



CRIJ 4303 – Race, Crime, & Justice
Instructor: Tammy E. Bracewell, Ph.D.

COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Class Location:

- Online

Class Duration:

- June 7-July 30, 2021

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

Course Description and Objectives:

This course examines racial profiling, immigration, the death penalty in the context of criminal justice practice. Provides current issues regarding the relationship between race and ethnicity and all components of the criminal justice system in the US.

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Understand how the issues of race in the criminal justice system
- Understand the history of race and crime in the United States
- Identify contemporary issues in the relationship between race and crime
- Be familiar with the primary sociological theories and methods in the study of race, crime, and justice

Required Textbooks:

Walker, S., Spohn, C., and Delone, M. (2017). 6th ed. *The Color of Justice: Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America*. Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Recommended Reading:

American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

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>]

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)

[<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 25 pts each (100 pts)

Students will engage in discussion boards with their classmates worth 25 points each for 4 weeks this semester. Weeks of discussion posts can be found in the course calendar.

Discussion boards will open at midnight on the Monday of the week they’re due and close at 11:59 pm that next Sunday. All posts and replies must be completed within this window or the student forfeits those discussion points.

Specifics regarding discussion boards can be found in Canvas under the “general information” module.

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.

Students are required to be respectful of their classmates during the entirety of this course. Although many of you will disagree with one another and perhaps even be offended by some of the material we will cover, any personal attack against another student of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action. Because open discussions are encouraged, it is inevitable that personal beliefs and philosophies will be challenged, however, students will not

use political leanings, religious beliefs, gender, race, class, ethnicity or sexuality as fodder for attack.

II. Chapter quizzes (4) (25 points each)

You will have ample time to access quizzes, however, once you begin you must complete it within 25 minutes. Please note that the quizzes are autograded. I will manually go back through the quizzes and correct any discrepancies. For example, if you spell an answer incorrectly the computer will probably count that as wrong, I will correct that error. Quiz weeks can be found in the course calendar. Quizzes are due Sunday at 11:59 of the assigned week.

III. Final Project, Visual Presentation 50 pts

Students will choose one topic, concept, issue or theory discussed this semester and complete a PowerPoint. They will create a PowerPoint using images that illustrate that concept and upload the final PowerPoint as a .ppt file to Canvas by the due date listed on the syllabus.

Specifics regarding this assignment can be found in Canvas under the “general information” module.

IV. Exams (200 points)

The student will complete 2 exams, each valued at 100 points. Exams will be in multiple choice format. Check the course calendar to see the exact days in which you may access the exams. All readings/videos assigned are subject to exam questions. The exams will be posted on Canvas for 3 days (a 72-hour period) during the week.

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:

Assignment	Points	My Grade
Exam 2	200 points	
Visual project	50 points	
Quizzes	100 Points	
Discussions	100 Points	
Total	450	
403-450 points	A	
357- 402 points	B	
314-356 points	C	
268-313 points	D	
<268 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*******

Week	Readings	Assignments
Week 1 6/7	Read syllabus Chapter 1: Race, Ethnicity, and Crime: America's Continuing Crisis. Watch: "The Deadly Deception: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment"	Discussion 1
Week 2 6/14	Chapter 2: Victims and Offenders: Myths and Realities About Crime. Watch Ted Talk	Quiz 1
Week 3 6/21	Chapter 3: Race, Ethnicity, Social Structure, and Crime.	Discussion 2

	Chapter 4: Justice on the Street? The Police and Minorities Watch: the documentary “Park Avenue...”	
Week 4 6/28	Chapter 5: The Courts: A Quest for Justice During the Pre-Trial Process Watch: the documentary “The Central Park Five” Exam	Quiz 2 Exam 1 (7/2-7/4)
Week 5 7/5	Chapter 6: Justice on the Bench? Trial and Adjudication in Adult and Juvenile Court.	Discussion 3
Week 6 7/12	Chapter 7: Race and Sentencing: In Search of Fairness and Justice. Chapter 8: The Color of Death: Race and The Death Penalty Watch: “The Central Park Five”	Quiz 3
Week 7 7/19	Chapter 9: Corrections: A Picture in Black and White. Chapter 10: Minority Youth and the Criminal Justice System Chapter 11: The Color of Justice Watch: the documentary “13th”	Discussion 4 Quiz 4
Week 8 7/26	Final Exam: Available 7/24-7/26 Visual Project: Due 7/27/21	Final Exam Visual Project

****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>]

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%2FSu bmit%2FForm%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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. 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/pregnant-and-parenting-students.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. 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

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 2021 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 Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. 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. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. 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 [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [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 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams 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) [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 Wellness and 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) [<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, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html) 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.

Copyright. (2021) by Tammy Bracewell at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, College of Arts and Sciences 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549