CRIJ 1307.088 – Crime in America

Course Syllabus: Summer II 2018

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities."

Robert W. Moore

Office: Blackboard
Email: rmoore@ntcc.edu

Please Use Blackboard Mail For Class Correspondence

Office Hours	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Email**
	Online	Online	Online	Online	Online	Online
The best way to communicate with me is via email. I will answer all questions as quickly as possible, but no later than 24 hours after receipt of your email.						

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Catalog Course Description:

Topics for this course shall include American crime problems in historical perspective; social and public policy factors affecting crime; impact and crime trends; social characteristics of specific crimes; prevention of crime.

Prerequisites:

No formal course requirements, but students should understand how to access the Internet via a web browser.

Required Textbook(s):

No Textbook is required for this course. All materials will be provided for the student online through the Blackboard environment.

Resources:

Computers and computer labs assistants are available in MS 103. The LRC and the Academic Skills Center have computers available for students but with limited or no assistance.

Your instructor can be your greatest resource. Your instructor is here to assist you in learning the material and helping you earn the grade you wish to earn in the course. This is a commitment by your instructor. Please utilize this resource by contacting him with any matter you feel he can assist you with, both within this class or your college success in general. It is your responsibility to learn the material, but this can often be best accomplished by initiating contact with the instructor on topics you need clarification or further assistance. Please do this!

Student Learning Outcomes:

Course Level

- Explain the foundations and evolution of the theory of crime and criminal behavior.
- Evaluate the theories and evolutions of American Law Enforcement from inception to present.
- Examine and apply crime statistics and analysis.
- Understand the processes and systems of the U.S. and Texas criminal courts.
- Understand and evaluate path through the Criminal Justice system.

During this course the student will be able to:

I. Explain the foundations and evolution of the theory of crime and criminal behavior.
   A. Define Crime and identify the major types of criminal acts.
   B. Explore the historical and contemporary theories of crime in America.
   C. Examine the Psychological, Environmental, and Social factors affecting criminal behavior.
   D. Evaluate how crime is classified and measured in the United States .

II. Evaluate the theories and evolutions of American Law Enforcement from inception to present.
   A. Evaluate the various Criminological theories that form the foundation of American Law Enforcement.
   B. Examine Law Enforcement's impact on factors that contribute to crime.
   C. Examine the nature, history, and evolution of Policing in American history.
   D. Misconceptions, falsities, and issues with contemporary Law Enforcement.

III. Examine and Apply crime statistics and Analysis.
   A. Familiarization with Bureau of Justice Statistics
   B. Research and Apply Crime and Law Enforcement Statistics.
   C. Conduct analysis of statistical information for application in evaluating Criminal Justice methodologies and perceptions.

IV. Understand the processes and systems of the U.S. and Texas Criminal Courts.
   A. Familiarization with the various levels of Federal and State criminal courts.
   B. Examine the Trial and Appellate court processes.
   C. Learn and describe the various process, legal instruments and processes of a criminal trial.
   D. Understand and Apply the legal aspects of Detainment, Arrest, Magistration, and Indictment.

V. Examine the path an offender takes through the Criminal Justice system
   A. Initial Contact and Arrest
   B. Prosecution and Punishment
   C. Prison, Probation, and Parole

Exemplary Educational Objectives:

N/A

SCANS Skills:

N/A

Lectures & Discussions:

This course is a 5 week, online, format. All learning materials have been provided for the student through the Blackboard environment. **Students are responsible for accessing the material and completing the required assignments** on their own time. *There are no designated lecture times.* The student will have the entire week (Monday-Sunday) to work through the material for each week, with the exception of last week, which will close on Thursday, August 14th. **All assignments must be completed and submitted by that time for credit.** Any outstanding assignments will not be accepted after the close of the course and will be given a grade of 0. The material for each week will become available on Monday morning at 12:01 AM and will remain open for the duration of the course. **It is imperative that the student stays current with the course!!** Due to the amount of material being presented in such a short time frame, falling behind in reading or coursework will likely make it difficult for the student to complete all required assignments on time.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Grades of A, B, C, D, and F will be determined by the student's achievement of a total number of possible points based on the below listed categories.

Assignments	Quantity	Pts. Per Assign.	Total Pts. Possible
Class Participation	1	100	100
Class Assignments			200
Discussion Boards	3	50	150
Question Worksheets	3	10	30
Syllabus Quiz	1	20	20
Mid-Term Statistics Project	1	250	250
Final exam	1	250	250
Total			**1000**

The letter grade is based on the following Grading Scale:

Total Pts. Earned	Ltr. Grade
900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
Below 600	F

Tests/Exams:

Final Exam: August 14, 2020 by 11:59 PM

The only exam for this course will be the final exam. **The final will be comprehensive** and contain information from the entire course. It will become available at 12:01 AM, the Monday of the week that it is due. You will have **90 Minutes** to complete the exam. You will only be allowed **one attempt** at the exam and **once it has been started it cannot be stopped**. If you have a conflict with the exam dates, **you must contact the instructor prior to the exam week** to attempt to resolve the conflict in a mutually agreeable manner.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:

This assignment will be 3 – 5 double-spaced pages, Times New Roman #12 font, and is due at the end of the course (8/2/2020 @ 11:59 PM). This assignment is worth **250** of the possible **1000** points for this course. **Failure to complete this assignment will result in no higher than a maximum score of 80% of the possible points for this class.**

Assignments:

NOTES/READING ASSIGNMENTS/VIDEOS:

The class notes, reading assignments, and videos are the primary mode of content presentation for this online class format. **It is the student's responsibility to access each assignment and complete it prior to attempting the coursework for the week**. All Discussion Board and Worksheet assignments will be founded in the required reading/video assignments.

DISCUSSION BOARDS:

Discussion Board assignments will open on Monday of each week. Each discussion assignment will have an initial prompt that the student will respond to. Student responses must be no less than 250 words and must be posted by **Thursday** of each week. In addition, students will be required to respond to at least **two** of their classmate's initial postings. Classmate responses should be no less than 100 words. The point of the Discussion Boards is to engage students in thinking about the material presented and will take the place of the traditional class discussions. Participation is mandatory.

WORKSHEETS:

There will be 3 worksheets for this course that will cover the material presented in the notes, reading, and video assignments. These assignments serve the dual purpose of ensuring that the student is completing the required reading assignments and highlighting the testable information presented in each. The worksheets will also serve as interactive test reviews as the questions for each exam will be drawn from the information covered in the worksheet assignments. Each worksheet will be a mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions. Each worksheet will be worth a total of 10 points of your total class grade.

The instructor reserves the right to modify the topics to be covered in order to best prepare the student with the above stated learning outcomes.

Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

Class Attendance: **Participation in class discussions and assignments is mandatory.** Students' participation grade (50 points of the total Class Grade) will be ***heavily based*** on in-class engagement.

Withdrawal requests MUST BE initiated by the student. The last day for a student to drop a course with a grade of "W" is **Thursday, August 6, 2020.** Requests for withdrawal become official and effective the date they are received in the records office. Students who stop coming to class but fail to drop the course will *earn* an "F" for the course.

Late Work: To be considered "on time," **all work must be submitted at the prescribed due date**. Assignments, with the exception of Discussion Board posts, can be submitted for a 10% deduction for one week following the assignment due date. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact your instructor.

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:

Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook (see Student Handbook on the student MyEagle Portal).

Academic Ethics

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to arrange an appointment with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.