

**MIDLAND COLLEGE
SYLLABUS
SEMESTER AND YEAR
CRIJ 1307
CRIME IN AMERICA
CORE CURRICULUM COURSE**

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course discusses American crime problems in historical perspective, social and public policy factors affecting crime, impact and crime trends, social characteristics of specific crimes, and prevention of crime.

TEXT REQUIRED: current required textbook information

COURSE GOALS/ OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

- define criminology, law, crime, tort, organized crime, various sex offenses, and other terms relevant to this course;
- explain the Uniform Crime Report and identify the eight index crimes in the United States;
- relate the importance of studying crime to understanding police work and reducing and controlling crime;
- explain crime as human behavior;
- discuss the relationship between crime and the economy;
- discuss the effect of reinforcements on criminal behavior;
- explain various theories of crime, including labeling and secondary deviance, differential association, victim precipitation, conflict theories, and others addressed in class;
- Identify, discuss and explain certain predictors of future criminal behavior;
- explain concept of being victim-prone;
- explain factors associated with violent and property crime;
- discuss family violence as a law enforcement problem.

PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

Students must dedicate themselves to learning while in college. You should follow the syllabus, read each chapter before it is discussed in class, and use effective study techniques (e.g. note taking, outlining the text, flash cards; study groups) to improve chances for success. Additional time is required for preparing for examinations and completing assignments. Attendance is important in all classes; a grade is given for attendance and participation. Students are encouraged to ask questions and, if necessary, meet with the instructor during office hours for additional help.

Portable cellular phones, beepers, and similar devices are disruptive to the class, and you are encouraged NOT to bring them into the classroom. If you do bring them to class, please make sure they are turned off. Should they become a nuisance, you will be asked to remove them from the classroom. You may bring beverages into the classroom, but may not eat during class or wear hats in the classroom. You are expected to be on time, and remain in class until the end. Coming late and leaving early will affect your participation grade.

Students missing a major examination must make up the examination before the next class. Make-up examinations may be the same as, or different from, the examination given in class. Make-up examinations will cover the same material as the scheduled examination. Failure to make up an examination within the specified time will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam. Students missing class are responsible for finding out

what was missed and getting the notes from another student. The instructor reserves the right to give quizzes, announced or unannounced, at any time. There is no opportunity to make up quizzes that are missed. Final exams are not given early or late.

For Online courses, students **MUST** actively participate by completing an academic assignment by the official census date. Students who do not do so, will be dropped from the course.

Notice: The instructor cannot drop students who stop attending or have an excessive number of absences. Missed work will be graded as zero and averaged into the final grade. It is your responsibility to drop a class if you no longer plan to attend and complete the semester. Check the Midland College catalog for last day to drop.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS:

Major examinations	50 % of semester grade
Chapter Assignments	30% of semester grade
Assigned paper	10 % of semester grade
Student participation/preparation	10 % of semester grade

COURSE SCHEDULE:

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COURSE SCHEDULE, PLEASE REFERENCE CANVAS. STUDENTS WILL ALSO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS IN CANVAS.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit [Midland College Accommodation Services](#) and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a “Notice of Accommodations” letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations.

Student Grievances and Appeals

The goal of Midland College is to help students achieve their educational goals. Students have certain rights and responsibilities, [Student Rights & Responsibilities section of the Midland College catalog](#).

Non-Discrimination Statement

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its program and activities. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Tana Baker

Title IX/504 Coordinator and Compliance Officer
3600 N. Garfield, SSC 242
Midland, TX 79705
(432) 685-4781
tbaker@midland.edu

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the [Office of Civil Rights website](#) for the address

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and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.