CJUS 5620: Seminar in Victimology
Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Brooke Nodeland
**Term:** Summer 2024
**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, participate in online discussions, and online quizzes, there are no on formal on campus meetings for this course which would require a student to come to campus.

**Instructor’s Contact Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email (preferred)</th>
<th><a href="mailto:Brooke.Nodeland@unt.edu">Brooke.Nodeland@unt.edu</a></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Phone</td>
<td>940-565-2562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Location</td>
<td>Chilton 273K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Virtual - by appointment</td>
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*Scheduling meetings during office hours:* I am available for virtual office hours by appointment. The primary method to contact me is through my university email (which is also the method used to schedule meetings).

**Email expectations:** When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 5620) in the subject line of the email. **Only emails sent from your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Do not expect a response to messages sent through Canvas messenger.** Please allow 48 hours of turnaround time (weekdays) for your email and telephone inquiries when contacting me. Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official UNT email address is forwarded to your preferred email address.

**Required readings**
The assigned text listed below is required for all students enrolled in this course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar.


Additional readings are outlined in the syllabus and throughout the course in Canvas.

**Course Description**
Role of the victim in various types of crime, predictors and treatment of trauma, and the treatment of victims by criminal justice agencies. Political impact of the victims movement on the justice system and the distribution of victims across demographic and behavioral groups. Prerequisites: none (3 hours)

**Learning Objectives**
Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:
1. Discuss the breadth and depth of the study of victimology
2. Integrate and synthesize both past and current empirical literature in victimology
3. Critically assess issues related to theory, types of victimization, and responses to crime victims

**Technical Requirements/Assistance**
The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.
UNT Technical Support: https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk
Canvas Student Guides: https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701
Canvas Video Guides for Students: https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/video-guide#jive_content_id_Students
Basic Technical Requirements for Canvas: https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721
Canvas VPAT: https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility

Minimum Technical Skills:
This is not a computer skills course and as such, students are expected to have a minimum skill set in order to access course materials and complete course assignments. Specifically, students should know how to access a Web site when given an address, use the features of their Web browser, download files, attach files to emails, use word processing software, copy and paste …etc.

**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. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

**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 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. Each week new materials
will unlock in line with that noted in the syllabus. Each module will contain objectives, an
introduction and to do list for the week, weekly notes, weekly reading list, assignments that are
due and next steps. You will be able to complete all activities for each week within the Module.
Updates to the course and important information will be shared on the Announcements page.
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 are able to locate all required 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.

Student Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and
supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website
(http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.

Method of Evaluation
As this is a graduate online class, students must be prepared to take responsibility for their own
learning. Students should be prepared to complete assignments and discussions with little
direction beyond that provided in the syllabus and individual assignment instructions.

Discussions: During the dates specified in the course outline, students will participate in an
online discussion 6 times during the semester. Each student will then respond appropriately to
the question or instruction statement provided, creating his/her own “original thread” (at least the
equivalent to 3-4 paragraphs). After creating an original thread, students are required to respond
to at least 2 of their fellow classmates’ original threads. To earn points, discussion and
participation comments must be more than trivial and, in fact, substantial and substantive (think
of these as the discussion you would engage in if we had an on campus class). You will be
required to comment and support your views from the research that is provided to you as well as
appropriate outside academic references. Grammatical errors as well as weak and unsupported
comments will be deducted in points. In text citations and a list of references should be included
with each post, discussion and participation, in APA format. Students must respond to the
discussion question in order to unlock that week’s discussion and enable the ability to respond to
others’ posts. Discussion posts will be typed and submitted directly in the text box in Canvas. Discussions submitted as attachments will not be accepted and will receive a score of 0.

Discussions will be evaluated and returned within 1 week of the assignment due date.

* Please note that many of the issues discussed in this course may be controversial and emotionally charged. Every member of this class is expected to respect the positions and opinions of all class members, regardless of any personal viewpoint.*

**Reaction essays:** Students will complete 2 reaction essays worth 50 points each for a total of 150 points. Reaction essays will comprise the students critical reaction and evaluation of the assigned readings. Specific instructions are available in Canvas on the Writing a reaction essay – writing guidance page in the Course resources Module. Students can work on these assignments early, however, the submission week will open 2 weeks before the assignment due date.

*Assignments will not be accepted through any other format; hard copy, email etc.*
Assignments must be submitted by the deadline designated in the Course Calendar. *Late submissions will not be accepted.*

*Do not plagiarize (from the internet or other source) – if you do you will automatically fail the exam. Do not just quote sections from other researchers as your answer. The midterm, final paper and discussion responses must be written in your own words. If you are going to cite someone, write the sentence in your words and cite them in APA format. There are no late submissions so plan accordingly.*

Make use of the Library Course Guide and other course resources to write your paper. If you need help locating information to help you complete the final paper, ask the instructor as soon as possible.

If you fail to complete ALL of the discussions, assignments, or the final paper the professor reserves the right to drop your final grade a letter grade at the end of the semester.

**Grade breakdown**

| Discussions (6 @ 25 points each) | 125 possible points |
| Reaction essays (2 @ 50 points each) | 100 possible points |

225 possible points

Note: The course is based on a point scale, not percentages. Grades will be determined based on the total number of points earned (as outlined in the table below) and will not be rounded or adjusted in any way.

| A | 202.5-225 total points |
| B | 180-202 total points |
| C | 157.5-179 total points |
| F | 157 total points or 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.

**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 that 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".

**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. If you are unable to access Canvas to submit an assignment, you must email the assignment for submission by the due date and time in the syllabus for it be considered for credit. 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 a 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 post 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 half
way through the semester to ask questions about previous assignments. Students are expected to stay on top their grades as well as their course standings and ask questions in a timely manner.

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, 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.

**Being a Successful Online Student**
- *What Makes a Successful Online Student?*
- *Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students*

**Academic integrity**

Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies:

[http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf)

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

A. Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B. Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:
   1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
   2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C. Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D. Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F. Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

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.

Resources
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 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.

**ADA Statement and Disabled Student Policy**

The University of North Texas 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 you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You 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 Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**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 at [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)" and can be found buried within this document: [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TYPE=TEXT](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TYPE=TEXT)

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.

**Copyright Notice**
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located at: [http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies](http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies).

**Course Calendar and Topics**
Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, 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 11:59p Central time on the date listed below. *Late submissions are not accepted.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC AND ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY</th>
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| Week 1 5/20-5/26 | **Topic:** Introduction and overview. History of crime victims and victim’s rights, The discipline of victimology and measuring victimization  
**Reading:**  
1. Course overview  
2. Syllabus  
3. Chapters 1-4 Yager  
**Assignments:**  
Introduction discussion and Victimology vs. Criminology discussion due Sunday 5/26 11:59p |
| Week 2 | 5/27-6/2 | **Topic:** Victims and the Criminal Justice system, Helping victims, Primary and secondary victims of homicide, Property crime victims  
**Reading:**  
1. Chapters 5-8 Yager  
**Assignments:**  
Inside the Mind of a Thief discussion due Sunday 6/2 11:59p |
| Week 3 | 6/3-6/9 | **Topic:** Teen and college victims, Sexual violence, Child victims  
**Reading:**  
1. Chapter 10-12 Yager  
**Assignments:**  
Reaction essay *Victim F* due Thursday 6/6 11:59p  
Elizabeth Smart discussion due Sunday 6/9 11:59p |
| Week 4 | 6/10-6/16 | **Topic:** Cyber crime, white-collar crime, and economic crime victims; Victims of assault, domestic violence, stalking and elder abuse; Victims of the criminal justice system  
**Reading:** |
1. Chapters 9, 13-14 Yager

**Assignments:**
Cyber victimization and Victims of the criminal justice system discussion due Sunday 6/16 11:59p

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Topic: Digital Laws and Legislation, Law Enforcement and Police Response, and The Investigation of Computer Related Crime</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/17-6/21</td>
<td>Reading:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Chapters 15-16 Yager</td>
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**Assignments:**
Reaction essay *Missoula* due **Friday 6/21** 11:59p

**Reminder course ends on Friday 6/21 – no assignments can be accepted after this date for any reason**