

SYLLABUS – UNDERSTANDING HUMAN BEHAVIOR – CJ436W, SUMMER I 2008

Instructor:	Mr. Milton C. Hill	Office Hours:	
Office:	CJC CL33	Monday - Thursday	
Phone:	(936) 294-3641	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	
Cell:	(936) 355-1643	and by appointment	
E-mail:	milt@shsu.edu		
Class:	CJ 436W: Understanding Human Behavior		
	CID 7683; Section 02		
Time:	Monday through Friday 02:00 p.m. – 03:50 p.m.		
Location:	CJC A181		

A. Course Description

This course examines the dynamics of “normal” behavior and “criminal” behavior based upon biological, cultural, sociological and psychological factors. Behavior that is affected by the influence of multiple systems within the psychosocial environment will be explored, and the behavioral, emotional, and cognitive aspects of criminal behavior will be considered from both the offender’s and victim’s viewpoint. This course is writing-intensive.

B. Course Objectives

Substantive:

1. The student will gain an understanding of the theoretical models, realistic concerns, and institutional responses to crime and criminality.
2. The student will become familiar with the role of human behavior in facilitating aggression, violence, and criminality.
3. The student will gain an understanding of the relationships between criminal behavior, substance abuse, and mental disorders.
4. The student will be introduced to theories that incorporate both the offender’s and the victim’s viewpoint, motivation, and response.

Methodological:

5. The student will develop critical thinking and writing skills through essay responses on examinations and/or writing assignments.

C. Readings

Textbook:

Arrigo, Bruce A. (2006). Criminal Behavior: A Systems Approach. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Education.

Other:

Supplementary readings that may be assigned as necessary

D. Attendance and Preparation:

Because attendance and preparation is 10% of the course grade, it is expected that students will regularly attend class, refrain from tardiness, and be prepared to discuss the scheduled topics.

Tardiness

Tardiness will be penalized at a minimum of one-half classroom hour per occurrence. The instructor shall be informed in advance of absences that can be anticipated. Roll will be taken at some point during each class session. If a student misses more than three classroom hours, the instructor reserves the right to lower the student's overall term grade.

Make-Up Exams:

Students with legitimate reason and prior approval of the instructor can make up one exam at the end of the semester at a mutually-agreed upon time and date.

E. Examinations

Four examinations will be given during the semester. The exams will not be comprehensive; they will cover only the material studied since the previous exam. The exams may have an objective section (multiple choice) and/or a short-answer section, but the exams will have an essay section in which students will select an assigned number of essay topics from the questions provided. Essay responses will be graded upon content, critical thinking skills, and grammar.

Bluebooks **will not** be required. Scantrons (Form 882) **will be required if the examination has an objective section**, and those will be provided by the student. Additionally, although laptops have their utility, they **will not** be permitted during examinations; all responses must be handwritten. Students must complete all four exams for the semester.

Please keep in mind that material from the textbook may not cover all of the required information; a portion of any examination material may come from sources other than the assigned text.

F. Grading

Student grades will be assigned according to the following:

90-100 %	225-250	A
80-89%	200-225	B
70-79%	175-200	C
60-69%	150-200	D
Below 60%	Below 150	F

The cumulative semester grade will be based upon the following weights:

Exam One	(0-50 pts)	20%
Exam Two	(0-50 pts)	20%
Exam Three	(0-50 pts)	20%
Exam Four	(0-50 pts)	20%
Attendance	(0-25 pts)	10%
Class Discussion	<u>(0-25 pts)</u> 250 points possible	<u>10%</u> 100% grade total

G. Tentative Class Schedule

Please be advised that this is a tentative schedule, as we may need to spend more time on some topics than others.

DAY	DATE	READING / PROJECT	TOPIC
T	6/3/2008	N/A	Course Introduction
			Review Syllabus
			Overview of Blackboard; Library
			Overview of QQTP
W	6/4/2008	Chapter One	Biological Theories of Criminality
			Biocriminology
			Genetic Theory
			Diathesis-Stress Model
		Chapter Two	Psychological Theories of Criminality
			Personality Theory
			Antisocial Personality Disorder
			Psychoanalytic Theories of Criminality
			Criminal Thinking Errors or Patterns
H	6/5/2008	Chapter Three	Sociological Theories of Crime
			Subcultural Theories
			Structural Theories
			Anomie Theory
			Strain Theory
			Conflict Theory
			Critical Criminology

F	6/6/2008	Chapter Four	Social-Psychological (or Psychosocial) Theories
		Review for Exam One	Control Theory
			Labeling Theory
			Social Learning Theory
		No Reading Assigned	Exam One
M	6/9/2008	Study for Exam One	
T	6/10/2008	Chapter Five	Violent Crime and Criminals
			Murder
			Sexual Homicide
			Sex Crimes
			Pedophilia
W	6/11/2008		Violence in the Criminal Justice System
			Domestic Violence
			Cult Violence and Hate Crimes
		Chapter Six	Substance-Related Crimes and Criminals
			Organized Crime
			White Collar Crime
			Fraud
H	6/12/2008		Internet Crime
			Stalking
			Sexual Harassment
			Property Crimes
			Prostitution
		Chapter Seven	Juvenile Delinquency
		Review for Exam Two	Parental Responsibility
			Status Crimes
			Substance-Related Juvenile Crime
F	6/13/2008		School Violence
			Kids Killing Kids
			Juvenile Sex Offenders
			Binding Over/Waiver/Certification Process
		No Reading Assigned	Exam Two
M	6/16/2008	Study for Exam Two	
T	6/17/2008	Chapter Eight	Mental Illness
			Prevalence of Mental Illness/Criminality
			Mental Disorders: Axis I
			Mental Disorders: Axis II
W	6/18/2008		Competency and Criminal Behavior
			Mental Disorders and Criminal Defense

Chapter Nine			Policing
H	6/19/2008		Community Policing
			Neighborhood Watches
			DARE
			Police Training and Education
F	6/20/2008	Review for Exam Three	Criminal and Racial Profiling
			Apprehension of Criminals
			Cops in Schools
No Reading Assigned			Exam Three
M	6/23/2008	Study for Exam Three	
T	6/24/2008	Chapter Ten	The Legal System
			Pretrial Matters
			Probation and Diversion Programs
			Trial Process
			Post-trial Matters
W	6/25/2008		The Death Penalty
H	6/26/2008	Chapter Eleven	The Correctional System
			Retribution versus Rehabilitation
			Parole
			Prisons
			Re-assimilating Criminals into Society
F	6/27/2008	Chapter Twelve	Crime, Behavior, and Public Policy: The Future
			Educational Models
			New and Future Theories
			Community Prevention and Intervention
M	6/30/2008	No Reading Assigned	Review for Final Exam
T	7/1/2008	Study for Final	FINAL EXAM

H. Summary of Important Dates

- June 3 - First Class Day
- June 9 - Exam One
- June 16 - Exam Two
- June 23 - Exam Three
- June 30 - Last Class Day
- July 1 - **Final Exam**

I. SHSU Policy Statements

Academic Honesty: 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.

Any student that violates the university's policy of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of F for the course. Students are strongly encouraged to read both Academic Policy Statement 810213 and the faculty handbook for additional online information regarding procedures in cases of academic dishonesty.

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

Disabilities: “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 (936-294-1720). Please refer to the following website for additional information.” Students are strongly encouraged to read both Academic Policy Statement 811006 and what the SHSU Counseling Center has provided online for additional information regarding the disabled student policy.

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>
<http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf/www/aps/811006.html>

Student Absences on Religious Holiday: 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>

As a convenience to the student, the link to the University's Attendance Policy is listed below. Please refer to Section D of this syllabus for course-specific information.

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

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/800401_001.pdf