

**DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY STUDIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**CRIJ 6389: CAPSTONE SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**SPRING 2022**

Room/Time: Online  
Instructor: Jun Wu  
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Office Hours: By appointment only

**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course is a research seminar in which students will develop skills in locating, extracting, evaluating, and synthesizing information acquired from their prior courses. Students are expected to write a publishable, article-length, paper based on independent research. Students may also be expected to supplement their research with other readings under the direction of the professor.

**Grading Policy:**

Grades will be based on the development of the research paper, each submission is due at Friday midnight, expect for the final draft, which will be due at Week 8 Wednesday midnight.

Week 1: Research question: 5%  
Week 2: Introduction: 5%  
Week 3 & 4: Literature review: 20%  
Week 5: Methods: 10%  
Week 6: First draft: 30%  
Week 8: Final draft: 30%

As a summary course of your master tour of criminal justice, in this class you are asked to write the frontend of a research paper on whatever criminal justice related topic you are interested in. The frontend of a research paper as you have read multiple times includes introduction, literature review, and methods. For week 1, I will post several empirical research articles for you to review how it is structured and for your inspiration of research topics. For the following weeks, there will not be required readings from me, but you have to find articles/books that fit in your own research question. APA format is required for this assignment.

For research question, you need to come up with a research question that is criminal justice or criminology related. Just remember, it is only a term paper, so please do not pick a too broad topic.

For introduction, you are asked to write 1-2 pages. You need to state the importance of your topic, what are the general findings from prior studies, what is the research gap in this area, which leads to your research question at the end of this section.

For literature review, according to your topic, you can separate it into several sections using subtitle. This is the main section of this paper assignment, so I want you to spend most of your time working on it. Read prior studies on the same topic as yours and summarize/conclude their findings. If you have a theory to guide your study, explain the theory in literature review as well.

For methods, you do not need a complete methods section as you read from other empirical studies because you will do the study in this class. Therefore, you only need to write your hypothetical methods, including how will you select your sample, define your dependent and key independent variables, as well as any possible control variables, and the potential measurement of your variables. If you are familiar with statistical models, you can talk about the potential analytical strategies (it is not required).

### Final Grade

Your final semester grade will be based on overall percentage of the paper.

Percent of Points	Grade
90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
69% and below	F

### **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**

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)