

University of North Texas at Dallas			
FALL 2024			
Course Syllabus			
CJUS 2600.0071 Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice			
Department of Liberal Arts & Life Sciences			Division of Criminal Justice
Instructor Name:		Stephen Womack, MS	
Office Location:		Founders Hall 207	
Office Phone:		(972) 338-1979	
Email Address:		stephen.womack@untdallas.edu	
Office Hours:	Tuesdays, Thursdays. – 10:AM – 12:PM – In-Person or on Microsoft Teams Fridays – 11:30AM – 12:00PM And By Appointment Upon Request		
Virtual Office Hours:	By Appointment		
Classroom Location:	Online		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Online		
Course Catalog Description:	This course critically examines race, gender, and other diversity issues within the United States Criminal Justice System. Topics of emphasis include the importance of diversity issues in the development, organization, and operation of the criminal justice system.		
Prerequisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Required Text:	McNamara, R., and Burns R. (2024). <i>Multiculturalism, Crime, and Criminal Justice, Third Edition</i> . Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780197662304		
Recommended Text and References:	None		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 338-1616 web: https://library.untdallas.edu/home email: library@untdallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: https://www.bkstr.com/northtexasatdallasstore/home e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com		
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will			
1.	Recognize and understand the basic theories related to the study of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and crime.		
2.	Examine the various perspectives relevant to the death penalty and the racial and ethnic makeup of persons in the prison population.		
3.	Examine the impact of the criminal justice system on the elderly		

4.	Understand the police role, the courts, punishment, sentencing and imprisonment when class, gender and race are involved.
5.	Examine crimes by minority youth and racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.
6.	Examine victimology & patterns of victimization; understand the law-making process & the administration of criminal law.

Online Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Activities	Due Date
Module 1 (Weeks 1 and 2) August 26 – September 8	Ch. 1 Introduction Ch. 2 Group Dynamics, Communication, and Social Interaction	Discussion Board 1 Discussion Board 2 Chapters 1 & 2 Quick Check	September 8 11:59PM
Module 2 (Weeks 3 and 4) September 9 – September 22	Ch. 3 Black Americans and the Criminal Justice System Ch. 4 Hispanic/Latinx Americans and the Criminal Justice System	Discussion Board 3 Discussion Board 4 Chapters 3 & 4 Quick Check	September 22 11:59PM
Module 3 (Weeks 5 and 6) September 23 – October 6	Ch. 5 Asian Americans and the Criminal Justice System Ch. 6 Native Americans and the Criminal Justice System	Discussion Board 5 Discussion Board 6 Chapters 5 & 6 Quick Check	October 6 11:59PM
Module 4 (Weeks 7 and 8) October 7 – October 20	Ch. 7 Women and the Criminal Justice System Ch. 8 The LGBT Community and the Criminal Justice System	Discussion Board 7 Discussion Board 8 Chapters 7 & 8 Quick Check	October 20 11:59PM
Module 5 (Week 9) October 21 – October 27	Ch. 9 Older Adults and the Criminal Justice System	Discussion Board 9 Chapter 9 Quick Check	October 27 11:59PM (One Week Module)
Module 6 (Weeks 10 and 11) October 28 – November 10	Ch. 10 Juveniles and the Criminal Justice System Ch. 11 Policing and Multiculturalism	Discussion Board 10 Discussion Board 11 Chapters 10 & 11 Quick Check	November 10 11:59PM
Module 7 (Weeks 12 and 13) November 11 – November 24	Ch. 12 Courts and Multiculturalism Ch. 13 Corrections and Multicultural Article Critiques Due	Discussion Board 12 Discussion Board 13 Chapters 12 & 13 Quick Check Article Critiques Due	November 24 11:59PM

Module 8 (Week 14) November 25 – December 1	THANKSGIVING WEEK – NO NEW ASSIGNMENTS	THANKSGIVING WEEK – NO NEW ASSIGNMENTS	THANKSGIVING WEEK – NO NEW ASSIGNMENTS
Module 9 (Weeks 15 and 16) December 2 – December 14	Ch. 14 Preparing for Multiculturalism in Criminal Justice – Training and Policy Ch. 15 The Future of Diversity in Criminal Justice – Strategies for Success FINAL EXAM	Discussion Board 14 Discussion Board 15 Chapters 14 & 15 Quick Check FINAL EXAM	December 14 11:59PM

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- **Discussion Boards** – weekly online discussion forums for students to discuss assigned course content with peers.
- **Chapter Quick Checks** – weekly quizzes covering assigned chapter(s) for each weekly module, designed to measure knowledge and retention of presented course material.
- **Article Critique** – written assignment in which students will critically review a journal article regarding the topic of their choice related to diversity issues within the criminal justice system
- **Final Exam** – test designed to measure knowledge and retention of presented course material covered within the weekly Chapter Quick Check quizzes.

Exam policy: Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies.

Grading Matrix:

Activities/Assignments	Value (percentages)	Total
Discussion Boards (15)	8 points each	120
Chapter Quick Checks (8)	5 points each	40
Article Critique (1)	30 points	30
Final Exam	10 points	10
Total Points:		200

Grades

A = 200 – 180

B = 179 – 160

C = 159 – 140

D = 139 – 120

F = 119 – below

Discussion Board Postings:

Each student will be required to post to (8) different discussion board postings during the semester. The discussion board topics will correspond with information from each selected chapter. Each student will be required to post to the discussion question asked and then reply to at least (1) other student's post. The (8) discussion board postings will be worth 8-points each for a total of 120-points on the grading scale. Students are expected to post beyond one or two sentences and should be thoughtful and well-reasoned in their posting. Students are also expected and required to respond to at least one classmate posting per discussion board. Responses should always include more than one or two sentences or "I agree." Be thorough in articulating your perspectives.

Discussion Board Grading: Discussion board activities and any other grading activities will be graded usually within 48 hours after the closing of each unit. Follow the rubric for Discussion Boards below:

Discussion Board Rubric

Criteria	No Points	Novice	Competent	Proficient
		1-2 point	3-5 points	6-8 points
Discussion Posts	Does not post or response with, "I agree/disagree."	Posts reflect little or no analysis, only repeats what has already been said; Uses personal experiences, but no references from reading; Does not answer all components of the question or provide supporting reference sources. No fellow student response.	Posts demonstrate understanding and analysis of the concepts; Specific examples and references and how they relate to the discussion are included. All components of the question are answered. Does not thoroughly respond to another student with significant feedback.	Posts demonstrate superior understanding and analysis of concepts; Substantive comments to advance discussion is used; Includes articles or other research to support point of view. Thoroughly responds to another student with significant feedback.

Article Critique (20 points)

Students will critique one scholarly-level journal article pertaining to any diversity issue in the criminal justice system. Students may critique an article for this assignment pertaining to the diversity in criminal justice related topic of their choosing.

To find a scholarly-level journal article, I would recommend searching for one through the EBSCO EDS electronic database available to all students via the online UNT Dallas Library Electronic Resources link.

Students will follow the guidelines posted below for completing all article critiques. The completed assignment must be a minimum of 4-pages, double-spaced, and should follow APA style guidelines. The title page and reference page **are** included in the 4-page assignment requirement, meaning a minimum of two pages of student written critical analysis of the selected journal article is required. References should support any opinion stated in the critique.

Please follow the model provided below. If you structure your article critique using the headings listed in bold/underlined font below, you will do well on breaking down and critiquing your selected article.

Title Page:

A. Should be formatted with a centered-page title as illustrated in the below example:

Article Title
Student Name
University of North Texas at Dallas
Professor Name

Topic

- A. Briefly describe the topic of the journal article (hint: it is usually in the article's title). Identify the major and minor objectives of the article as well.
- B. Identify and define the important concepts focused on by the author. Are the definitions clear, in your opinion?

Theory/Research Methods

- A. Is the author being guided by a particular theoretical perspective? If so, what is it and how does he use this theory to understand the problem?
- B. Does the author collect data? If so, what method does he use (survey, field observation, use of existing sources, experiment, and is it cross-sectional or longitudinal in design)?

Main Ideas

- A. Summarize the article's content. In doing so, what is the author's major argument?
- B. What are the supporting arguments?
- C. Are the ideas clearly presented?

Conclusions

- A. What conclusions do the author(s) make?

Reflection

- A. In your opinion, does the data support the conclusions being made by the author(s)?
- B. In your opinion, are the results thought provoking?
- C. In your opinion, what could be done to improve the research?
- D. What was the most important thing you learned by reading and critiquing this article?

Citation (Reference Page)

- A. Provide a full citation of the article to include author(s), title of article, and name of journal, volume, and pages, as well as any additional resources. For example:

Coleman, E. & Cheurprakobkit, S. 2009. Police hiring and retention of sexual minorities. In Georgia and Texas after Lawrence v. Texas. Journal of Criminal Justice, vol. 37(3), 256-261.

Written assignments will be graded according to the level of critical thinking, thorough articulation of thoughts, and grammatic value.

The most common credible sources are scholarly journals, industry journals, conference papers and textbooks because these have been peer-reviewed (read and approved for publication by other authors). However, there are good websites (typically ending in .org, .gov, or .edu) that are also acceptable for data to support student views/perspectives.

Sources that are not credible or reliable sources for college level written assignments include Wikipedia, YouTube, Google Books, Essay Sharing Websites, Blogs, and Podcasts.

It is important that you keep electronic copies of all work submitted for your records for your future reference and to show proof of completion in the event of a learning management system malfunction.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students:

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodation at any time; however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see [Disability Services Office](#). You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. [Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.](#)

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e., MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am extremely interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy: According to the instructor's discretion while working in concert with the division/program's guidelines.

Exam Policy: Online exams and the ability to retake is solely at the instructor's discretion. NOTE: Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor's discretion.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to [UNT Dallas' Student Code of Academic Integrity](#) for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Canvas classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board assignments. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to [UNT Dallas' Registrar](#) for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to [UNT Dallas Student Code of Conduct](#). Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual orientations, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements](#)
- [Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems](#)

- **SPECIAL NOTE:** *In order to receive an incomplete in this course, the Grade of Incomplete Form posted on the Registrar forms site must be completed, signed and returned to the Office of the Registrar by the deadline posted in the Academic Calendar. For other questions related to grade of incomplete, contact Dr. Dawn Sales, Assistant Provost, at dawn.remmers@untDallas.edu.*

Statement Regarding Artificial Intelligence

The UNT-Dallas department of Criminal Justice and Sociology acknowledges the evolving capabilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and their various effects on student writing and content creation. The department and its' programs take a use-with-permission approach to AI. Students are only permitted to use AI technology in the creation of any course content if permitted by the course instructor. If the use of AI technology is detected, without specific instructor permission, the student will be deemed in violation of the plagiarism policy (see Student Code of Conduct).