments must be more than trivial and substantive (think of these as the discussion you would have if we were having class on campus). Submit your discussion in Canvas only—do not email your discussion response to me directly. ***If, for some reason, you have technical difficulties and are unable to submit your response, you may email me your response and receive partial credit, provided the email timestamp is within the time frame listed above.***

When engaging in an online discussion, I ask that you remain civil toward one another and behave as you would if the person were in the same room as you. Use discussions to develop your skills in engaging in intellectual conversations about the topics we will cover. If foul language or disrespect is encountered in the online environment, the Professor will address it. If the situation merits meeting with the Department Chair or Dean, action will be taken.

Lackadaisical discussions will result in a loss of points. The rubric for your discussions is given below:

Content	Participation	Length	Editing (spelling and grammar)
Excellent 5 points All of the required components of the response were adequately addressed with full explanations	Excellent 5 points Student submitted 2+ substantive participation posts with full and supported explanations.	Excellent 5 points Discussion response exceeded required length, 2 participation responses were posted that also exceeded required length	Excellent 5 points If there were any spelling or grammar errors they were insignificant
Good 4 points A minor required component was missing, or there was not good explanation for at least one of the required major components	Good 4 points Student submitted 1-2 substantive participation posts with supported explanations.	Good 4 points Discussion response met required length, 2 participation responses were posted - one response met the 50 word count requirement, one did not	Good 4 points There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable but did not detract from the paper
Fair 3 points Important required components of the response were missing or there were a few components not fully explained.	Fair 3 points Student submitted 1-2 substantive participation posts. Additional explanation or support was needed.	Fair 3 points Discussion response was at or right below required length, 2 responses were posted, but neither met the 50 word count requirement or 1 response was posted that met the 50 word count requirement	Fair 3 points There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable and detracted somewhat from the paper
Poor 2 points Not all of the required components of the response were addressed, nor were they fully explained	Poor 2 points Students submitted 0-1 substantive participation responses.	Poor 1-2 points Discussion response was at or below required length, 2 responses were posted 1 substantive response was posted that did not meet the 50 word count requirement	Poor 1-2 points There were a number of spelling and grammar mistakes that detracted from the paper
Failing 0-1 points The content of the response was inadequate with limited coverage of required elements and very little if any explanation of required components	Failing 0-1 points There were no substantive participation posts submitted.	Failing 0 points Discussion response was at or below the required length and there were no substantive participation posts	Failing 0 points There were a great number of spelling and grammar mistakes that detracted greatly from the reading of the paper, such that it was difficult to read

Class Research Project:

The requirements/guidelines for this project will be posted in Canvas under the “Attention: Instructions for Class Research Project” module.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit may be awarded at the professor's discretion. If this opportunity presents itself, it will be for the entire class, not just one individual. Any extra credit awarded will be distributed to the entire class. I do not award individual extra credit, so it is important that you do well on all other coursework.

Attendance Policy:

I expect every student to attend class regularly and promptly. **Attendance will be taken daily.** Students are allowed a maximum of *two unexcused* absences during the semester. You are allowed two; use them for whatever you deem necessary. Remember, however, if you are absent on the day an assignment or extra credit is given, you forfeit those points as they cannot be made up.

A student who is absent from a class session is responsible for the subject matter discussed during that particular session. **I do not give out my lecture notes.** Notes missed (from lecture, guest speaker, presentations, etc.) will need to be obtained from a classmate. It will be extremely difficult for you to obtain an acceptable grade in this course if you miss class consistently.

I reserve the right to request that a student be dropped from the course with a grade of "WF" upon the accumulation of a stated number of unexcused absences. An absence may be excused for the following reasons: a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose; active military service, including travel for that purpose; participation in an official university function; illness or other extenuating circumstances; pregnancy and parenting under Title IX; and when the University is officially closed by the President. The student is responsible for requesting an excused absence in writing as early in the semester as possible, and personally delivering to me satisfactory evidence to substantiate the excused absence.

ADA Statement

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for

every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu

Academic Honesty

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation]. I regret that I should even have to mention the issue of cheating, but here it is: If I catch you, the very least you can expect is an F. Honor and integrity is the very core of Criminal Justice and I value my profession and its reputation very highly. Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures.

AI/ChatGPT

I expect you to generate your own work in this class. When you submit any kind of work (including projects, exams, quizzes, or discussions), you are asserting that you have generated and written the text unless you indicate otherwise by the use of quotation marks and proper attribution for the source. **Submitting content that has been generated by someone other than you, or was created or assisted by a computer application or tool, including artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT is cheating and constitutes a violation of the Student Conduct Code.** You may use simple word processing tools to update spelling and grammar in your assignments, but you may not use AI tools to draft your work, even if you edit, revise, or paraphrase it.

Classroom Policy:

It is essential that students show respect and remain orderly in class. Incivility is prohibited. Conduct considered disorderly includes talking while someone else is speaking, using profanity, sleeping, and any other disruptive noise. *NO TEXTING OR ANY SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY WILL BE TOLERATED DURING CLASS TIME.* If a student is found guilty of any of the following misconduct, they will be asked to leave the class and will be considered absent for that day. If the conduct is persistent, students will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for appropriate disciplinary action. *There will be no recording devices unless you have authorization from the University.*

All cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off or set to silent mode before entering the classroom. You may use your laptop for note-taking. However, if you are caught

doing anything that is not related to the course or the lecture notes, you will not be allowed to use your computer for the duration of the semester.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect

account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect) (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (noreply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

Academic Support & Student Services

Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab are available on the university website.

UNT Portal: <http://my.unt.edu>

UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users: <http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access> UNT Computing and Information Technology Center: <http://citc.unt.edu/services-solutions/students>

UNT Academic Resources for Students: <http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm>

Computer Labs: General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: <http://www.gacl.unt.edu/>

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-healthand-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-healthand-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellnesscenter/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellnesscenter/services/psychiatry)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices/services/individual-counseling)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

**UNT eUIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- o [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
- o [How do I use pronouns?](#)
- o [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
- o [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
- o [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)

Additional Student Support Services

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
- [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testingservices)
- [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

Children in the Classroom:

Due to the University policy, liability concerns, and the course material, children are not permitted in this class, no exceptions.

Final Points

Please do not hesitate to consult the professor with any questions, problems, or issues you may have regarding the course. Please do not wait to address these issues until it is too late for you to receive an acceptable grade. You will find the Professor to be very approachable and eager to address any professional issues you may have.

Course Calendar and Topics

Although we will attempt to adhere to the schedule of topics listed and described below, the course schedule should be viewed as highly flexible. Consequently, it is your responsibility to come to class, know where we are in the listing of assigned readings irrespective of this schedule, and know the material that we have covered before any reading assessment, examination, and/or presentation. Furthermore, additional items may be added to the calendar throughout the semester.

Course Calendar

DATE	Topics to be Covered	Corresponding Readings
1/12	Introduction and Course/Syllabus Review	
1/14	Crime and Justice in the United States	Chapter 1
1/16	Crime and Justice in the United States	Chapter 1
1/19	MLK Day	No Class
1/21	Crime and Justice in the United States	Chapter 1
1/23	Crime and Its Consequences	Chapter 2
1/26	Crime and Its Consequences	Chapter 2
1/28	Crime and Its Consequences	Chapter 2
1/30	Explaining Crime	Chapter 3
2/2	Explaining Crime	Chapter 3
2/4	Explaining Crime	Chapter 3

2/6	Discussion #1	
2/9	The Rule of Law	Chapter 4
2/11	The Rule of Law	Chapter 4
2/13	The Rule of Law	Chapter 4
2/16	Exam #1	Chapters (1 -4)
2/18	History and Structure of American Law Enforcement	Chapter 5
2/20	History and Structure of American Law Enforcement	Chapter 5
2/23	History and Structure of American Law Enforcement	Chapter 5
2/25	Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functioning	Chapter 6
2/27	Discussion #2	
3/2	Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functioning	Chapter 6
3/4	Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functioning	Chapter 6
3/6	Policing America: Issues and Ethics	Chapter 7
3/9 – 3/15	Spring Break!!!	No Class
3/16	Policing America: Issues and Ethics	Chapter 7
3/18	Policing America: Issues and Ethics	Chapter 7
3/20	The Administration of Justice	Chapter 8
3/23	The Administration of Justice	Chapter 8
3/25	The Administration of Justice	Chapter 8
3/27	Discussion #3	
3/30	Sentencing, Appeals, and the Death Penalty	Chapter 9
4/1	Sentencing, Appeals, and the Death Penalty	Chapter 9
4/3	Sentencing, Appeals, and the Death Penalty	Chapter 9
4/6	Exam #2	Chapters (5-9)

4/8	Institutional Corrections	Chapter 10
4/10	Discussion #4	
4/13	Institutional Corrections	Chapter 10
4/15	Prison Life, Inmate Rights, Release, Reentry, and Recidivism	Chapter 11
4/17	Discussion #5	
4/20	Prison Life, Inmate Rights, Release, Reentry, and Recidivism	Chapter 11
4/22	Community Corrections	Chapter 12
4/24	Community Corrections	Chapter 12
4/27	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 13
4/29	Video TBD	
5/1	Reading Day	No Class
5/4 – 5/6	Exam #3	Chapters (10-13)

The last day to drop the Course with a W is April 10th.

Note: The syllabus is a tentative calendar, and I reserve the right to make any changes throughout the semester. I will do my best to ensure that the schedule remains intact; however, if changes are made, they will be announced in class, and it is the student's responsibility to ensure they make the appropriate adjustments. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of a missing class does not constitute a defense against missed assignments and other applicable changes.