HLS/CRIJ 5303 – Race and Ethnicity
Instructor: Tammy E. Bracewell, Ph.D.

COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Class Location:
- Online

Class Duration:
- June 1-August 7, 2020

Office Hours: Available by appointment via phone or Webex

Email:
- tammy.bracewell@tamuct.edu
- Please direct all email communication through this email.
- When emailing, always identify yourself and what course you are in. In general, when communicating electronically you should use complete sentences and be very clear about what you are asking or saying to avoid miscommunication.
- I check my email several times a day. I check Canvas at least once a day. These are the two best ways to reach me.

COURSE INFORMATION

Catalog Description: Race & Ethnicity in Criminal Justice (3-0). Study of selected topic(s) directly related to criminal justice. May be repeated for credit as topic varies. (Course will be offered not more than one semester each year.)

Expanded Course Description:
A review of current research guides our examination of the relationship between minorities and law enforcement overtime, relevant social issues today, the racial profiling phenomenon, and the influence of race/ethnicity on trials, sentencing, and corrections.

Course Objectives:
1. Explore the state of racial and ethnic relations in the U.S. and the criminal justice system.
2. Gain a deeper understanding of the racial profiling phenomenon.
3. Explore the relationship between race/ethnicity and the courts.
4. Explore the relationship between race/ethnicity and corrections.
5. Analyze current events with a deeper understanding of race, ethnicity, and justice.
Required Textbooks:

Recommended Reading:


Struck, W., & White, E. B. *The elements of style*. (Any edition will do.)

NOTE: The student is expected to have an adequate knowledge of the essentials of grammar and writing style and of the guidelines for paper organization and referencing in accordance with the APA Manual. If the student does NOT have adequate knowledge in these areas, then the purchase and use of the two Recommended Textbooks is highly recommended. Failure to provide written work in accordance with the essentials of acceptable, English writing style and APA guidelines will result in poor grades.

Additional Materials

Students will receive additional materials to enhance or expand on the topics introduced in the text. Students are expected to be familiar with additional materials provided.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION AND COURSE ACCESS

This course is a 100% online course and uses the TAMUCT Canvas Learning Management System:[https://tamuct.instructure.com]

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WARRIOR SHIELD

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.
STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR INTERACTION

This is a web-based class. Most communication between the instructor and students will be via Canvas and email, though all students are able to schedule a telephone conference or meet with me.

I will check and reply to student emails on a daily basis – students should expect a response within 24 hours. Any deviations from this will be announced on Canvas. Checking Canvas frequently is important as this is where any class announcements will be posted.

It is HIGHLY recommended that you go into your “settings” in Canvas, select “notifications”, and elect to receive emails when announcements are made. You are responsible for obtaining information in a timely manner.

REQUIRED COURSE WORK

I. 4 Discussion posts 50 pts each (200 pts)

These journal entries are a modification of a discussion question. Each student will respond to the prompt. Please read the directions for each entry at the beginning of the week. Some require you to watch videos while some require you to find things on your own. Your response will be posted to where the entire class can view the response. HOWEVER, you cannot view ANY responses until you post. This avoids getting answers from another student’s post. I do want all students to benefit from the entries of their classmates. You will be able to respond to each other’s entries. You will not directly be graded on the responses. However, you should note that if your response is not adequate, any additional information you give responding to other entries and questions posted to your response can add points to your grade. No posts after the due date will be considered for grading purposes.

A. Journal Response

Students are expected to read the assigned materials and complete any other work for the week prior to responding to the journal prompts. Your response should reflect your familiarity with the readings and other materials assigned. The student should inspect the Course Calendar and see what readings are assigned for that week. The student should devote the first part of the week to reading and understanding the assigned reading/materials. Note taking and outlining is recommended. This response should be at least a half page in length (about 250 words). A response that is not at least a half page in length will not be accepted for credit. A half page response is the minimum requirement and will be
Students should keep in mind that this is a graduate course and responses closer to 400-500 words is necessary to obtain a satisfactory grade (A or B). Responses should have some substance beyond the student’s agreement with a statement or the mere expression of his opinions. The student should support responses in some way with references to the reading that was assigned. Under no circumstances should a student quote from the textbooks; instead, the student should use their own words. Quotations will not be accepted for credit. It is also unnecessary for the student to cite sources using APA guidelines for the information that he is presenting. **So remember: no formal citations and no quotations.** This ill-advised practice merely adds clutter to the discussion process and is inappropriate for our purposes. **Your responses must be posted by Sunday at 11:59pm, Central Time.**

There are no makeup for journals, because we have moved on to the next topic after the deadlines. Each week we will have a new topic to discuss, and there will be no one left to read your post.

Points are awarded to students, based on the quality of response. Quality pertains to a student’s responding in relevant, meaningful ways, based upon the assigned readings for that week. Please make sure you read all readings and watch any videos prior to posting.

Responding to other student responses, in a meaningful way, can add to your overall score. Additionally, this helps in creating an actual dialogue with other students.

**Netiquette:** All students are expected to follow rules of common courtesy and professionalism in all correspondence and assignments. Students may wish to refer to the Student Handbook (located under Student Affairs/Student Conduct on the Texas A&M University-Central Texas website) for further information along these lines. Inappropriate or offensive messages or remarks will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the course.

**II. Annotated Articles and Discussion (4) 50 pts each (200 total pts)**

Each Student is responsible for finding, reading, and summarizing 4 peer reviewed articles throughout the course. Students will find a peer reviewed article using the University Library. The article MUST cover some component of race and the criminal justice system. The article should be related to the topics we are currently covering.

Students will complete the following by replying to the journal prompt in the modules:

1. Provide the citation for the article in APA style (10pts)
2. Provide a summary for the article (15pts)
3. Upload the full text of the article (all or nothing)
4. Post a question relating to the article or topic for that week (5 pts)
5. Reply to at least 2 other student’s questions (20pts)
   a. Students should refer to the information on discussion questions for guidelines on how to reply to the questions.

III. Exams (200 points)
The student will complete 2 exams, each valued at 100 points. Exams will be in essay format. Check the course calendar to see the exact days in which you may access the exams. All readings assigned are subject to exam questions. The exams will be posted on Canvas for 3 days (a 72-hour period) during the week. Once a student has begun taking the exam, he will have two hours to complete it. The exam may be taken from midnight (12:00 am) on the first day until 11:59 pm CST on the third day. So, the student basically has a 72-hour period in which to take each exam. Each exam is comprehensive, meaning that the student will need knowledge of preceding work in order to answer questions adequately.

OTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE COURSE

I. Late assignments: Late assignments will not be accepted.

II. Supplementary Material: Additional information may be given that supplement the topics to be addressed. This supplementary material is designed to broaden the educational experience and create more variety to the usual lecture/discussion format of class presentations. You are responsible for all information in the supplementary material.

III. Extra Credit: Extra credit is not available in this class.

IV. Note: I will ONLY accept assignments that are submitted properly: through Canvas. Do not email or send me a message with an attachment. You MUST submit the assignment in the appropriate location within the assignments section. Additionally, if you have questions….ASK! Do not delay, if you are receiving low grades on your discussions and do not know why….ASK!

V. Posting of Grades: All student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book and students should monitor their grading status through this tool.

VI. Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion:
Final course grades will be assessed on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>My Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annotated Bibliographies | 200 Points |
---|---|
Discussions | 200 Points |
**Total** | **600** |

537-600 points | A |
477-536 points | B |
417-476 points | C |
357-416 points | D |
<416 points | F |

At the end of the semester there will be NO curve and no extra points given. It is up to YOU to ensure you have the grade you want.

**COURSE CALENDAR**

Subject to revision, if necessary, during the semester

*****Note: additional reading assignments may be assigned throughout the semester, you will be notified via instructor announcements*****

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</table>
| Week 1 6/1/20 | Read syllabus  
Chapter 1: Race, Ethnicity, and Crime: America’s Continuing Crisis.  
Watch: “The Deadly Deception: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment” | Discussion 1 |
| Week 2 6/8/20 | Chapter 2: Victims and Offenders: Myths and Realities About Crime. | Annotated Bibliography 1 |
| Week 3 6/15/20 | Chapter 3: Race, Ethnicity, Social Structure, and Crime.  
Chapter 4: Justice on the Street? The Police and Minorities  
Watch: PBS Documentary “Park Ave.” | Discussion 2 |
| Week 4 6/22/20 | Chapter 5: The Courts: A Quest for Justice During the Pre-Trial Process  
Watch: the documentary “The Central Park Five” | Annotated Bibliography 2 |
| Week 5 6/29/20 | Exam | Exam 1 (7/3-7/5) |
| Week 6 7/6/20 | Chapter 6: Justice on the Bench? Trial and Adjudication in Adult and Juvenile Court.  
TED Talk: Megan Ming Francis | Discussion 3 |
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SUBMITTING YOUR DISCUSSION POSTS***

- Do not be fooled by the due dates and deadlines automatically generated by Canvas entries in quizzes, discussion forums and exams. The only due dates and deadlines which matter are those contained in this syllabus. **DO NOT RELY ON CANVAS TO INDICATE THE DUE DATE OR TIME FOR AN ASSIGNMENT, CONSULT THE SYLLABUS!** For example, Canvas indicates the discussion boards are open indefinitely. This does not mean you can submit discussion posts at any time for points.
Important University Dates
https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html

Technology Requirements
This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com/] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [https://tamuct.onecampus.com/]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support
Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953. For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing
A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support
For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
   Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
   Phone: (254) 519-5466
   Web Chat: [http://hdc.tamu.edu]
Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy
If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.
[https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSSubmit%2FFForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].
Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity
Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html]. If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report, [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations
At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]
Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students
Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring
Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center
The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Summer 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This summer, the UWC is
also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays starting June 27th and ending July 18th.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WCOline [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

University Library
The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].
OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don’t agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don’t be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the Title IX webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, who are exhibiting concerning behaviors, or individuals causing a significant disruption to our community, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the Behavioral Intervention Team website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html]. If a person’s behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

OTHER POLICIES

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas’ Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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