

**Department of Security Studies and Criminal Justice**  
**COURSE CRIJ #3305**  
**Perspectives on Crime in America**  
**Summer 2020**

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Professor: Jun Wu, Ph.D.  
Office: Vincent 231

Credit Hours: 3  
Email: jun.wu@angelo.edu

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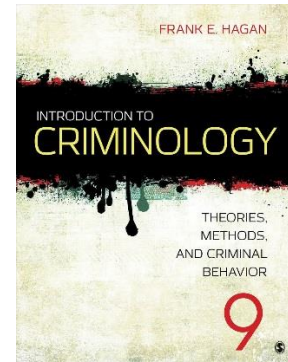
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### **Textbook**

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*Required:*

Hagan, F. E. (2017). Introduction to criminology: Theories, methods, and criminal behavior (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.) Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage. ISBN 9781483389196



### **Course Description**

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This course provides an introduction to the concepts of research and theory as related to the study of crime, deviance, and the criminal justice system. Specifically, this course is a survey of the causes and effects of criminality (sociological, psychological, biological, etc.) and the means taken to cope with criminal behavior. Emphasis is placed on the social context of crime, including examination of how different types of crimes relate to theory. Finally, the course will look ahead into the future of criminal theory.

### **Course Objectives**

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By the end of this semester, you will be expected to:

- Identify and discuss potential causes of crime – including biological, psychological, and sociological – and deviance in society and society’s responses to criminal and deviant behavior.
- Identify and discuss how societal and legal changes have affected crime causation and how these factors have been interconnected throughout history.

- Examine and refine analytical, reasoning, and connective abilities, recognizing how theory and social variables are connected and interdependent.
- Identify and discuss theoretical explanations regarding crime and crime’s role in society, including the connection between theory, programs, and policy.

## Course Requirements

### Grading

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Class Projects . . . . .	200
Three Tests . . . . .	300

Grading scale:	A:	100-90%	450 – 500 points
	B:	89-80%	400 – 449
	C:	79-70%	350 – 399
	D:	69-60%	300 – 349
	F:	<60%	< 300

### Class Project 1

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You are asked to write a paper on your favorite criminological theory. In your paper, you should include (1) what your favorite theory talks about and why do you like this theory. Make sure to cover all propositions within the theory and clearly discuss the theory at length; and (2) find a real-life event (newspaper, news, online, etc.) that lends itself to the application of your chosen theory and discuss this connection. The paper should be typed in APA format (12 points Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, double spaced, etc.). You need to include a reference page for the articles you cite in your paper and in-text citation if necessary. Do NOT copy and paste from other sources. The paper should be no longer than 2 pages.

Rubric:

- Formatting – 5pts
- Academic voice – 5pts
- Part I – 50pts
- Part II – 40pts

### Class Project 2

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You are asked to write a paper on one type of crime you learned from this class. In your paper, you should include (1) the basic introduction of this type of crime that you picked; (2) find a real-life case that is the same type of crime as you picked and describe what happened in this case; (3) discuss what can we do to prevent this type of crime from happening (you can talk about from criminal justice system perspective or public perspective). The paper should be typed in APA format (12 points Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, double spaced, etc.). Do NOT copy and paste from other sources. If you need to cite from other sources, please include in-text citation and a reference page. The paper should be no longer than 2 pages.

Rubric:

- Formatting – 5pts
- Academic voice – 5pts
- Part I – 30pts
- Part II – 30pts
- Part III – 30pts

**Tests**

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There will be 3 online tests in this course. The maximum score for each test is 100 (not counting the possible extra point). It will have 33 multiple choices. Test #1 covers Chapter 1 to 4. Test #2 covers Chapter 5 to 8. Test #3 covers Chapter 9 to 15. Test review guide will be distributed before the test. Extra point questions may apply to each test.

**Make-Up Exams**

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Make up exams are only possible where medical documentation indicates students were advised not to attend class because of a medical emergency. Students without the documentation at the next class will receive a zero grade for the exam.

**Academic Honesty**

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Academic dishonesty of any kind (e.g. plagiarism, cheating) will not be tolerated. Students found to have plagiarized or cheated will receive a failing grade for the course. If a cell phone is visible during an exam, the student will receive a zero for that test. There will also be disciplinary actions at the university level. Further information concerning academic honesty can be found at: <http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code>.

**Disabled Student Policy and Services for Disabled Students**

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ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing [studentservices@angelo.edu](mailto:studentservices@angelo.edu), or by contacting:

Office of Student Affairs  
University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office  
325-942-2211 FAX

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

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“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.” Please see ASU Operating

Policy 10.19.

### **Title IX at Angelo State University**

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Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

E-Mail: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.boone@angelo.edu)

### **Email Correspondence**

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Email is the best way to reach your instructor after class. I will respond you within 48 hours. If I may not address your question or concern within 24 hours, I will let you know in advance. Email should be sent in a formal and professional style. Always put CRIJ **3305** or Criminology in your title line as this will help me respond to your emails promptly. Do not use emoji in your email, except for smiling face ☺, because I want you to think positively every day.

### **Annotated Outline of Topics to Be Covered for Each Class Meeting**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assignment/Test</b>
Week 1	Ch. 1. Introduction to Criminology Ch. 2. Research methods in criminology	
Week 2	Ch. 3. General characteristics of crime and criminals Ch. 4. What is victimology?	Online Test #1 due at June 12 midnight
Week 3	Ch. 5. Early and classical criminological theories Ch. 6. Biological and psychological theories	
Week 4	Ch. 7. Sociological mainstream theories	
Week 5	Ch. 8. Sociological critical theories and integrated theories	Online Test #2 due at July 3 midnight
Week 6	Ch. 9. Violent crime Ch. 10. Property crime	Class Project #1 due at July 10 midnight
Week 7	Ch. 11. White-collar crime Ch. 12. Political crime and terrorism Ch. 13. Organized crime	Class Project #2 due at 17 midnight
Week 8	Ch. 14. Public order crime Ch. 15. Cybercrime and the future of crime	Online Test #3 due at July 24 midnight

NOTE: The schedule may be changed during the semester. If anything needs to be changed in the syllabus, students will be noticed in advanced in class and a new version of syllabus will be posted on the Blackboard.