Serial Killers

**Course Syllabus:** CRIJ 4381 Special Topic: **Course Schedule:** June 5th - July 28th

**Instructor:** Dr. Morrow  
**Phone:** 325-486-6687

**Office Hours:** Summer 2017 will be conducted by using ASU email. I will be out of the office. For appointments through phone and or email will be arranged if needed.

**Email:** shawn.morrow@angelo.edu

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**I. Course Description:** The study of Serial Killers will provide students a deeper understanding of theoretical explanations of deviant behaviors associated with individuals who commit such acts. Students will research serial killers using scientific method to analyze the evidence, interpret the data, and to draw their conclusions throughout the course. Evidence will be accessed by an On-line research of public, news, and social media databases as well as other published articles. There are three main areas of concentration in investigating serial killers in this course. 1. Psychology of those who commit serial murders, 2. Difficulty in investigating serial killers "connecting the dots'. 3. Selecting their victims, how does the serial killer choose who to kill". Criminalistics is the application of science to those criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. Criminology is the scientific study of the nature, extent, management, causes, control, and outcomes of those who commit criminal acts. Writing assignments such as an essay, reports, research papers, discussions, or other writing assignments, the student must follow APA 6th edition form & style.

"**ATTENTION “NOTICE”**

This senior level course will conduct criminal case research concerning serial killers (as well as feature other graphic criminal acts). The content of the course does have graphic and adult content. Students in this course will perform active investigations using the textbook, articles, videos, audio files, and other media on-line to gather the knowledge of evidence such as death, nudity, blood, bite marks, bruises, gun shots, as well as profane language. Please note that this course contains adult and graphic content associated with the daily routine of an officer in the criminal justice system.

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**II. Course Materials**


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**III. Exemplary Educational Objectives**

At the conclusion of this course:

1. demonstrate knowledge of the difference between mass killer/murder, spree killer/murder, and serial killer/murder
2. understand and recite some of the typologies of murder
3. understand and employ the various explanations for such types of murders – using biochemical, psychological, and sociological theories
4. elaborate on the etiology of serial killers
5. establish a familiarity with terms such as sociopath, psychopath, and personality disorder
6. become acquainted with areas such as sexual homicide and paraphilia
7. identify qualities of characteristics in the profiling of serial killers
8. develop an understanding and be able to discuss (in written or oral forms) the literature on female and racial minority serial killers
9. be acquainted with and able to state the traits or vulnerability of serial killers' victims
10. possess information or some knowledge of the major serial killers and their period of activity
IV. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:
1. It’s student’s responsibility to attend and be prepared for every class to critically think, contribute, and analyze class topics. Read required articles, chapters, and other readings assigned. The required reading will provide the basic information and class discussions will enhance, clarify and expand course material.
2. Students shall construct a minds set to learn within the university research driven environment by communicating through investigating, analytical writing, and critical thinking. This mind set is mandatory to achieve employment in the criminal justice system.
3. Please feel free to ask questions at any time. If you are unsure of something ask questions. If no one asks questions, the instructor will move on.
4. Participate and have fun! Depending on the extent of the student’s commitment will determine the amount of knowledge and understanding they will obtain.
5. Before emailing or calling the professor go to Black-Board read all directions, announcements, and weekly post to locate the information you are seeking. If you do not locate that information AFTER looking at Black-Board then reach out through email to communicate to the professor. Overwhelmed students ask other students and get misinformation. Locating the information correctly will build professionalism, as well as saving resources.

V. Course Evaluation-Grading: Categories graded are subject to change, depending on participation of students, current events, and if any unforeseen situation occurs such as weather, or university event.

- There will be Exams (Midterm & Final exam) There will be final exam for this class. The format for the exams may consist of some type of multiple choices questions or investigation application that pertain to all of the information presented.

- Investigative Applications Assignments will be given out throughout the semester. Students are expected to complete each assignment and submit them on the due date. Students will write scientific method investigation research papers over criminal investigation as well as criminalistics. The research topic will be assigned to the student throughout the course. The paper will be in APA format and style containing a title page, introduction, and the body of the research, conclusion, citations, and reference page. The paper must contain in-text citations from at least four sources. Two of the sources must be research articles and the other must be our textbook. See Investigation Applications below for more.

  Quizzes The format for the quizzes will consist of multiple choices questions that pertain to the week’s information presented.

  Discussions Through the semester students will present their case through a discussion board format.

VI. Assignments (Discussions, Quizzes, Applications) Technical issues or computer problems are NOT considered valid reasons for late assignment submissions. NO EMAILED Assignments will be accepted. NO late work accepted. If the instructor cannot open an assignment in the drop box area, it will be considered a ZERO. If your assignment opens as a blank document, it will also be considered a grade of ZERO. Given these rigorous grading policies, please utilize your time wisely. To avoid any unforeseen circumstances, it is always good practice to complete & submit assignments and discussions posts as early as possible. Failure to follow directions within any of assignments including not following APA 6th edition form and style will be considered a ZERO.
Investigation Applications: There will be Research APA style 6th edition “Investigation Applications”. The Investigation Application are REQUIRED to be at least “?” double spaced pages following APA 6th edition form and style. Each of these Investigation applications pulls together your REQUIRED readings from the textbook, case files, peer-to-peer articles, websites, social media sites, and any content given in class by the professor. The paper must include the following in APA format and Style as mentioned above in order to be graded. Failure to comply will be automatic zero. In the criminal justice system there’s no such thing as redo’s. If we fail to complete a report or case file the criminal case as well as the criminal could have their charges dropped. Building the necessary skills and knowledge

1. Title Page: Title of the paper, your name, and course name using APA 6th.
2. At least ? Pages written: Title page & Reference page do not count toward 6 pages of original writing. Double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 font. Use 4 or more citations correlated to the references all using APA 6th.
3. Reference Page with Four or More (4) references: APA format 6th edition
4. Saved as a Microsoft Word Document: Save it as .docx or .doc file. Save the document using your last name, first, and the name of the course. Example: Morrow.Shawn_IntroductionCriminalJustice if not saved correctly it will not be graded.

The student is responsible for using the APA template, APA resources provided in writing resources tab on Black Board, and if needed the ASU's Writing Center. Following directions including APA writing is the student’s responsibility. The Investigation Applications will be assigned week to week for completion. Methods for delivering of Investigation Applications will be on Blackboard Drop box. The Investigation Application must be completed BEFORE the date & time assignment or the assignment is a ZERO. No Emailed assignments accepted.

APA Style:

Papers that you write in your program of study must follow the guidelines set by the American Psychological Association. (http://apastyle.apa.org/)

Long Island University: (http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citapa.htm)

Purdue Online Writing Lab: (http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)
Visit the Online Writing Lab (called OWL) whenever you have an APA question. APA Tutorial (http://www.apastyle.org/learn/) This tutorial teaches how to write using the APA format.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

In the learning environment, professional attitude begins in the classroom. For that reason, students and faculty will not tolerate or commit any form of academic dishonesty.

Any form of deception in the completion of assigned work is considered a form of academic dishonesty. This includes, but is not limited to:

• Copying work from any source.
• Assisting, or allowing another to assist you, to commit academic dishonesty.
• Any attempt to share answers whether during a test or in the submittal of an assignment.
• Any attempt to claim work, data or creative efforts of another as your own.
• Resubmitting graded assignments for use in multiple classes (recycling your work).
• Knowingly providing false information about your academic performance to the college.

To avoid plagiarism, do not “copy and paste” into assignments without using quotation marks and citing, in APA format, the source of the material.
Plagiarism

- Papers that you write in your program of study must follow the guidelines set by the American Psychological Association (APA). Using another’s intellectual creation without permission or without giving appropriate credit is the academic equivalent of theft.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

All violations of academic policy are documented and made a part of the student’s academic record. When academic dishonesty is confirmed, the student will immediately be notified of the incident, which may result in one or more of the actions listed below:

- Reduction in grade on the assignment on which the violation occurred
- No credit on the assignment, paper, test, or exam on which the violation occurred
- A failing grade for the course
- Suspension or dismissal from the college

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<tr>
<th>Grade Categories</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<td>Four Investigative Applications 30% of grade</td>
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<td>Assignments subject to change based on events during semester. Professor will announce if changes occur.</td>
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Class rules

- Attendance The requirement to attend class should not be taken lightly. Attendance is considered an important part of the course. Excessive unexcused absences will negatively impact on the classroom participation grade as well.
- Make-ups Students who have scheduling conflicts with an exam are expected to make arrangements with instructor in advance. The make-up date and time will be announced by the instructor. There is no make-up on the final exam.
- Student Conduct Students are responsible for knowing the regulations of the department, college, and university with regards to topics such as withdrawals, incomplete grades, student conduct, and academic misconduct (those who engage in any form of academic dishonesty will fail this course).
## Class Schedule

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