

Angelina College
Technology & Workforce Division
CRIJ 2314 - Criminal Investigations- Dual Credit
Spring 2019
General Syllabus

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION:

A. Course Description:

CRIJ 2314 – Three-hour credit. Investigative theory; collection and preservation of evidence; sources of information; interview and interrogation; uses of forensic sciences; case and trial preparation. Three lecture hours each week.

B. Intended Audience:

Freshman level course.

C. Instructor:

Name: Johnnie C. Shepherd, M.S.

Office Location: Room 156 – Technology & Workforce Building – Angelina College, Lufkin

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm by appointment only.

Phone: 936-633-5246 (division office)

E-mail Address: jshepherd@angelina.edu or Jcshepherd@lufkinisd.org (best ***and preferred*** method of contact)

II. INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES:

A. Core Objectives:

- 1. Critical Thinking Skills** – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- 2. Communication Skills** – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- 3. Personal Responsibility** – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

B. Learning Outcomes (From Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board – Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual):

1. To discuss Investigative theory.
2. Explain collection and preservation of evidence.
3. Identify sources of information.
4. Evaluate the differences between interview and interrogation.
5. Describe the uses of forensic sciences
6. Discuss case and trial preparation

III. ASSESSMENT MEASURES

A. Assessments for the Core Objectives

- 1. Critical Thinking:** Students will engage in assigned readings and will be presented with oral and visual lecture content. The student will be able to demonstrate the ability to think creatively, to innovate, inquire, analyze, evaluate and synthesize information. Students will correctly answer embedded exam questions testing their knowledge, interpretation, and synthesis of comparative theories, current

research, and social issues. Outcome will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Critical Thinking Skills.

2. Communication: Students will research an assigned topic and will write an essay on the assigned topic. Students will present their findings to the class as a whole via an oral presentation. Communication skills will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Communication Skills.

3. Personal Responsibility: Students will be required to make choices in the completion of course written assignments and/or exams that demonstrate their ability to connect choices and actions, engage in ethical decision-making, and understand its consequences. A rubric will be used to assess personal responsibility as demonstrated through embedded questions on standardized exams.

B. Assessments for Course Learning Outcomes

1. An historical overview of the criminal justice system as well as the varying philosophies that helped to create the system and continue to help it evolve will be presented through assigned readings and in-class lectures. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the history and philosophy of the American criminal justice system via participation in Socratic-method questioning and successful completion of major exams.
2. Course lectures and assigned readings will address the nature and extent of crime in America. Lectures and readings will discuss the definition of crime as well as the varying types of crime measures used today. Students will show their understanding of these topics through class discussion, questioning via the Socratic-method, and successful completion of major exams.
3. Assigned readings and course lectures will be used to address the impact and various consequences that result from crime. The concept of victimization, criminal behavior and theoretical ideas of why crime occurs and how best to respond to it will be addressed. Students will demonstrate their understanding through group discussions, questioning (Socratic), and successful completion of major exams.
4. Readings and lectures will discuss the development, concepts and various functions of the law in the American and Texas criminal justice systems. Additionally, the legal foundations (statutory and constitutional) that governs those systems will be explained. Students will demonstrate their understanding through group discussions, questioning (Socratic), and successful completion of major exams.
5. Readings, video presentations, and lectures will address the structure of contemporary federal, state, and local justice agencies and their processes. The American and Texas policing structure, federal and state court systems and federal and state correctional agencies will be discussed and analyzed in their entirety. Students will demonstrate their understanding through group discussions, questioning (Socratic), and successful completion of major exams. Additionally students will select some aspect of the justice system to develop an essay with a power-point presentation to report their findings to the class as a whole. Assessment of this project will be graded using the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Communication Skills.

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:

Methodologies that may be utilized in presenting course content will include a combination of lectures, small group exercises, written and oral presentations, videos, guest speakers, field-trips, reading assignments, and major exams. Internet research may be required for this course at various times. All criminal justice courses whether online or in-person will have an online Blackboard feature that allows students to access power-point presentations, assignments, the course syllabi and other relevant information.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:

A. Required Textbook(s) and Recommended Readings, Materials and Equipment:

Required Textbook:

1. Orthmann, Christine M. H., et al. *Criminal Investigation*. 11th ed., Delmar Cengage Learning, 2017..

Recommended Books:

1. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition.
2. Current edition of either *Blacks Law Dictionary* or *Oran's Dictionary of the Law*

Other Materials:

1. Each student must have a Scantron Form 882-E and number 2 pencil for use on each exam.
2. Spiral notebook or binder for note taking
3. Highlighter for textbook review, etc.
4. Computer with internet access. Familiarity with Microsoft Word and Microsoft Power-Point

B. Course Policies:

Academic Assistance:

If you have a disability (as cited in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) that may affect your participation in this class, you should see Sellestine Hunt Associate Dean of Student Services, Student Center, Room 200. At a post-secondary institution, you must self-identify as a person with a disability; Ms. Hunt will assist you with the necessary information to do so. To report any complaints of discrimination related to disability, you should contact Mr. Steve Hudman, Dean of Student Affairs, in Student Center, Room 101, (936) 633-5292 or by email shudman@angelina.edu.

Attendance:

The official Angelina College attendance policy will be followed. A student will be dropped from class after 3 consecutive absences or 4 cumulative (total) absences. This does not include absences for college-authorized activities, but it does include absences for illness. If a student obtains their 4th or additional absence after the drop date for the semester, 4 points will be deducted from the final course average PER ABSENCE.

For the purposes of all Criminal Justice classes an absence is defined as follows: failure to attend class, failure to sign class attendance log, leaving class early, talking, sleeping, or any other disruptive behavior in class.

Additional Policies Established by the Individual Instructor:

Student Behavior:

Criminal Justice is an academic discipline and career choice that requires a high degree of professional character and moral conduct. Students are expected to engage in pro-social, ethical, and legal conduct both on campus and in private life. Additionally college is a time for personal growth and personal responsibility. All students who are going to be successful in Criminal Justice courses will be required to display observable qualities that display personal responsibility.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Please see the Student Handbook for Angelina College's definition of and policies regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Students engaging in any form of plagiarism or academic dishonesty – which is the unacknowledged use of anyone else's work (published or unpublished) or cheating of any kind, will result in immediate and irrevocable failure of the entire course. Criminal Justice is not a major or profession for cheaters and such behavior will not be tolerated at Angelina College.

All cell-phones must be turned off upon entering the classroom. If an emergency situation requires the monitoring of a cell phone during class time, prior notice to the instructor is required. During exams, nothing will be allowed in proximity to the student except the exam and Scantron. If any student is observed using a cell phone, iPod, computer, headphones, or any other unnecessary object/device during an exam, the student will be excused from the classroom and will receive a zero on the exam in question.

Other Rules:

Students are expected to properly dispose of all trash in the appropriate receptacle adjacent to the door.

It is the policy of this instructor and of Angelina College that you not bring children or other guests to class.

If I am talking or another student is talking as it pertains to class assignments, you do not.

VI. EVALUATION AND GRADING:

A. Grading Criteria:

1. Tests :

	<u>Point Value:</u>
a. Exam #1	100 points (25%)
b. Exam #2	100 points (25%)
c. Exam #3	100 points (25%)
d. Final Exam	100 points (25%)

2. Late Assignments or Missed Exams:

No late assignments will be accepted. No questions, no exceptions. Missed exams may be approved for make-up on a case by case basis only if satisfactory documentation is provided. Any approved make-up exam will be administered at the end of the semester on a day set aside for make-up exams. The make-up exam will be different than the original exam (see attached course schedule for make-up date and time). If you do not take a missed exam on the exam make-up day you will receive a zero on the exam in question. There will be NO MAKE UP for the final exam due to end of semester deadlines. Additionally, the Final Exam will only be given at the assigned time (see syllabus and/or Angelina College's published Final Exam Schedule for specific details related to this course). If you miss the final exam for ANY reason, you will receive a zero (0) for a final exam grade.

B. Determination of Grade:

The four exams given throughout the semester will be averaged and will count equally (25% each) toward your final course grade.

Computation of Course Grade:

90-100:	A
80-89:	B
70-79:	C
60-69:	D
0-59:	F

Additional Information on Determination of Grade:

Your grade will be a strict interpretation of your earned exam / assignment scores. There will be NO extra credit opportunities available in ANY criminal justice course. Your grade will reflect what you earn; this then is a reflection of the work you put into class attendance, class participation, and studying.

VII. SYLLABUS MODIFICATION:

The instructor may modify the provisions of the syllabus to meet individual class needs by informing the class in advance as to the changes being made. These changes may take place at any time for any reason as determined by the instructor.

VIII. ANGELINA COLLEGE TECHNOLOGY & WORKFORCE DIVISION STUDENT INFORMATION:

As a student enrolled in a Technology & Workforce program, you will encounter certain risks while you are in a classroom, laboratory experience, or in a clinical or practicum setting. In the event that you sustain an injury and/or require any medical testing or care, all resulting medical expenses (hospital, ambulance, or physician fees), are your financial responsibility and not the responsibility of Angelina College or the clinical/practicum site.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE:

The following is a tentative schedule of topics, assignments, and exams to be covered during the semester. You will be notified in class of any calendar changes. Also, please be sure to log in to Blackboard regularly for additional information regarding this course – such as access to this syllabus and all in class power-point lectures that supplement each of the following topics.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment / Topic</u>
Monday January 14	First Class Day; Syllabus Review; Introductions; etc. Chapter 1 – Criminal Investigation overview
Monday January 21	No class- MLK
January 22	Chapter 2 – Documenting the crime scene Chapter 3 – effective report writing
Monday January 28	Chapter 4 – searches Chapter 5- forensic/ physical evidence
Monday February 4	Chapter 5- forensic/ physical evidence
Monday February 11	Wrap up Chapters 1-5; Exam #1 (Chapters 1-5) opened on Blackboard Chapter 6 – obtaining information and intelligence
Monday February 18	Chapter 7 – identifying and arresting suspects Chapter 8 – death investigations
Monday February 25	Chapter 9 – assault/ domestic crimes, and elderly Chapter 10-sex offences
Monday March 4	Wrap up Chapters 10
Monday March 11	SPRING BREAK
Monday March 18	Exam #2 Chapters 6-10 opened on Blackboard Chapter 11-crimes against children
Monday March 25	Chapter 12 –robbery Chapter 13 –burglary

Monday April 1	Chapter 14 – larceny/theft Chapter 15- MVTHFT
Monday April 11	Wrap up Chapters 15; Exam #3 open on Blackboard
Monday April 8	Chapter 16- arson, bombs, and explosives Chapter 17 – computer crimes
Monday April 15	Chapter 18 – a dual threat Chapter 19-gangs
Monday April 22	Chapter 20- terrorism Chapter 21- preparing for court Wrap up; Review for final Exam #4
Monday April 29	Missed Exam Make Up Day Make-Up Exams will be administered in LHS Room C204
Monday May 6	Final Exam for CRJ 1301 will cover Chapters 13-17