CJUS 4901.400: Criminal Justice Capstone Experience

Course Syllabus

Spring 2026

Instructor: Andrekus Dixon
Pronouns: he/him/his
Term: Spring 2026
Class meeting: This is an online class. Course expectations and classroom policies are outlined in the syllabus below. While students are expected to complete written assignments and participate in online discussions, and online quizzes, there are no formal on-campus meetings for this course that would require a student to come to campus.

Instructor Information:

Instructor:	Andrekus Dixon	Andrekus.Dixon@unt.edu
Graduate Assistant:	Mariyam Tsegay	MariyamTsegay@my.unt.edu
Office:	Chilton Hall 265B	
Office Hours:	There are no scheduled in person office hours for online courses, however, I am available to schedule virtual meetings if needed on **Monday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.** To schedule an appointment, you will need to email me directly. If you have questions or concerns, please send me an email directly to my UNT account above (not through Canvas messenger) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.	
Phone:	(940) 565-4475	

The Graduate Assistant (GA) for this course is Mariyam Tsegay. She will assist with maintaining course documentation and grading and serve as your first point of contact. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, etc., please direct them to Mariyam first. If Mariyam feels that I (Professor Dixon) need to weigh in on the matter, she will forward your email to me.

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 Mariyam or myself through the UNT Outlook portal (Eagle Connect) with the aforementioned email addresses.**

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 4901) in the subject line of the email. *Only emails sent from your UNT email account*

Required readings

There is one required text for the course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar.

Mays, G. L., & Ruddell, R. (2019). *Making sense of criminal justice: Policies and Practices* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0199314133

Recommended reading:
American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.)*.* Washington, DC: APA.

Course Description

Examination of the problems and issues involved in forming and implementing criminal justice policy in the United States. The course represents the final capstone experience for the student and should generally be taken in the semester the student will graduate. (*Prerequisite(s):* Senior standing and at least 33 hours of criminal justice, with 18 hours from the criminal justice core.)

Learning Objectives

After completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to:
- Discuss the importance of studying the effectiveness of criminal justice policy from an evidence-based perspective and identifying and incorporating appropriate scholarly sources
- Distinguish between the reality of crime and criminal justice policy from myths
- Describe the various models and types of public policy
- Summarize essential literature related to criminal justice policy, critique and evaluate diverse forms and sources of information
- Argue diverse perspectives, ideas, cultures, and viewpoints of criminal justice policy issues

Access and Navigation

Access and Log in Information

This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas' Learning Management System, Canvas. To get started with the course, please go to: https://unt.instructure.com/login/ldap

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course.

Student Resources
As a student, you will have access to:
- Student Orientation via Canvas. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.
- It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.
- From within Canvas, you will have access to the *"UNT Helpdesk"* tab which provides student resources and Help Desk Information.

Course Organization

Students will spend most of their time on the Modules page in the course. The "Start Here" module will be available throughout the course and contains the course syllabus. New materials will be released each week in line with what is noted in the syllabus. Each module will contain objectives, an introduction and a to-do list for the week, weekly notes, due assignments, and the next steps. You can complete all activities for each week within the Module. The announcements page will share updates on the course and essential information. Finally, students can view their grades in the course using the Grades tab in Canvas.

First steps

Upon entrance into the online classroom, students should spend some time navigating course materials and links to ensure they can locate all required materials. Students must read and complete all components of the Introduction module to unlock Week 1 materials. The student should review the syllabus and course materials early in the semester and keep a copy of the syllabus for easy reference throughout the course.

Method of Evaluation

Students will earn points through four methods of evaluation. As this is an online class, students must be prepared to take responsibility for their own learning. They should be prepared to take quizzes and complete online discussions with little direction beyond that provided in the syllabus and individual assignment instructions.

Online activities: Students will complete 1 online activity during the semester worth a total of 25 points. Web links for these activities are provided in the assignment instructions for each activity in Canvas. Students will complete the activity as instructed. Students must submit a screenshot of the required components as a document through the Canvas submission link by the due date and time in order to receive credit for the assignment.

Reading quizzes: Students will complete a reading quiz for each chapter for a total of 16 reading quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will be worth a total of 160 points or 10 points each. Quizzes are posted within the weekly modules. They will become available Monday morning at 6:00am of the week they are due and the following Sunday night by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the due dates outlined in the course calendar. Quizzes will be available for 30 minutes once they are opened and must be completed in one sitting. Quizzes may include multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer questions, and/or essays. While course materials may be referenced during the quizzes, students should treat these quizzes as they would an in-class exam and prepare accordingly. There is not enough time permitted to look up the answer to every question. Quiz grades will be available following completion of the quiz; correct responses to the questions will be posted after the availability period ends. *There are no makeup or late submissions of quizzes.*

Discussion and participation: Online discussions are designed to emulate that of the traditional or face-to-face classroom environment. Students will complete 6 discussion question posts. The first discussion is worth 25 possible points, and the remaining 5 discussions are worth 50 points each for a total of 275 possible points. For each discussion week, students will be required to both respond to the weekly discussion question as well as make two substantive posts to classmates' posts in order to receive full credit for the week. This will include responses to two separate classmates as well as responses to a classmate who responded to your original post. The idea is for this to emulate a real classroom discussion and not just write posts for the sake of writing posts.

Discussion question responses should range from 250-300 words of original content (references, etc., do not count towards the word count requirement). Participation posts must reflect critical thought and reflect substantive contribution to the class discussion (a minimum of 150 words per response). Rather, simply posting that you agree or disagree with another students post or restating their post will not constitute a substantive response. These posts account for a substantive portion of the overall course grade and will not be treated as completion grades. Students should take their time in responding and crafting a carefully thought out response. Students will be graded on grammar, so proofread submissions prior to posting.

Responses should be typed in a Word document before copying and pasting them into the text submission box to ensure they have a backup copy in the event of a technical issue. Students are strongly encouraged to complete their work as early as possible during the discussion week to avoid these types of issues.

Initial discussion posts must incorporate a **minimum of 2 scholarly references** with appropriate in-text citations as well as a complete reference page in APA format for any and all information obtained from outside references. Full credit for participation posts will also include a reference to **at least 1 academic reference** in support of your position. Discussions will close promptly at 11:59 p.m. on the due date listed in the course calendar at the end of the syllabus. Discussion

participation posts cannot be submitted after the discussion forum closes on the designated due date and time. *If you have an emergency and cannot submit an assignment, you must contact the instructor prior to the assignment due date.*

***Students must respond to the discussion question in order to unlock that week's discussion and enable the ability to respond to others' posts. All discussion **and** participation posts must be completed by the due date and time. *No late discussion posts or participation posts will be accepted for any reason.* Suppose you have technical difficulties in submitting your post. In that case, you must email the instructor a copy of your post before the discussion due date to be eligible for partial credit. The instructor retains the discretion to accept or evaluate any submission not turned in through the Discussion board in Canvas. Discussion posts/participation posts will be graded and returned within one week of the assignment's due date.

Discussion questions are designed to assess your comprehension and understanding of course materials, not a description of your personal opinion regarding crime policies.

Content	Participation	Length	Editing (spelling and grammar)	Citations
Excellent 10 points All of the required components of the response were adequately addressed with full explanations and citation	**Excellent 10 points** Student submitted 2+ substantive participation posts with full and supported explanations.	**Excellent 10 points** Discussion response exceeded required length, 2 participation responses were posted that also exceeded required length	**Excellent 10 points** If there were any spelling or grammar errors they were insignificant	**Excellent 10 points** The student posted 2 minimum scholarly references in the initial post and 1 academic reference for each classmate's response
Good 8 points A minor required component was missing, or there was not good explanation for at least one of the required major components	**Good 8 points** Student submitted 1-2 substantive participation posts with supported explanations.	**Good 8 points** Discussion response met required length, 2 participation responses were posted - one response met the 150 word count requirement, one did not	**Good 8 points** There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable but did not detract from the paper	**Good 8 points** The student posted 2 minimum scholarly references in the initial post and 0 academic references for each classmate's response
Fair 6 points Important required components of the response were missing or there were a few components not fully explained.	**Fair 6 points** Student submitted 1-2 substantive participation posts. Additional explanation or support was needed.	**Fair 6 points** Discussion response was at or right below required length, 2 responses were posted, but neither met the 150 word count requirement or 1 response was posted that met the 150 word count requirement	**Fair 6 points** There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable and detracted somewhat from the paper	**Fair 6 points** The student posted 1 minimum scholarly references in the initial post and 0 academic references for each classmate's response
Poor 4 points Not all of the required components of the response were addressed, nor were they fully explained. No citation.	**Poor 4 points** Students submitted 0-1 substantive participation responses.	**Poor 4 points** Discussion response was at or below required length, 2 responses were posted 1 substantive response was posted that did not meet the 150 word count requirement	**Poor 4 points** There were a number of spelling and grammar mistakes that detracted from the paper	**Poor 0 points** The student posted 0 minimum scholarly references in the initial post and 0 academic references for each classmate's response

Failing 0 points	Failing 0 points	Failing 0 points	Failing 0 points	
The content of the response was inadequate with limited coverage of required elements and very little if any explanation of required components	There were no substantive participation posts submitted.	Discussion response was at or below the required length and there were no substantive participation posts	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	

Final paper: Students will complete a 5-6 page (content) paper on a criminal justice policy issue worth 100 points. Students should take this assignment seriously and begin working on it as early in the semester as possible. Assignments must be submitted by the deadline designated in the Course Calendar. Suppose a student experiences an emergency situation in which they cannot submit their assignment. In that case, they must contact the instructor as soon as possible (before the assignment's due date). Remember, technical issues on the day an assignment is due are not considered an emergency. Students are encouraged to review the expectations for this assignment early in the semester so they will be prepared for the amount of work necessary to complete the assignment, work on the assignment before the due date, and submit the assignment upon completion. The paper will be graded and returned within one week of the assignment's due date. Instructions for the final paper are posted in Canvas

The final paper will be evaluated using the rubric provided below:

Content	Sources/APA Citations	Editing (Spelling and Grammar)	Organization	Length
Excellent 51-60 pts All of the required components of the paper were adequately addressed with full explanations	**Excellent 9-10 pts** Incorporated at least 8 academic references in an appropriate manner and cited references correctly	**Excellent 9-10 pts** If there were any spelling or grammar errors they were insignificant	**Excellent 9-10 pts** The paper was organized well with good paragraph structure and a good flow to the reading	**Excellent 9-10 pts** The paper was closer to the maximum length than the minimum length and had good content
Good 41-50 pts A minor required component was missing, or there was not good explanation for at least one of the required major components	**Good 7-8 pts** Incorporated 7 academic references, minor issues related to incorporation of material and/or citation format	**Good 7-8 pts** There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable but did not detract from the paper	**Good 7-8 pts** The paper was organized well and flowed well, but it may not have been broken down into enough paragraphs	**Good 7-8 pts** The paper was more than the minimum length requirement
Fair 31-40 pts Important required components of the paper were missing or there were a few components not fully explained.	**Fair 4-6 pts** Incorporated 5-6 academic references, some formatting issues, and/or incorporated inappropriate sources as primary sources.	**Fair 4-6 pts** There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable and detracted somewhat from the paper	**Fair 4-6 pts** The paper was not organized well or did not flow well because of poor transition or structure	**Fair 4-6 pts** The paper just barely met the minimum length requirement

Poor 21-30 pts	Poor 3-4 pts	Poor 3-4 pts	Poor 3-4 pts	Poor 3-4 pts
Not all of the required components of the paper were addressed, nor were they fully explained	Failed to adequately incorporate academic sources, incorporated only inappropriate references, and/or	There were a number of spelling and grammar mistakes that	There were either no paragraphs in this paper, or the organization was otherwise poor,	The paper did not meet the minimum length requirements
	major citation formatting issues	detracted from the paper	making it difficult to read	
Failing 0-20 pts The content of the paper was inadequate with limited coverage of required elements and very little if any explanation of required components	Failing 0-2 pts Sources were not incorporated, were inappropriate, and/or not cited.	Failing 0-2 pts 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	Failing 0-2 pts The organization of the paper was so poor as to render it almost impossible to read	Failing 0-2 pts The paper was considerably less than the minimum length requirement

As discussed above, students will have the opportunity to earn up to 560 points for the semester. Possible points can be earned in the following manner:

Library course guide activity	25 points	25 possible points
Reading quizzes (16)	10 points each	160 possible points
Discussion responses (6)	1x25pts; 5x50 points each	275 possible points
Final paper		<u>100 possible points</u>
		560 total possible points

Final grades will be based on the accumulation of points according to the table below (grades will not be rounded – the total points accumulated at the end of the semester will be used to determine the final grade):

A = 504-560 points

B = 448-503 points

C = 392-447 points

D = 336-391 points

F = 335 points and below

Grade related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Canvas. Do not contact the instructor at the end of the semester with a concern over the first discussion – instead, contact the instructor immediately upon grades being posted to discuss these concerns.

*There are no individual extra credit opportunities for the course. If extra credit is given, it will be an opportunity for every student in the class.

Attendance Policy

As this is an online course, there are fixed deadlines on assignments that students must meet in order to receive up to full credit for completed assignments. Students are expected to log in to the course daily to review course assignments, due dates, and check announcements, etc. Students may complete their work early and, in doing so, have a large amount of flexibility in completing their assignments. However, while work can be completed early, all assignments must be submitted by the due date listed in the course calendar in the syllabus. Students who have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of "F".

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

Classroom Policies

Students are expected to log in to Canvas daily to check Announcements or changes to the course. Missing deadlines as a result of not frequently checking Canvas will not be an excuse for late work submission.

No late submissions are accepted for any reason. Assignments are generally available for at least a week, as such, there are no extensions for last minute technical difficulties or unexpected events. As this is an online class, students are expected to use their time wisely and complete assignments within the availability period. Time management is an important skill both in terms of academic performance as well as in a professional environment. If a student will be out of town on vacation, work related travel, etc., the student should plan accordingly to complete any assignments prior to being out of town. Requesting exceptions to this policy is unfair to other students who complete assignments within the required time period.

Any assignment submitted in a format that the instructor cannot open, for any reason, will receive a score of 0 regardless of when the assignment was submitted. Follow individual assignment instructors for formatting and submission expectations. Students should be careful to submit assignments as attachments unless specifically instructed, as this increases the likelihood an assignment will not be visible to the instructor.

Grade-related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Canvas. Quiz grades are posted immediately with correct responses available after the quiz

close date. Students should email the instructor with quiz questions after they have reviewed the correct responses within one week of the grade being posted. Questions related to the quiz will not be answered while the quiz is still available. Do not wait until the end of the semester or halfway through the semester to ask questions about previous assignments. Students are expected to stay on top of their grades as well as their course standings and ask questions promptly.

Final grades are determined based on the point total listed in the syllabus. There is no rounding. Students should do their best on each assignment and submit all completed assignments on time to maximize their performance and earned point total for the course.

Online Discussion Expectations: While this is an online class, we will engage in online discussions in which individuals may have strong opinions regarding course-related topics. Our online classroom is a collaborative environment in which every student should feel comfortable expressing ideas, and opinions and engaging in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times; name-calling and personal attacks are not permitted. Students engaging in disruptive or disrespectful behavior in the classroom will be given one warning through an email from the instructor. A second violation will result in the student being locked out of future discussions eliminating their ability to either participate in future discussions or earn additional discussion points for the course.

A Grade of "Incomplete" ("I"): An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule; and (3) arranges with the professor before the end of the semester to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the professor must list on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course) If you do not meet the specifications for this grade, you will need to see the Registrar's office about resigning from the University.

Academic integrity

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

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.

Student Evaluation of Instruction (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

Course Calendar and Topics

Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule and any schedule changes, as well as the assigned readings, as we progress through the course. This is a tentative schedule, and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester. All assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Central time on the date listed below. **NOTE: Week 16 of the course ends on Wednesday, May 6th, at 11:59 p.m.** *Late submissions are not accepted.*

Date	Readings and assignment due dates
Week 1: 1/12 – 1/18	**Topic:** Welcome and overview **Assignments:** Introduction discussion, Careers in Criminal Justice discussion and Library Course Guide activity due Sunday 11:59p
Week 2 :1/19 – 1/25	**Topic:** The Politics and Policy Dichotomy; Crime Control versus Due Process **Readings:** Chapters 1 & 2 **Assignments:** Chapter 1 reading quiz and Chapter 2 reading quiz ; Crime Control versus Due Process discussion due Sunday 11:59p
Week 3: 1/26 – 2/1	**Topic:** Understanding Criminal Justice Policy **Readings:** Chapter 3 **Assignments:** Chapter 3 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 4: 2/2 - 2/8	**Topic:** The Search for a Guiding Philosophy of Policing **Readings:** Chapter 4 **Assignments:** Chapter 4 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p

Week 5: 2/9 - 2/15	**Topic:** Police and the Use of Force **Readings:** Chapter 5 **Assignments:** Chapter 5 reading quiz; Police funding discussion due Sunday 11:59p
Week 6: 2/16 - 2/22	**Topic:** Gun Control **Readings:** Chapter 6 **Assignments:** Chapter 6 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 7: 2/23 - 3/1	**Topic:** Sentencing **Readings:** Chapter 7 **Assignments:** Chapter 7 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 8: 3/2 - 3/8	**Topic:** Race, Ethnicity, and Justice **Readings:** Chapter 8 **Assignments:** Chapter 8 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 9: 3/16 - 3/22	**Topic:** Gender and Justice **Readings:** Chapter 9 **Assignments:** Chapter 9 reading quiz; Coronavirus and domestic violence discussion due Sunday 11:59p
Week 10: 3/23 - 3/29	**Topic:** Wrongful Convictions **Readings:** Chapter 10 **Assignments:** Chapter 10 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 11: 3/30 - 4/5	**Topic:** What Are the Alternatives to Incarceration? **Readings:** Chapter 11 **Assignments:** Chapter 11 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 12: 4/6 - 4/12	**Topic:** Putting the Brakes on Correctional Populations **Readings:** Chapter 12 **Assignments:** Chapter 12 reading quiz; Correctional policy discussion due Sunday 11:59p
Week 13: 4/13 - 4/19	**Topic:** The Death Penalty: Dying a Slow Death? **Readings:** Chapter 13 **Assignments:** Chapter 13 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p

Week 14: 4/20 - 4/26	**Topic:** Responding to Youth Crime **Readings:** Chapter 14 **Assignments: Final Paper Due** and Chapter 14 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 15: 4/27 - 5/3	**Topic:** Security versus Liberty in the Twenty-First Century **Readings:** Chapter 15 **Assignments:** Chapter 15 reading quiz due Sunday 11:59p
Week 16: 5/4 - 5/6	**Topic:** Making Sense of Criminal Justice **Readings:** Chapter16 **Assignments:** Chapter 16 reading quiz due *Wednesday, 5/6* 11:59p

Grade Appeals

Please keep all your graded work. You cannot, under any circumstance, dispute a grade on an exam or assignment if you cannot provide the original copy. Should you have any discrepancy with a grade you receive, you must submit a written complaint and meet with me within one week of receiving the grade. Bring the original copy of the exam or assignment to this meeting. Written complaints must address specific comments and/or grading criteria. Filing an appeal does not guarantee that your grade will be changed. **Grades are not verbally negotiable.**

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation 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 (https://disability.unt.edu/).

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) 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).

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.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

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

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

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-health-and-wellness-center)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/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:

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

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

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

Student Behavior and University Policy:

 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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr

Participation and Online Behavior

To be successful at learning and understanding the material in this class, it is essential that you read and complete the assigned material and engage in thoughtful online discussions. Your active participation, along with your willingness to engage in thoughtful discussions regarding crime and justice will be taken into account at all times during the semester.

An online classroom, at least during times of online discussion, is a place to express ideas, opinions, and engage in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times *or their status in the course will be examined*. In sum, simply be appropriate during online interactions. Each student brings unique insight and perspectives, and that can make for a very interesting and lively discussion forum, but just please be appropriate and respectful of others. **Please review the undergraduate catalog concerning conduct which adversely affects the university community.**

Syllabus Changes

I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that the syllabus must be modified. In the case that the syllabus needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student's responsibility to check announcements/email so that any and all syllabus changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements does not constitute a defense against missed assignments, test dates, and other applicable changes.

Miscellaneous:

The material posted online is my personal intellectual property or that of the University of North Texas. You may not utilize the material for other than class purposes.