



University of North Texas
College of Liberal Arts and Social
Sciences Department of Psychology
PSYC 3530
Psychology of the Offender

Course Syllabus

Psyc 3530.001 (CRN 5746) / Psychology of the Offender
Spring 2024
3 Credit hours
TR 3:30 pm-4:50 pm
TH 121

Instructor Contact Information

Name: Lisa Manriquez, PhD. (*she/her/hers*)
Office Location: Terrill Hall 359, University of North Texas
Office hours: M 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. and open to appointment
Email: lisa.manriquez@unt.edu

TA Contact

Name: Simon Wright
Email: SimonWright@my.unt.edu
Office Location: TH 215
Office Hours: M 11:00am-1:00pm

The TA is primarily responsible for grading and should be the first point of contact for grading, assignments and course-content issues/questions.

Course Description

Psychology of the Offender 3530 is a course examining psychological knowledge, phenomenon, and theories that are pertinent to the offender and the legal system. Emphasis on how human characteristics and psychological factors influence attitudes, decisions, and behavior throughout the legal process. You will be exposed to guest speakers, directed readings from your textbook and real case studies, videos, simulations, and engaging lecture material. I hope you find this introduction to the as engaging as possible! Be aware that this course covers violent topics such as child molestation, sexual assault, homicide, mass shootings, and police brutality. Review the course calendar to see the topic for each **If you are unable to engage with any of these topics, I kindly request that you do what's best for your wellness and drop this course.** Students who stay enrolled are expected to engage with the material each week and complete assessments that demonstrate understanding and application.

Pre-requisites

PSYC 1630 or PSYC 1650

Course Learning Objectives

1. Recognize the attitudes, beliefs, social forces, and environments that impact the legal system and those involved
2. Demonstrate familiarity with the range of topics and theories within forensic psychology
3. Practice effective collaboration
4. Compare and contrast your attitudes and beliefs about offenders and the legal system
5. Create and clearly communicate informative decisions about real case studies

Required Materials

- [Text: Bartol, R. & Bartol, A. M. \(2017/2020\). Introduction to forensic psychology: Research and application. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE. Links to an external site.](#)
 - Print ISBN: 9781071815342
 - eText ISBN: 9781071815328, 1071815326

I understand that saving money is a priority to many students, and therefore, will gladly accept the fifth edition. To save money and access more student resources, I recommend renting the [e-book Links to an external site.](#) for a **90-Days access package.**

- Documentaries, case studies, and articles provided to you at no expense
- Access to a computer
- Frequent and consistent access to the Internet

Technical Support

Student UIT Helpdesk:
Sage Hall 130
940-565-2324
helpdesk@unt.edu

Technical Support Hours:

Monday- Thursday: 8:00am-9:00pm (Walk-in: 8:00am-5:00pm)
Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm
Saturday-Sunday: 11:00am-3:00pm

Technical Skill Requirements

For this course you will need to be able to:

- Use software including MS word, PowerPoint, Adobe
- Navigate Canvas (<https://online.unt.edu/canvas-basics-unt-students> Links to an external site.)
- download and upload files
- send and receive emails

What to do if canvas fails: Canvas is online technology, and therefore, can crash. If this happens to you, EMAIL ME IMMEDIATELY. I will be able to access the system, review your Canvas attempt, and reset your assessment. However, I will not check my email between 5:00 pm and 8:00am Central Time, or on weekends, so I highly recommend that you complete and submit your work in advance.

Communication and Inclusivity for Student Success

Communication with myself and your TA is key to your success in this course. If any assistance/ clarification is needed in the course, please don't hesitate to reach out. There are several ways that you may communicate with me throughout the semester. Our classroom is an inclusive environment where all questions regarding the material in the course are welcome. I appreciate all perspectives and we will treat everyone in the class with respect and civility. If one individual has a question regarding the material, many others are likely to have that question as well and you are encouraged to ask for clarification in class. You can also approach me before or after class for quick clarification. If greater assistance is needed, please visit me during my office hours or email for an appointment. I may also be able to assist you through email as well. It is my goal to respond to your email within 24 hours between M-F 8:00am-5:00pm. I am human and may accidentally overlook your email. If I do not respond to you within 24 hrs. please don't hesitate to resend the email.

Course Communication and Messaging Forums Policy

As students who are strongly encouraged to form friendships and study groups, I understand that you might develop and join messaging forums to discuss course material. This can result in misinformation or disinformation about course content or requirements. Your right to free speech and my requirements to abide by FERPA and security policies require that I not acknowledge, become involved in, or be held responsible for any communication that occurs or is sent by anyone other than my team of TAs and myself outside of any other medium than UNT Canvas, UNT Zoom, or UNT Outlook. Therefore, any misinformation that you, are delivered by or, personally deliver to, other students concerning any aspect of this class is not under my control.

All course requirements and contents are my intellectual property and thus, will be strictly contained within Canvas and the classroom. As a result, communication with me and my educational team about course content, assessments, and deadlines will only be delivered by me and my team in the following modalities: UNT Outlook, UNT Zoom, UNT Canvas, and the classroom. You are ultimately responsible for knowing course requirements as they are depicted in the syllabus. If you believe the syllabus, course requirements, or course content is erroneous, communicate with us directly and we will address the error. Any grade or deadline disputes must be individually delivered to me and my educational team no later than 7 calendar days after the grade has been entered or the deadline has passed.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken intermittently throughout the semester. Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend

every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#). If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to acquire the material covered in class. Please note that material presented in the lectures may not always be presented in the textbook (and vice versa),but will be on the exams; attendance is essential for success in this course.

It is expected that you attend class prepared to participate in a thoughtful manner. You are also expected to behave respectfully towards your fellow classmates and to the professor. If you arrive late or must leave early, please do so in such a way as to not disrupt your classmates or me. All cellphones and other devices must be turned off or put in silent mode and kept in your pocket or bag.

Course Requirements

All the assignments and point values are listed below. See *Canvas for the instructions and assignment details*. The assignments will be available as the course progresses (consistent with the availability of the module). The correct answers for the quizzes will be available after the due date for that particular quiz has passed.

Graded Components

| <i>Assignment</i> | <i>Points Possible</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <i>Reading Quizzes (9X10 pts each)</i> | 90 |
| <i>Exams (3X100 points)</i> | 300 |
| <i>Guest Lecture Participation (2X30 pts each)</i> | 60 |
| <i>Group Activities (5x30 pts)</i> | 150 |
| <i>Individual Activity 1: Legal Attitudes Survey</i> | Part I: 20 Part II: 30 |
| <i>Individual Activity 2: Death Penalty Case</i> | 50 |
| <i>Individual Activity 3: ACES Certification</i> | 50 |
| <i>Individual Activity 4: Interrogation Analysis</i> | 50 |
| <i>Total Points Possible</i> | <i>800 points</i> |

Reading Quizzes

This course has 10 quizzes each worth 10 points. However, the lowest quiz score will be dropped, and the total score for quizzes will be out of 90. Reading quizzes consist of 10 multiple choice questions pertaining to the lecture for each class period. Required readings are outlined in the syllabus schedule and are due each Tuesday at 3:00pm prior to the lecture. Each quiz may be taken twice and you will have 15 minutes to complete each quiz. The average score will be used for each quiz grade. Quizzes are open book, open notes but you may not consult other individuals or the internet while completing the quiz. Please prepare for the quiz prior to starting the quiz as you will not have time to look up every question during the quiz. No late quiz submissions will be permitted in this course.

Exams

This course has 4 exams each worth 100 points. However, the lowest exam score will be dropped, and the total score for exams will be out of 400. For example, if a student scores 90, 90, 80, and 75 on the four exams, the 90, 90, and 80 will be included in the final score for a total of 260/300. If an exam is missed, including the final exam, that score will be the lowest score and will be dropped.

Quiz and Exam Prep

This text has a wonderful [student resource website](https://edge.sagepub.com/bartol5e) [Links to an external site.](https://edge.sagepub.com/bartol5e) located at <https://edge.sagepub.com/bartol5e>. Take their practice quizzes and frequent the flashcards for a personal review on material.

Guest Lecture Participation

Each student will submit three questions to Canvas for the scheduled guest speaker. Questions for the guest speaker must adhere to the instructions located on the assignment document located in Canvas. Students will be given three discussion question (DQ) opportunities, but are only required to complete two. To earn any points for the Discussion Question assignment, students must attend the entire class on the day of the scheduled guest speaker. Students who submit a Discussion Question to Canvas, but do not attend the entire class, will receive a zero for those questions. Therefore, if you think you will struggle with the content covered by the guest speaker, please do not complete the Discussion Question assignment. I provide 3 guest speaker opportunities, but only require you attend 2. This is to support your wellness. You may submit questions for all 3 guest speakers for additional bonus points!

Group Activities

Six group activities will take place on specified days stated in the course syllabus. You are required to prepare and participate in 5 of these activities. You must be present in class on these days to complete the activity. The activity submission is due at the end of the class period. You may complete all 6 activities for additional bonus points!

Individual Activities

This course has four individual assignments. These assignments will be discussed in class and posted on Canvas during the class periods specified in the course schedule.

No other grades will be given except as noted above. If you are doing poorly in the course, it is your responsibility to drop or withdraw from the course before the appropriate deadline. If it is too late to drop or withdraw from the course, a mark of "Incomplete" will not be assigned (unless the requirements for obtaining an "I" are met as noted below); rather the you will be assigned the actual grade earned.

Please check if assignments have been submitted in entirety/as expected before the assignment is due. You should not be emailing me after the assignment due date stating that you thought the assignment was submitted; however, there was a technical glitch and they realized later that the assignment was not successfully submitted. I will not be considering such requests.

If there are technical issues or in doubt whether assignments have been/will be successfully submitted, please take a screenshot of the error messages or time-stamped copies of the assignment submissions.

If you are travelling the day an assignment is due, please be mindful of any time differences across locations (change in time zones) and plan accordingly. I will not consider this as a reason for lack of timely assignment submission.

Grading

The grading scale for this course is A – F. The points I will use to calculate the final grade are below.

| Grade | Points |
|--------------|---------------|
| A | 720 or more |
| B | 640-719 |
| C | 560-639 |
| D | 480-559 |
| F | 479 or less |

Course Expectations

As the instructor in this course, I am responsible for

- Providing course materials that will assist and enhance your achievement of the stated course goals,
- Providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated
- Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for

As a student in this course, you are responsible for

- Reading and completing all requirements of the course in a timely

- Working to remain attentive and engaged in the course and interact with your fellow
- Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for

Late Work/Make-up Policy

I understand life happens and you may occasionally miss a deadline. In this class, I allow you to submit **ONE** assignment after the deadline has passed. To do so, you need to email your TA within 24 hours of the missed deadline. Late work will be accepted with a 10% deduction each day work is late (including weekends). If you have an emergency (hospitalization, major accident, or death of a family member) that can be supported with proper documentation, please contact me as soon as possible to makeup missed work without penalty.

Incomplete Grades

"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, (2) has completed 60% of coursework, and (3) has justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. The student must arrange with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements. These requirements must be listed on a Request for Grade of Incomplete form signed by the instructor, student, and department chair and must be entered on the grade roster by the instructor. See also "Removal of I" policy in the Academics section of undergraduate catalog. (*The UNT Catalog generally allows up to 1 year to remove an "I" grade.*). Grades of "I" assigned to an undergraduate course at the end of the Fall 2007 semester and later, will default to "F" unless the instructor has designated a different automatic grade.

Withdraw

The last day to withdraw from this course is April 5th, 2024.

Policies

Academic Integrity: <https://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity> Links to an external site.

The University of North Texas promotes the integrity of learning and embraces the core values of trust and honesty. Academic integrity is based on educational principles and procedures that protect the rights of all participants in the educational process and validate the legitimacy of degrees awarded by the University. In the investigation and resolution of allegations of student academic dishonesty, the University's actions are intended to be corrective, educationally sound, fundamentally fair, and based on reliable evidence.

Cheating "Cheating," in this policy, means 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. use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments
3. use, without permission, of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to instructors, staff members, or other students of the University
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission 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.

“Plagiarism,” in this policy, means 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.

Code of Student Conduct: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

Please be aware that UNT policy (See <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/12-005>) [Links to an external site.](#) based on Title 9 of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681(a); See <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-links-to-an-external-site>, rights/title-ix-and-sexual-assault) entails a duty for institutional employees to report to the university any knowledge regarding recent events of sexual misconduct involving students or employees. Additionally, if you report any information indicating that you have been a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking being a student or employee at UNT, I am required to report this information to concerned authorities as mandated by Texas State Law. If you would like to discuss information with a confidential source, the UNT CARE Team is always ready to assist. Their website is located at <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care> [Links to an external site.](#). You may also reach UNT CARE at their email address, careteam@unt.edu. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can also 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 via email 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 via email at oeo@unt.edu or at (940)-565-2759.

ADA 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. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. [Links to an external site.](#) You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Helpful links for supplemental student services:

1. [Student Health and Wellness Center](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
2. [Counseling and Testing Services](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
3. [UNT Care Team](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
4. [UNT Psychiatric Services](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
5. [Individual Counseling](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
6. [UNT schedule to register and withdraw/drop a course](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
7. [Information on student policies and resources](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
8. [Learning Center](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
9. [Links to an external site.](#)[Undergraduate research Fellowship](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Topic |
|------|------|--|
| 1 | 1/16 | Syllabus Review and Course Introduction Individual Activity #1 Due 1/18 @3:00pm Think ahead! Read Introduction to Forensic Psychology |
| | 1/18 | Lecture: Introduction to Forensic Psychology (Ch. 1) Think ahead! Read Introduction to The Development of Delinquent and Criminal Behavior |
| 2 | 1/23 | Reading Quiz 1 Due 1/23 @3:00pm (Chapter 1) Reading Quiz 2 Due 1/23 @3:00pm (Chapter 2) Lecture: Development of Delinquent behavior (Ch.7) |
| | 1/25 | Lecture: Development of Delinquent behavior (Ch.7) Think ahead! Read Psychology of Violence and Intimidation |

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|---|---------------|--|
| 3 | 1/30 | Reading Quiz #3 Due 1/30 @3:00pm (Chapter 8) Lecture: Psychology of Violence and Intimidation |
| | 2/1 | Lecture: Violence and Intimidation Individual Activity #2: Death Penalty Case due 2/5 @11:59pm Think ahead! Read Family Violence and Child Victimization |
| 4 | 2/6 | Reading Quiz #4 Due 2/6 @3:00pm (Chapter 11- IPV Only) Guest Speaker – Discussion Question 1 Due |
| | 2/8 | Lecture: Intimate Partner Violence |
| 5 | 2/13 | Exam 1 Review Think Ahead! Begin Individual Assignment #3: ACES Certification Due 2/25 @11:59pm |
| | 2/15 | Exam 1 |
| 6 | 2/20 | Reading Quiz #5 Due 2/20 @3:00pm (Chapter 11- All except IPV) Lecture: Family Violence and Child Victimization |
| | 2/22 | Family Violence and Child Victimization Guest Speaker – Discussion Question 2 due Individual Activity #3: ACES Certification Due 2/25 @11:59pm Think ahead! Read Family Law and Other Forms of Civil Litigation |
| 7 | 2/27 | Reading Quiz #6 Due 2/27 @3:00pm (Chapter) Lecture: Family Law and Other forms of Civil Litigation View the assigned film available in Canvas ▪ Closed Captioning Provided |
| | 2/29 | Group Activity 1: Medical Malpractice or Good Doctor? Group Activity 1 – Due at end of class Think Ahead! Read Psychology of Investigations |
| 8 | 3/5 | Reading Quiz #7 Due 3/5 @3:00pm (Chapter) Lecture: Psychology of Investigations (<i>Focus: Eyewitness Memory</i>) |
| | 3/7 | Group Activity 2: Eyewitness Simulation Assignment 2 – Due at end of class |
| | 3/11- 3/17 | · SPRING BREAK- NO CLASSES |
| 9 | 3/19 | Lecture: Psychology of Investigations (<i>Focus: Interrogations</i>) |

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|----|------|---|
| | 3/21 | Case Study: Michael Crowe Individual Activity #4 (Due 3/25 @11:59pm) Think Ahead! Read Consulting with Criminal Courts |
| 10 | 3/26 | · Exam 2 Review |
| | 3/28 | · Exam 2 |
| 11 | 4/2 | Reading Quiz #8 Due 4/2 @3:00pm (Chapter 5) Consulting with Criminal Courts- Competency/Sentencing Guest Speaker 3: Discussion Question 3 due |
| | 4/4 | Group Activity 3: Assessment Group Assignment 3 Due at end of class |
| 12 | 4/9 | Lecture: Juror Decision Making |
| | 4/11 | Group Activity 4: Mock - Juror Decision Making Group Activity Assignment 4- Due at end of class Think Ahead! Read Correctional Psychology in Adult Settings |
| 13 | 4/16 | Reading Quiz #9 Due 4/16 @3:00pm (Chapter 12) Lecture: Correctional Psychology in Adult Settings |
| | 4/18 | Group Activity #5: Plea Bargaining Group Assignment 5 due at the end of class Think Ahead! Read Death Penalty Trials and Appeals |
| 14 | 4/23 | Reading Quiz #10 Due 4/23 @3:00pm Lecture: Death Penalty Trials and Appeals |
| | 4/25 | Group Activity #6: Death Penalty Group Assignment #6 due at end of class Think Ahead! Work on Individual Activity #1: Legal Attitudes Survey Part II and Reflection |
| 15 | 4/30 | Exam 3 Review Individual Activity #1: Legal Attitudes Survey Part II and Reflection due 4/30 @11:59pm |
| | 5/2 | Exam 3 |
| 16 | 5/7 | Final Exam (1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.) |