Instructor: Shawn Morrow  
Office:  Hardeman Vincent 230  
Office Hours: by appointment  
E-mail address: shawn.morrow@angelo.edu  
Communication: Communicating is key to succeed in life. If you do not communicate professors do not know if and when students have questions, comments, or concerns.

Class Meeting Times: M/W 12:00pm-12:50pm

I. Course Description: Welcome to the G.S. 1181 Crime Scene Mysteries course. This course will investigate famous crime scenes that even today leave mysteries to what really happened. Understanding how law enforcement investigates crime scenes would introduce incoming freshman to the intellectual and cultural environment of the university and the impacts it will have on their lives as a student. This course will incorporate various integral elements transitioning the freshman to college-level learning. Emphasis will be on communication, critical thinking, and information literacy.

II. Instructional Materials: No required textbook.

III. Exemplary Educational Objectives  
At the conclusion of this course:
1. Be able to apply analytical thinking, critical analysis, creativity and problem solving to a wide range of criminal justice issues.
2. Demonstrate critical reading critical writing skills across the spectrum of criminal justice subjects.
3. Demonstrate technical and analytic skills that are appropriate to criminal justice and applicable to your future academic and career aspirations.

IV. Evaluation/Grading:  
Attendance, Discussions, & Quizzes 30% of final grade  
Applications 40% of final grade  
Mid Term & Final Exam 30% of final grade

V. Assignments (Discussions, Quizzes, Applications, Mid-Term & Tests)  
Technical issues or computer problems are NOT considered valid reasons for late assignment submissions. For example, you should always check your assignment submission to be sure that it was properly uploaded into the assignment drop box. You should also check to see that your assignment could be opened. If the instructor cannot open an assignment in the drop box area, it will be considered a ZERO without a valid reason. If your assignment opens as a blank document, it will also be considered a grade of ZERO without a valid reason. 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.

Investigation Applications: There will be Four APA style 6th edition “Investigation Applications” The Investigation Application are REQUIRED to be “One to Two” double spaced
pages. 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 as mentioned above order to be graded.

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

The Investigation Applications will be assigned and given 2 weeks for completion. Methods for delivering of Investigation Applications will be on Blackboard. The Investigation Application must be completed **BEFORE** the date & time assignment or the assignment is a **ZERO**.

**Examinations:** I will administer **TWO** exams or TWO Investigation Application for exam grades. I will base the exams over your reading assigned, lectures, and or topics given in class. Agencies state it’s essential for students to **CRITICALLY THINK** in order to be successful in criminal justice; therefore exams will be over topics to fully engage the student. Students who miss an exam are not automatically eligible to take a make-up exam. I will grant that privilege only if the student gives a valid explanation with documentation. If a makeup exam, you must complete the exam within the time allotted.

**VIII. Class Participation:** Class participation consists of being present for **EVERY** class and providing **relevant** input into each class discussion. Talking for the sake of talking is not considered proper class participation. Please remember to be polite and be respectful of others’ opinions at all times. If you do not participate in class discussions your grade will be lowered. This portion of the class is one of the major keys to succeed and be apart of the class.

**IX. Attendance Policy:** Attendance will be taken at **EVERY** class session using Top Hat. **Individual attendance records will be used to determine grades for borderline students – more than four absences can result in lowering your final average by a full letter grade (10 points).**

**X. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**
1. Attend every class session.
2. Please arrive on time and remain for the duration of the class.
3. Please be prepared. Read your textbooks outside of class. The textbook provides the basic material and outline of the course. Class discussions will enhance, clarify and enliven this material. Exam questions will be formulated from these discussions and the textbooks.
4. Be courteous. Turn off your phone during class, including text messages. If family circumstances may require your notification during class or if your employer requires that you be “on call,” please advise your instructor before class begins.
5. Please feel free to ask questions at any time during class. If you are unsure of something, there are others in class who also share your questions. If no one asks, the instructor will assume all students understand the material or assignments.
6. Participate and have fun! You will get from this course only what you are willing to commit to it.
XI. **ADA Statement:** Any student who requires special accommodations due to a documented disability under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act should notify the instructor the first week of class.

XII. **PLAGIARISM:**
Plagiarism means using someone else’s work as one’s own. Specifically, to plagiarize is “to steal and use the ideas or writing of another as one’s own” (American Heritage Dictionary). Students plagiarize when they copy directly from a source without using quotation marks and references to sources; when then summarize or paraphrase the ideas of an author without citing the author as the source; and when their papers do not reflect their own knowledge, voice, and style. If you plagiarize the assignment will be counted as a **ZERO** and you will be reported using ASU protocol in the student handbook.

XIII. **Student absence for religious holidays:**
A Student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

XIV. **Additional Course Information:** Time to time the course subjects, assignments, and discussions may change depending on current events, class participation, and debates. Social media will be used during the course as icebreakers, open up discussions, and to access documents for class. If the use & investigation of social media sites as Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter troubles you then this class and criminal justice may not be for you.

This syllabus may be subject to updating and changes & will be done ONLY by the Professor