

University of North Texas at Dallas Fall 2024 Syllabus			
CJUS 4360.001 “Criminal Investigations” (3HR)			
Department of Liberal Arts & Life Sciences			Division of Criminal Justice
Instructor Name:		Dr. Mark Stallo	
Office Location:		Dal 2 room 234	
Office Phone:		817-721-9281	
Email Address:		mark.stallo@untDallas.edu	
Office Hours:		Monday and Wednesday 2:30pm – 4:30pm. May request Zoom meeting during these hours.	
Virtual Office Hours:		Tuesday, 1pm – 5pm via email <i>or phone</i> . 1pm – 5pm.	
Classroom Location:		Founders Hall 336	
Class Meeting Days & Times:		Monday 10:00am to 12:50pm	
Course Catalog Description:		This course examines a variety of investigations for various types of crimes. In addition, this class examines financial crimes, gangs and other criminal activity. It explores various methods for collecting information through the Internet. It satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.	
Prerequisites:		Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences required of the University Core Curriculum CJUS 2100, 2300 (formerly 3201), and 2302 (formerly 3300) required.	
Co-requisites:		None	
Required Text:		Criminal Investigation 11th Edition. Kären M. Hess/Christine Hess Orthmann/Henry Lim Cho978-1-285-86261-3 ○	
Recommended Text and References:		None	
Access to Learning Resources:		UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: Library Webpage UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com	

<p>Supported Browsers: Chrome 67 & 68 Firefox 60 & 61 Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video) Internet Explorer 11 Edge 41, 42 Respondus Lockdown Browser Safari 10, 11</p> <p>Supported Devices: iPhone Android Chromebook <i>(Tablet users can use the Canvas app)</i></p> <p>Screen Readers: VoiceOver (Safari) JAWS (Internet Explorer) NVDA (Firefox) <i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i></p>	<p>Getting Help with Canvas:</p> <p>Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634</p> <p>Canvas Help Resources: Web: Canvas Student Guide</p> <p>For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning): Founders Hall, Rm 124 phone: (972)338-5580 email: distancelearning@untDallas.edu</p> <p><i>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</i></p> <p><i>If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.</i></p>
<p>Course Goals or Overview:</p>	
	<p>The goal of this course is to give students a better understanding of how law enforcement investigates various types of crimes and the steps taken to be thorough.</p>

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

	Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will
1	Be able to explain the definition of a criminal investigation.
2	Be able to explain why notes are important in an investigation.
3	Understand the Importance of Reports
4	Identify the sources of information that are available to investigators.
5	Understand the classification of Motor Vehicle Theft.
6	Identify the basic requirement used to determine if a death warrants a homicide investigation.
7	Identify the key distinction between human trafficking and human smuggling.
8	Identify the types of physical evidence that can link a suspect with a robbery.
9	Explain how larceny differs from burglary and robbery.
10	Define the various classifications of fires.
11	Identify the Classification and Types of Computer Crimes
12	Explain when it is illegal to use or sell narcotics or dangerous drugs.
13	Identify what most definitions of terrorism have in common.

Course Requirements

Students in this course will be expected to read their chapter assignments, participate in online weekly discussions and in class course lectures. In addition, students are required to submit two (2) article critiques and take a midterm and comprehensive final exam. Students will need to keep up with their readings and discussions. Discussions and assignments will receive a ten (10) percent penalty for each

week that they are late.

Class Attendance and Participation: You must Participate and attend at least ten classes. Each day you attend counts for 10 points.

Discussion Posts

There are twelve discussion post. You are required to answer the question and respond to at least one other student. We can discuss any question that you have during the class meeting.

Discussion Board Grading: Discussion board activities and any other grading activities will be graded within 48 hours after the closing of each unit. Instructor will also respond to student Canvas questions within 24 hours of student posting in the Canvas's messaging tool.

- ☐ 0 - 25 points for posting to each discussion question.
- ☐ 0 - 325 total points for the (13) discussion questions can be earned.
- ☐ 0 -20 total points for posting to each discussion board question.
- ☐ 0 - 5 total points for posting to 1 other student's posts. (0-5 points each)

Criteria	No Points	Novice	Competent	Proficient
Critical Thinking	0 Points Does not post or response with, "I agree/disagree".	10 Points Posts reflects 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	20 Points Posts demonstrate understanding and analysis of the concepts; Specific examples and references and how they relate to the discussion is included. All components of the question are answered	25 Points 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
Participation	0 Points Does not post or respond to any students	0 Points Post to (0) student	5 Points Post to (1) students	10 Points Post to (2) students

Article Critiques (100 points)

Students will critique two (2) scholarly articles pertaining or relating to topics or issues in the textbook. Students will follow the guidelines posted below for completing all article critiques. The completed assignments must be a minimum of 4 pages and a maximum of 6 pages, double-spaced, and should follow APA style guidelines. The title page and reference pages are not included in the required assignment length. References should support any opinion stated in the critique. The two article critiques will be **due in Canvas** as a "completed set" on **December 1st**. Keep electronic copies of all work submitted.

Requirements for Article Critiques.

Citation

- A. Provide a full citation of the article to include author(s), title of article, and name of journal, volume and pages. 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.

Topic

- A. Briefly describe the topic of the journal article (hint: it's 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 does the author(s) make?

Reflection

- A. In your opinion, do 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?

Course Outline

WEEK #	Assignment	Activity 1
WEEK 1 8/26 to 9/1	Begin reading chapters one and two	In class Lecture Class Coffeehouse Introduction Due Online
WEEK 2 9/3 to 9/8	Read chapters one and two Criminal Investigations: An Overview Documenting the Crime Scene	In class Lecture Discussion Board #1 Due Online
WEEK 3 9/9 to 9/15	Read chapter three and Four Writing Effective Reports Searches	In class Lecture Discussion Board #2 Due Online
WEEK 4 9/16 to 9/22	Read chapters five and six Forensics/Physical Evidence Obtaining Information and Intelligence	In class Lecture Discussion Board #3 Due Online
WEEK 5 9/23 to 9/29	Read chapters seven and eight Identifying and Arresting Suspects Death Investigations	In class Lecture Discussion Board #4 Due Online

WEEK 6 9/30 to 10/6	Read chapters nine and ten Assault, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Elder Abuse Sex Offenses	No class Lecture Discussion Board #5 Due Online Take midterm exam
WEEK 7 10/7 to 10/13	Read chapter eleven Crimes Against Children	In class lecture Discussion Board #6 Due Online
Week 8 10/14 to 10/20	Read chapter twelve Robbery	In class Lecture Discussion Board #7 Due Online
WEEK 9 10/21 to 10/27	Read chapters thirteen and fourteen Burglary Larceny/theft, Fraud, and White-Collar Crime	In class Lecture Discussion Board #8 Due Online
WEEK 10 10/28 to 11/3	Read chapters fifteen and sixteen Motor Vehicle Theft Arson, Bombs and Explosives	In class Lecture Discussion Board #9 Due Online
WEEK 11 11/4 to 11/10	Read chapter seventeen Computer Crime	In class Lecture Discussion Board #10 Due Online
WEEK 12 11/11 to 11/17	Read chapter eighteen A Dual Threat: Drug Related Crime and Organized Crime	In class Lecture Discussion Board #11 Due Online
Week 13 11/18 to 11/24	Read chapter nineteen Criminal Activities of Gangs and Other Dangerous Groups	In class Lecture Discussion Board #12 Due Online
WEEK 14 11/25 to 12/1	Read chapter twenty Terrorism and Homeland Security	In class Lecture Discussion Board #13 Due Online Article Critiques Due 12/1
WEEK 15 12/2 to 12/8 12/9 to 12/13	Overview of Class Read chapter twenty-one Preparing for and Presenting Cases in Court Final Paper Due	In class Lecture (Final Meeting) Final Paper Due 12/13

Evaluation Procedures:

Article Critiques – 125

Discussion Boards – 325

Midterm Exam – 150

Class Attendance and Participation 100

Final Exam - 100

TOTAL POINTS FOR SEMESTER: 800

Grading Scale:

POINTS	PERCENTAGE	GRADE
720-800	90-100%	A

640-719	80-89%	B
560-639	70-79%	C
480-559	60-69%	D
479 and below	0-59%	F

Late Policy

Students should submit exams, discussions and article reviews by the due date. Late work will be penalized by ten (10) percent.

READINGS

It is expected that all reading assignments will be completed prior to the beginning of class. To participate in class discussion in a meaningful way, it is necessary to have an understanding of the assigned material.

COMMUNICATION AND MEETING WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Communication is important in regard to success within this course. I will be available to any student after every class lecture for any questions or concerns regarding the course material. I try to review and/or grade all newly posted material at least once a day. Also, you can expect me to respond to your emails normally within 24 hours. Be aware that while this is my general and intended practice, it is subject to the changes and chances of life.

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 accommodations 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 accommodations 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 the Disability Services Office website at [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.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. 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 very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Exams - One mid-term and one final exam will be given during the semester. The exams will be a

multiple-choice and true/false questions.

Article Critiques - Students will critique three (2) scholarly articles pertaining or relating to topics or issues in the textbook. The articles critiques should follow current APA style guidelines. The title page and reference pages are not included in the required assignment length. References should support any opinion stated in the critique. The two article critiques will be due in Canvas as a "completed set" on **December 1st**. This assignment is to be completed outside of the classroom environment.

Class Discussions -

All class announcements will be given during class lecture, posted on Canvas, and/or sent via email. It is your responsibility to check Canvas and your e-mail early and often. Being unaware of any posted announcement will not be an excuse.

Exam Policy:

It is your responsibility to contact me during the first two weeks of class if there's anything about which I should know concerning special accommodation for any of the assignments. I will try to work out a suitable arrangement, but I must know about it during the first two weeks of class. It is also your responsibility to bring me the required documentation(s) or have the responsible parties contact me in a timely manner for any kind of special accommodation for any of the assignments.

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 the Student Code of Academic Integrity at [Academic Integrity](#) for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [UNT Dallas Website](#). Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance 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 class. Further, in order to receive credit for class discussion the student must be present in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent. Up to 50 points will be awarded for attendance and participation in class.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses, will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate. This course is designed to be a safe open forum so that we may critically analyze and discuss crime theories. Thus, please adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Code

of Student Conduct.

Optional Policies:

- Use of Canvas: All material will be primarily distributed in class. However, the use of the Canvas site associated with this course may be utilized if necessary.
 - Use of Cell Phones, Laptops, & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: Please turn all cell phones off/on silent before each class starts. If you need to take an emergency call please excuse yourself from the classroom. Students may use laptops to take notes during class. If students begin to exploit the use of computers I will not allow them. **If a student wants to use a recording device you must get my approval prior to use.**
 - Food & Drink in the Classroom: Food and drinks are allowed during class, but if they become disruptive to the lecture/discussions, they will be disallowed.
- Grade of Incomplete, "I": Though not encouraged, incomplete grades will be granted on a case by case basis. Each student seeking such grade must come speak to me as soon as it is being considered.

Incomplete

The deadline to file for an incomplete for the course is the last day in which there is regular instruction for the session (not including finals). The deadline is as follows: 15-week session = Decemberr 5; 2024

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 Remmers, Assistant Provost, at dawn.remmers@untdallas.edu.

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:

Artificial Intelligence Statement

Academic Affairs has now published a statement on AI:

<https://www.untdallas.edu/provost/academic-affairs/processes-procedures.php>

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