

# **Advanced Methods in CJ - 80474 - CRIJ 5304 – 110**

## **Fall 2023 Texas A&M University – Central Texas**

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Dr. Michele Quiñones

#### **Office & Office Hours**

Heritage Hall room 204 G.

We can meet before class or after class. I also encourage students to meet with me **virtually** using Teams. I'm available Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8-5. Contact me if you would like to set up an appointment.

### **COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION**

This is an in-person 16-week course. This course meets **virtually 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm on Monday (Check Canvas announcements for link to meetings)**.

All materials and assignments are available online through the Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

### **STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION**

It is important to contact me using the Canvas Conversations tab on the left side of the screen and select me from the list of your professors.

Set your Canvas Notifications to let you know when I post an announcement. I communicate with the class regularly through announcements.

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Required Reading and Textbook(s)**

Withrow, B. L.. Research Methods in Crime and Justice. Taylor & Francis.

#### **Course Overview and description**

CRIJ 5304. Advanced Research Methods. 3 Credit Hours.

This course covers research methods applied to criminal justice issues, and critically examines research designs and published findings. Students will review procedures and techniques for research in criminology, law enforcement, courts, and corrections.

#### **Course Objective or Goal**

To successfully demonstrate your understanding of research methods, students must be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the literature on a specific topic and identify suitable research questions.
2. Understand which methodologies are appropriate to particular research questions, the nature of the topic, and the resources available.
3. Become familiar with the strengths and limitations of various research designs.
4. Demonstrate an ability to understand, interpret, and discuss research.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**In class writing assignments (20%, 100 points)** Students are expected to be prepared to work on assignments in class. Bring laptops, tablets, or notebooks along with the textbook to help you work on these assignments. In-class assignments help you prepare for the Writing Assignments listed below.

**Media Quizzes (10%, 450 points)** Media quizzes present the course information in a different manner. Students watch videos relate to the course content and are quizzed on the material.

**Writing Assignments (Worth 70%, 700 points)** Students will complete 7 writing assignments. Students should be able to craft well written responses that demonstrate they understand the material by interpreting it in their own words, using terminology correctly, and providing accurate examples. **Responses must come from the book and course materials only. No other sources allowed.** Students are given the option to improve their essay grade by rewriting the portions with low scores.

### **Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion**

Writing is a significant aspect of this course and significantly affects scores. Overall, writing should be concise, without losing important information, and submission should be well organized. Please review the [Writing for the Social Sciences](#) page for guidance.

A C grade is average, to earn an overall grade higher than a C you must consistently produce high quality and outstanding work. See individual assignments for more detailed rubrics.

- A, 90-100: Outstanding work and mastery of material.
- B, 80-89: High quality work and good understanding of the material.
- C, 70-79: Satisfactory work and basic understanding of the material.
- D, 60-69: Missing work and insufficient understanding of the material.
- F, <59: Missing work and no understanding of the material.

### **Posting of Grades**

Students can view their grades in the Canvas Gradebook by going to “Grades” link on Canvas. Most grades are available immediately. Grades for written assignments are returned within 7-10 days of the due date.

### **Grading Policies**

All materials, quiz, and assignments are posted at the start of the semester so students can work ahead if they like. However, I grade writing assignments when they are due, no earlier. Quiz due dates are flexible, but writing assignment due dates are not. Writing assignments received more than 3 days late will receive a 0.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

<u><a href="#">Chapter 1: The Research Practice</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 1: Broken windows or window breaker: The influence of physical and social disorder on quality of life.</a></u>	4-Sep
<u><a href="#">Article Review #1</a></u>	11-Sep
<u><a href="#">Chapter 2: The Research Process</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 3: The Ethical Principles that Guide Researchers</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 4: Classifying Research</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 4: Employment after prison: A longitudinal study of former prisoners.</a></u>	18-Sep
<u><a href="#">Article Review #2</a></u>	25-Sep
<u><a href="#">Chapter 5: Causality</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 5: The deterrent effect of the perceived certainty and severity of punishment: A review of the evidence and issues.</a></u>	9-Oct
<u><a href="#">Article Review #3</a></u>	2-Oct
<u><a href="#">Chapter 6: Measurement</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 6: Explaining systematic bias in self-reported measures: Factors that affect the under- and over-reporting of self-reported arrests.</a></u>	16-Oct
<u><a href="#">Article Review #4</a></u>	23-Oct
<u><a href="#">Chapter 7: Variables and the Structure of Research</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 7: For whom do sanctions deter and label?</a></u>	30-Oct
<u><a href="#">Article Review #5</a></u>	6-Nov
<u><a href="#">Chapter 8: Sampling</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 8: Becoming an informant.</a></u>	13-Nov
<u><a href="#">Article Review #6</a></u>	13-Nov
<u><a href="#">Chapter 9: Experimental Design Research Methods</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 10: Survey/Interview Research Methods</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 10: Are shock incarceration programs more rehabilitative than traditional prisons? A survey of inmates</a></u>	20-Nov
<u><a href="#">Article Review #7</a></u>	27-Nov
<u><a href="#">Chapter 11: Non-Reactive Research Methods</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 11: Harm and repair: Observing restorative justice in Vermont.</a></u>	4-Dec
<u><a href="#">Chapter 12: Qualitative Research Methods</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 13: Evaluation Research Methods</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Chapter 14: Data and Information Analysis</a></u>	
<u><a href="#">Article Review #8</a></u>	11-Dec
<u><a href="#">Annotated bibliography</a></u>	11-Dec

### Important University Dates

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

### **Technology Requirements**

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browsers. Canvas will run on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, android, or any other device with a modern web browser. **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/>] by clicking on the "TAMUCT Online Canvas" tile. You will then log in through our Microsoft portal.

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

### **Canvas Support**

Use the Canvas Help tab, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can search the support articles or use the Email, Call, or Chat buttons at the bottom of the support pop-up to contact the Canvas Help Desk.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

### **Online Proctored Testing**

Texas A&M University-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 requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

### **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](mailto: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.

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## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES**

### **Warrior Center for Student Success**

The Warrior Center for Student Success is a comprehensive academic support department at A&M-Central Texas, dedicated to fostering an environment of excellence and empowerment among its student body. The center offers a wide range of programs and services to ensure every student reaches their full potential, and is a haven for students seeking guidance, resources, and a strong support network to excel in their educational journey.

**ADA Access and Accommodations:** Texas A&M University-Central Texas ensures that students

with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities by providing appropriate accommodations and support services. If you believe you have a physical, learning or socio-emotional disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please visit [Access and Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html] for more details or contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential.

**Success Coaching and Peer Mentoring:** Our experienced Success Coaches work one-on-one with students to develop personalized action plans, set academic goals, and build effective study strategies, time management skills, and resilience. Our Peer Mentors provide a valuable support system, offering guidance, encouragement, and a relatable perspective to help students navigate their academic and personal challenges. For more details call 254-501-5836 or 254-501-5928 or visit [Academic Support](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html]. Click the link to schedule a session (virtual or in-person) with a success coach [bit.ly/3q7uB50](https://bit.ly/3q7uB50) or visit WH, 111.

**Testing Services:** We offer a secure and comfortable environment for students and members of the community to take courses and distance learning exams, as well as placement tests and professional certification exams. Our Testing Service also offers resources and support referrals for testing related challenges (test anxiety, learning disabilities, etc.) and supports all approved ADA accommodations. Call (254) 519-5830 or visit the [Testing Center](https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/) [https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/].

**Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction Services:** Our team of qualified Tutors and Supplemental Instructors assist students in various non-writing subjects, promoting academic comprehension and enhancing learning outcomes. Click the link to schedule a tutoring session with a TAMUCT tutor (virtual or in-person) or view tutor availability [bit.ly/43Q6wNz](https://bit.ly/43Q6wNz). You may also chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for a variety of subjects through our partnership with Tutor.com, an online tutoring platform that is free to all TAMUCT students. To learn more please visit [Tutoring Services](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring] or call (254) 501-5836 or visit the Tutoring Hub in Warrior Hall, 111.

### **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 Student Conduct Office. 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), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a referral, [<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

### **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpid=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSSO&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Records and Admissions 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 Records and Admissions 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.

### **Pregnant and/or Parenting Students Rights and Accommodations**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs, (254) 501-5909, can assist students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting by provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodations. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible through the Pregnancy & Parenting webpage [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. 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 specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions

[<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.html>].

Students experiencing any form of discrimination due to any of these conditions are encouraged to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator, 254.519.5716, [titleix@tamuct.edu](mailto:titleix@tamuct.edu), Founders Hall 317B, or the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 254.501.5909, Warrior Hall 105.

### **Title IX Rights and Reporting Responsibilities**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas is committed to creating a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you or another student has experienced any form of gender

discrimination or sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and/or sex-based stalking, help and support are available. Our university strongly encourages all members of our campus community to report incidents and seek support for gender discrimination and sexual misconduct through the Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, [titleix@tamuct.edu](mailto:titleix@tamuct.edu), Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html]. Please be aware that that under [Title IX](#), [Texas Senate Bill 212](#), and [System Regulation 08.01.01](#) [https://policies.tamus.edu/08-01-01.pdf] all university employees are mandated reporters and are required to disclose information about suspected or alleged violations as listed above and defined in System Regulation 08.01.01. If the Title IX Office receives information about an incident, they will reach out to offer information about resources, rights, and procedural options as a member of the campus community. Although I have an obligation to report, you will, in most cases, control how your case will be handled. When working with the Title IX Office you will have access to resources and accommodations but also have the opportunity to express if you wish to move forward with an investigation. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the options available to you as a student. Community members are not required to respond to this outreach.

If you or another student wishes to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the [Student Wellness & Counseling Center](#), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html], 254.501.5955, or [swacc@tamuct.edu](mailto:swacc@tamuct.edu), located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or [ssa@tamuct.edu](mailto:ssa@tamuct.edu), located in founder Hall Room 317D.

### **University Library & Archives**

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 1,203,947 eBooks and 134,750 journals, in addition to the 96,879 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. [Schedule an appointment here](#) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments]. 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 workspaces, 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](#)

[<https://tamuct.libguides.com/index>]

### **University Writing Center**

Located in Warrior Hall 416 and online, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The face-to-face hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday in Warrior Hall 416. Online tutoring is available Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 12:00-3:00 p.m.

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 [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

### **OTHER 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](#) online

[<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.

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