CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation  
(7-Week On-line Version)  
October 8 through November 24

Professor: Dr. Randolph D. Hicks  
Office: Vincent 236  
Telephone: (325) 277-1422  
Email: randolph.hicks@angelo.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment

MAIN TEXTBOOK FOR PURCHASE:


COURSE DESCRIPTION

Topics for the course include instruction on investigative theory; collection and preservation of evidence; sources of information; interview and interrogation; uses of forensic sciences; case and trial preparation.

Prerequisites
There are no prerequisites for this course.

Technical Skills Required for This Course
As with all online courses, students must be able to operate a computer and have the necessary technical skills to navigate around a web page. Additional technical skills are not a prerequisite for this course. However your computer must meet certain minimum requirements to operate Blackboard.

Time Spent on this Course
Students can expect to spend a minimum of 10 hours per week to complete all readings and assignments. The lessons themselves take as long as it requires the student to read the materials and watch or listen to media presentations.
COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Course Objectives:

• Provide the student with an Overview of Criminal and Preliminary Investigation.
• Familiarize the student with the tasks of Documentation and Report Writing.
• Give the student an understanding of thorough Crime Scene Search and of Physical Evidence.
• Cause learners to be aware of the tasks of Information Acquisition, Identification and of Undercover Operations.
• Make the student aware of investigative duties for Violent Crimes: Death, offenses against Acquaintances and Children.
• Enable the student to recognize the features of Robbery.
• Make the student aware of investigative duties for Crimes Against Property: Burglary, Theft and Fraud, Vehicles and Arson.

Learning Outcomes:

As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to:

• Describe the basic features and processes of Criminal and Preliminary Investigation
• Describe police tasks of documentation and report writing.
• Describe procedures for search and evidence handling
• Articulate methods of acquiring information, identification and undercover operations.
• Enumerate Duties of investigating violent crimes against persons
• Provide features and investigation of robbery
• Discuss investigative duties applicable to crimes against property

GRADING POLICY:

A student’s final grade will be based upon the point breakdown below. You may approach me at any point during the semester, and I will provide you with feedback on your progress in the class. However, you will be given feedback with all assignments when they are graded and returned to you. Therefore, please “keep track” of your points throughout the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Quizzes (around 30%)</th>
<th>700 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The instructor requires students to take the total of 7 lesson-based fundamental quizzes (all multiple choice questions) at the conclusion of the lecture on each Lesson.</td>
<td>700 points</td>
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Lesson Essay Assignments (around 26%)

The instructor requires students to focus on 1 lesson-based fundamental question at the conclusion of the lecture on each Lesson except Lessons 7.

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<td>600 points</td>
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Midterm Exam (around 22%)

During Week 2, the students will be required to take this 100 minute exam. The total of 50 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included:
1. A 40-item multiple choice section; and
2. A 10-item true/false section.

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<td>500 points</td>
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Final Exam (around 22%)

During Week 5, the students will be required to take this 100 minute exam. The total of 50 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included:
1. A 40-item multiple choice section; and
2. A 10-item true/false section.

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<td>500 points</td>
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Total 2300 points

**Final Grade**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Cumulative Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2070 to 380 (equal to 90 -100 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1840 to 2069 (equal to 80 -89 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1610 to 1839 (equal to 70 -79 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1380 to 1609 (equal to 60 -69 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>1379 and below (equal to 59 % and below)</td>
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MAKE-UP EXAMS:

No make-up exams will be given.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

**Module 1:** When students complete this reading assignment, they should be familiar with the basic goals of criminal investigation, recognize characteristics of effective investigators, and have an overview of the investigative process. Of particular
importance, they should be able to articulate the critical function of responding patrol
officers and identify with priority their initial steps from the point of arrival through
release to follow up officers.

Module 2: After completing this module, students should be acquainted with the basic
forms and procedures of constructing initial field notes, employing the needed
photography equipment effectively, and constructing sketches. Additionally, they should
recognize the importance of reports, the characteristics of effective ones and the various
types and their uses and applications.

Module 3: Subsequent to completing the reading assignment for this module, students
should be familiar with the various laws and rulings regarding search. Specifically, they
should know of the applications to stops, lawful arrests and consent, exigent
circumstances, mobile vehicles, abandoned property and evidence in plain view.
Likewise, students should be familiar with legal considerations which apply to the
concepts of open fields and abandoned property. They should be acquainted with the
most basic search methods, investigatory equipment and with features of physical
evidence processing and the maintenance of the chain of custody.

Module 4: Upon completing the reading assigned for this module, students should be
aware of the sources of information and rules and effective methods of interviewing and
interrogation. Also, they should be able to articulate methods and sources for identifying
criminal suspects, and explain special features of undercover and similar operations and
rules which apply.

Module 5: After reading the available information pertaining to this module, students
should be familiar with the investigation of major crimes against persons. This involves
the various kinds of death investigations and their important features and techniques,
inquiring into assaults, domestic violence incidents, elder abuse and the many
manifestations of sexual abuse and the crimes against the neglect of children.

Module 6: When students have completed the reading for this module, they should have
gained a familiarity with the investigation of the dangerous and volatile crime of robbery.
They should be able to cite and explain the various natures of robbery and why its
investigation is particularly dependent upon the effective preliminary actions of
uniformed patrol officers. Additionally, they should be aware of the reasons why robbery
is uniquely dangerous.

Module 7: Once the student has read the available text material pertaining to the
investigation of crimes against property, the student should be able to discuss the
investigatory duties regarding the traditional crime of burglary and distinguish them what
is practiced and required in dealing with larceny/theft, fraud and various forms of white
collar crime. They should be able to explain the techniques and considerations of motor
vehicle theft and compare them to the science based and challenging investigation of the
various forms of arson, bomb and explosive analysis. Students should be able to explain
which kinds of specialized agencies routinely handle crimes against property as well as their being investigated by police departments and sheriff’s offices.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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<tr>
<th>Lesson One</th>
<th>Ch 1. Criminal Investigation: An Overview</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>1st Lesson Quiz and 1st Essay Assignment</strong> due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13</td>
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| Lesson Two | Ch 2. Documentation  
|------------|----------------------|
|            | Ch 3. Report Writing  
|            | **2nd Lesson Quiz and 2nd Essay Assignment** due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20 |

| Lesson Three | Ch 4. Searches  
|--------------|-----------------|
|              | Ch 5. Forensics and Physical Evidence  
|              | **3rd Lesson Quiz and 3rd Essay Assignment** due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27 |

| Lesson Four | Ch 6. Information Acquisition  
|-------------|-------------------------------|
|             | Ch 7. Identification and Undercover Operations  
|             | **4th Lesson Quiz and 4th Essay Assignment** due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3 |

**Midterm Exam**  
Chapters 1-7  
*The midterm exam will be posted at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, November 2 - Due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3*

| Lesson Five | Ch 8. Death Investigation  
|-------------|-----------------------------|
|             | Ch 9. Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking and Elder Abuse  
|             | Ch 10. Sex Offenses  
|             | Ch 11. Crimes Against Children  
|             | **5th Lesson Quiz and 5th Essay Assignment** due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10 |

| Lesson Six | Ch 12. Robbery  
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<td><strong>6th Lesson Quiz and 6th Essay Assignment</strong> due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17</td>
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| Lesson Seven | Ch 13. Burglary  
|--------------|-----------------|
|              | Ch 14. Larceny, Fraud and White Collar Crime  
|              | Ch 15. Motor Vehicle Theft  
|              | Ch 16. Arson, Bombs and Explosives |
• 7th Lesson Quiz due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24

Final Exam Chapters 8-16
The final exam will be posted at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, November 23 – Due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24

IMPORTANT DATES

October 8, 2020: 2nd 7-Week Term begins.

October 16, 2020: 8-Week Summer Session “W” period begins – Drops and withdrawals will now be recorded on transcripts.

November 10, 2020: Last Day to Drop/Withdraw from the 1st 8-Week Term – The appropriate form must be submitted by 5:00 pm. Central Time.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.

Accommodations for Disability

The Student Life Office 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 contacting the Student Life Office at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Student Life Office will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

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.

Title IX at Angelo State University

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is
a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory *Facial Covering Policy* to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.