

CRJU 3123: THEORIES OF CRIME ANALYSIS

Internet Course

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Office: Martin 105C

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description

Overview of the theory behind the crime analysis process covering both basic and advanced concepts. Outlines major issues that crime analysts and crime analysis units must face. Essential study includes setting up a crime analysis unit, crime data, statistics, major investigations and the linking of criminals and their relationship to each other.

Required Texts

Applied Crime Analysis: A Social Science Approach to Understanding Crime, Criminals, and Victims

AUTHOR: Wayne Petherick

ISBN-13: 978-0323294607

Publication Year: 2014

Publisher: Academic Press

Course Objectives

- 1) Identify and discuss various theories related to analyzing criminal behavior, *demonstrated by obtaining passing scores of a "C" or better on related essay-based assignments and objective-item examinations.*
- 2) Identify how crime analysts and crime analysis units are utilized by law enforcement agencies, *demonstrated by obtaining passing scores of a "C" or better on related essay-based assignments and objective-item examinations.*

Course Requirements

Midterm Examination – This examination will be given during the midpoint of the semester and will include information presented in the chapter readings. The Midterm Exam will primarily consist of 2 to 4 essay

questions. The exam will be conducted online. Each student must take and finish the test within the days that are allotted. The Midterm Exam is due by **11:59 p.m. of JULY 20th, 2025**.

Mini Paper – An original research paper between 4-5 pages is required for this course. You must pick a topic from those available at the end of this syllabus and complete the paper on that topic. Include a title page and a reference page, to be counted separately from the 4 to 5 page requirement. **Papers are to be double spaced and in 12 point Times New Roman font.** The Mini Paper is due by **11:59 p.m. of AUGUST 1st, 2025**.

Final Examination – This examination will be given during the last week of the semester and will include information presented in the chapter readings. The Final Exam will primarily consist of 2 to 4 essay questions. The exam will be conducted online. Each student must take and finish the test within the days that are allotted. The Final Exam is due by **11:59 p.m. of AUGUST 7th, 2025**, at the latest.

Grading Policy and Weighting System

Midterm Exam	35%
Mini Paper	30%
Final Exam	35%

TOTAL: **100%**

Disabled Student Policy

Students with a disability affecting their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

Academic Dishonesty

Each student is expected to abide by the rules of academic honesty as defined in the student handbook. Cases of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course and a letter to the Dean of the College of Health Sciences and Human Services requesting that you be withdrawn from the University. If there are any questions as

One of the hallmarks of a good essay is that it demonstrates clarity of thought. This may be your ability to identify different issues and discuss them in a logical manner. It may mean organizing materials into a coherent structure for the essay. It could be showing that you are able to make important distinctions and insights.

This may not come easily at first, but with practice it should be possible to gain greater clarity through discipline, selection, and planning.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE (JULY 7th through JULY 13th)

Chapter 1: Introduction to crime analysis

Chapter 2: Logic and reasoning of crime analysis

Chapter 3: Physical evidence and the crime scene

WEEK TWO (JULY 14th through JULY 20th)

Chapter 4: Forensic victimology

Chapter 5: Detecting staged crime scenes

Chapter 6: Case linkage

MIDTERM EXAM IS DUE BY 11:59 p.m. of JULY 20th, 2025.

WEEK THREE (JULY 21st through JULY 27th)

MINI PAPER IS DUE BY 11:59 p.m. of AUGUST 1st, 2025.

WEEK FOUR (JULY 28th through AUGUST 3rd)

Chapter 7: False reports

Chapter 8: Motivations

Chapter 9: Risk Assessment

WEEK FIVE (AUGUST 4th through AUGUST 7th)

Chapter 10: Threat assessment and management

Chapter 11: Psychopathology and criminal behavior

Chapter 12: Report writing, style, and components

FINAL EXAM IS DUE BY 11:59 p.m. of AUGUST 7th, 2025.

**POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR YOUR MINI PAPER IN
CJUS 3923**

1. Stage Crimes: Their Prevalence, Meaning, and Detection.
2. Issues and Challenges in Threat Assessment.
3. The Emergence of Forensic Victimology.
4. How an Understanding of Offender Typologies helps with Crime Analysis.
5. Psychopathology, Forensic Psychology, and Crime Analysis: Science or Fluff?

*****NOTE: MULTIPLE STUDENTS MAY PICK THE SAME TOPIC BUT MAY NOT WORK TOGETHER ON THEIR PAPER THAT IS SUBMITTED FOR COURSE CREDIT.**