

*Glen Kercher, Ph.D.*

**CJ 483 – FAMILY VIOLENCE**

**Spring, 2008**

**9:00-10:00 Monday-Wednesday-Friday**

**CJC A201**

**Description of Course**

People are more likely to be killed, physically assaulted, hit, beat up, slapped, or spanked in their own homes by other family members than anywhere else, or by anyone else in our society. Not only is this true today, but it is true throughout the history of this country. Not only do these statements apply to American families, but they are also accurate assessments of family life in England, Western Europe, and many other countries and societies around the globe.

We do not commonly think of the family as society's most violent social institution. Typically, family life is thought of as being warm, intimate, stress reducing, and the place to which people flee for safety. Our desire to idealize family life is partly responsible for a tendency to either not see family violence or to condone it as being a necessary and important part of raising children, relating to spouses, and conducting other family transactions.

This course is designed to provide a basic overview of the subject of family and intimate partner violence. Some of the topics that will be covered include intimate partner abuse, physical and sexual abuse of children, neglect, sibling abuse, and abuse of the elderly. Students will learn how one form of family violence may be closely connected to other acts of violence in the home. The objectives of this course include helping students

1. Understand the nature and extent of violence in the family and among intimate partners;
2. Learn the various explanations for violence in the family;
3. Identify characteristics of offenders
4. Understand how victims are affected
5. Learn effective ways of handling family violence from medical, social and criminal justice standpoints;
6. Learn ways and strategies for preventing interpersonal violence.

**Texts**

Wallace, Harvey (2008). *Family Violence: Legal, Medical, and Social Perspectives* (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc. W

Hines, D. A. and Malley-Morrison, K. (2005). *Family Violence in the United States*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. H-W

Texas Penal Code <http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/petoc.html>

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure <http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/cr.toc.htm>

Texas Family Code <http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/fa.toc.htm>

## Examinations

Four examinations will be given this semester. The examinations will be objective in format, and none of them will be comprehensive. Each exam will be worth 25% of the semester grade. Students will *not* have the option of performing extra work to make up for deficient performance on examinations.

A curve will be applied to the distribution of scores on each examination. Each student's raw score (i.e., the number of correct answers the student obtained on the exam) will be converted to a percentage based on adjusting the total number of points possible on the exam. Letter grades correspond to deciles (e.g., 90-100=A; 80-89=B; etc.). Percentages round up to the next percentage point when the percentage is 2/3 of the way or better (e.g., 89.67=90.00 or an A; 89.66=89.00 or a B).

This is an upper division course designed for Juniors and Seniors. **FRESHMAN WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THIS COURSE. Sophomores should talk to me about the advisability of their being enrolled in this course.**

## Student Responsibilities

Requirements for this course include taking all of the scheduled examinations, attending and participating in class. A student cannot pass this course without completing all four examinations.

## Policies

**Attendance.** Attendance will be taken during each class session. Students are responsible for getting class notes and finding out about announcements made and materials handed out during their absence. *Accumulating more than ten (10) absences for whatever reason will result in a letter grade penalty for the semester.*

**Missed Examinations.** Missed examinations can be made up only when the absence is due to a bonafide cause and is considered an excusable absence by the instructor. Notify me in advance if you will be unable to take an examination at the

scheduled time. All makeup examinations will be scheduled at one time during the last week of the semester.

**Disabled Student Policy.** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720. Students with a disability which affects 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. The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by telephone (ext. 1720).

<http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf/www/asp/811006.html>

#### **Services for Disabled Students.**

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy.** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

**Academic Integrity.** The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects students to conduct their academic work with integrity and honesty. Acts of academic

dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the University.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion – the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

**Food and Tobacco Products.** Food and tobacco products are not to be consumed in the classroom. The College and University have designated the Criminal Justice Center as a tobacco free building.

**Apparel.** Students are expected to dress for class in a manner consistent with good taste. *I prefer that caps or hats not be worn in class. Western hats should never be worn in class.*

**Cellular Phones.** Cellular phones are to be turned off during class or set for tactile cuing during class. If your employment or other circumstance require you to be on-call at all times, please talk to me about this. You are not to access the internet through your cell phone or send text messages during class.

**Laptop Computers.** Students are welcome to take class notes with a laptop computer. The CJC is a WiFi equipped building, but if you spend class time surfing the internet, reading or composing email, playing games, etc. during class, you will be asked to turn the computer off.

**Lecture Notes.** All lecture materials presented in this course are copyrighted by me; therefore, no part of my course material may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form, or by any means without my prior, written permission. This means that it is a violation of copyright laws to sell lecture notes.

Provided a sale is not involved, *this guideline does not apply* to students copying notes from one another, nor to students who tape classes because they have an aural, visual, or learning disability that is certified by the Counseling Center. Also, summaries of the professor's lecture, even in the student's own words, *are included in this guideline* because the student is representing the professor's material as his own, i.e., "stealing the intellectual property of another.

### Spring 2008 Office Hours

Monday 8:30 – 9:00; 10:00 – 1:00  
 Tuesday 8:30 – 12

*or by appointment*

Wednesday 8:30 – 9:00; 10:00 –1:00  
 Thursday 8:30 – 12  
 Friday 8:30 – 9:00; 10:00 –10:30

I make every effort to be in my office during office hours. Frequently, however, other commitments may make it difficult for you to find me. The surest way to meet with me is to contact me before or after class and arrange an appointment time. Alternately, you may call and leave a voicemail or email me.

## Course Outline

Topic	Assignment
<b>History and Definitions</b>	Chapter 1      W, H-M
<b>Theoretical Viewpoints</b>	Chapter 3      H-M
<b>Elder Abuse</b>	Chapter 10      H-M Chapter 11      W

<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/default.cfm?p=faqs.cfm>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/default.cfm?p=basics.cfm>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/default.cfm?p=riskfactors.cfm>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/default.cfm?p=whoaretheabusers.cfm>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/pdf/publication/FinalStatistics050331.pdf>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/pdf/basics/fact1.pdf>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/pdf/basics/fact2.pdf>  
<http://www.elderabusecenter.org/pdf/basics/fact3.pdf>  
[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/handbooks/I-H\\_Handbook/I-H\\_Handbook.htm](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/handbooks/I-H_Handbook/I-H_Handbook.htm)

### Exam 1

### **Courtship Violence**

[http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB\\_Survey2005Home109](http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_Survey2005Home109)  
<http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/AGP.Net/Components/documentViewer/Download.aspxnz?DocumentID=37929>  
[http://www.ncvc.org/src/main.aspx?dbID=DB\\_NCWSV466](http://www.ncvc.org/src/main.aspx?dbID=DB_NCWSV466)  
[http://www.ncvc.org/src/main.aspx?dbID=DB\\_NVAW587](http://www.ncvc.org/src/main.aspx?dbID=DB_NVAW587)  
[http://www.heraldnet.com/stories/05/11/15/100loc\\_bstalking001.cfm](http://www.heraldnet.com/stories/05/11/15/100loc_bstalking001.cfm)  
<http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/fm/datingfs.html>  
<http://www.womenslaw.org/teens.htm#4>

**Intimate Partner Abuse**

Chapters 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 W  
7, 8, 9 H-M

<http://www.apa.org/pi/iparv.pdf>

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/ipvfacts.htm>

[http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/pdfs/Intimate\\_Partner.pdf](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/pdfs/Intimate_Partner.pdf)

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ipv.pdf>

<http://www.mincava.umn.edu/documents/barbara/barbara.html>

Intimate Partner Violence APA (under documents in Blackboard)

**Children Exposed to Marital Violence**

[http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC\\_Children-FactSheet.pdf](http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC_Children-FactSheet.pdf)

[http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC\\_Children-Stats.pdf](http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC_Children-Stats.pdf)

[http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC\\_Children-KeyIssue1.pdf](http://www.vawnet.org/NRCDVPublications/TAPE/Packets/NRC_Children-KeyIssue1.pdf)

[http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojjdp/summary\\_safefromstart/](http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojjdp/summary_safefromstart/)

Exam 2**Physical Child Abuse**

Chapter 2, 5, 7 W  
2, 4, 11 H-M

[http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/bonding\\_attachment/index.html](http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/bonding_attachment/index.html)

[http://www.childtrauma.org/ctamaterials/trauma\\_and\\_terror.asp](http://www.childtrauma.org/ctamaterials/trauma_and_terror.asp)

<http://www.jimhopper.com/abstats/>

<http://www.jimhopper.com/cycle/>

**Child Neglect and Psychological Maltreatment**

Chapter 4 W  
6, 12 H-M

[http://www.childtrauma.org/ctamaterials/neglect\\_in\\_childhood.asp](http://www.childtrauma.org/ctamaterials/neglect_in_childhood.asp)

<http://www.childtrauma.org/CTAMATERIALS/neuros~1.asp>

**Sibling Abuse**

Chapter 5 W

<http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/sibabuse.htm>

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1478X8.pdf>

Exam 3**Child Sexual Abuse**

Chapter 3 W

5

H-M

[http://www.sasian.org/guide/aguide\\_en.htm](http://www.sasian.org/guide/aguide_en.htm)

<http://www.m-a-h.net/library/abuse/article-sibsexabuse.htm>

<http://www.jimhopper.com/male-ab/>

<http://www.jimhopper.com/memory/>

Exam 4 (Final) **8-10 a.m., Wednesday, May 14, 2008**