

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

CRIM 3120 – 001 Forensic Psychology

Fall 2020 TR 10:30 am - 12:20 pm

Mode: Online Blended

Instructor: Angela S Murolo, M.A.

Office: H-228

Contact Information: Email: angela.murolo@stockton.edu

Office Location and Hours: Zoom Monday and Wednesday 10-12 and by appointment this semester

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Course Description: This introductory survey course will enhance students' understanding of the relationship between scientific and practical psychological concepts, methods, and principles as they are applied to the law. The course systematically examines how psychologists help the police, courts, and corrections deal with people who exhibit deviant behaviors, as well as other situations that result in legal processes.

Course Prerequisites:

Criminal Justice 1100, Grade C or Better

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester you will:

1. Understand the basis of forensic psychology and its application to various aspects of the criminal justice system including policing, courts and corrections.
2. Use techniques to analyze evidence and data to provide profiles of various types of criminals.
3. Understand the scientific method and how it applies to forensic psychology.
4. Understand the various roles of a forensic psychologist.

Required Texts:

Hare, R. D. (1999). *Without conscience: The disturbing world of the psychopaths among us*. Guilford Press.

Roth, A. (2018). *Insane: America's criminal treatment of mental illness*. Hachette UK.

Recommended Text:

Bartol, C. R., & Bartol, A. M. (2017). *Introduction to forensic psychology: Research and application*. Sage Publications.

Online Access to Course Materials, Syllabus, and PowerPoint Slides

The syllabus, PowerPoint slides, and other course materials for this course can be accessed via Blackboard.

Course Requirements

1) *Reading Materials*

Readings are assigned for early classes. Students are expecting to have the read the material before class to understand the material being presented. Additional readings will be assigned in addition to the text that will assist in student assignments.

*There will be 2 journal articles with questions to be answered. Answers should be uploaded to Blackboard in the Assignment Submission Link folder.

*There will be 2 "From my Perspective" readings- you should read these and 1) provide a reaction on the discussion board and 2) respond to at least 1 classmates' reaction on the discussion board

2) *PCL-R*

Students will conduct the PCL-R on themselves and another person and write a brief summary of your findings and an assessment of the tool and what it is trying to measure. This assignment will be explained later in the semester.

3) *Psychological Profile*

Students will construct a psychological profile of a criminal based on evidence obtained at a crime scene.

4) *Hot Topics- Ethics and Justice Debates*

Students will read 1 of the articles I have provided or select 1 of their own, then provide the class with a summary, and debate the ethical or justice issues related to the topic. Students will present their articles over zoom. Other students should be prepared to discuss and present alternate views.

5) *Behavioral Analysis*

Students will observe an interview of someone implicated in a crime and provide an analysis of their behavior.

6) *Book Presentations/Reflection Papers*

Students will present 2 books for class discussion over the course of the semester, including questions for class discussion. Students will write a reflection paper for each book. This will be explained further over the course of the semester.

Course Grading

The final grade will be weighed based on the following criteria:

Grading scale

Activities	%	
Book Presentation 1	10	93-100% A
Book Reflection 1	10	90-92 A-
Book Presentation 2	10	87-89 B+
Book Reflection 2	10	83-86 B+
Psychological Profile	15	80-82 B-
Behavioral Analysis	10	77-79 C+
Hot Topics	10	73-76 C
Article Reading and Questions	10	70-72 C-
PCL-R Assignment	15	67-69 D+
	<hr/>	60-65 D
	100	<60 F

Classroom Behavior- Zoom edition

Students are expected to be respectful of other student's ideas and contributions to the class. You don't have to agree, you do need to be respectful.

If you have a question, raise your hand or put your thoughts in the "chat" section. Please put your microphone/audio on mute if you are not speaking.

Other Comments on Behavior/Expectations:

- Assignments (Homework, Reflection Papers, Final Paper) Are BlackBoard Submission Only
- Do not talk over myself or others! If I am lecturing, I expect you to be listening/taking notes. If your classmate is talking you should not be speaking over him/her. Manners Matter!
- Assignments are to be done independently unless otherwise stated.

Other Important Notes-

- 1- **Late Assignments-** Assignments turned in within one week of due date will be accepted with no points off. However, if assignments are more than 1 week late will lose 5 points for every week late. Meaning, if assignment is Due March 1 and is turned in March 6 you will not lose any points, but if you turn in the same assignment on March 15 you will lose 10 points (5 points for each late week)
- 2- **Class presentation and participation is an important part of the class.** If you can't present your information to the class, you will lose significant points towards the final grade.

Academic Integrity

I. Standards of academic conduct

As an academic institution of merit and integrity, Stockton University affirms its commitment to the honesty and excellence of all academic work conducted by students of the Stockton academic community. Academic dishonesty is a serious violation of academic procedure and the Campus Conduct Code and is subject to severe sanctions including suspension and expulsion. The range of sanctions that may be given will be contingent on several factors, including:

- The decision of the faculty member making the charge;
- Whether it is the student's first offense or a repeat offense; and
- The extent and nature of the offense.

It is possible that a first or second offense may carry a sanction of suspension or expulsion, which will be recorded on the student's academic transcript, marking a permanent record of the offense. The University makes two primary demands of its students in the area of academic honesty:

- 1) That each individual exercise the utmost care in planning and preparing the work presented for academic consideration, and
- 2) Members of the academic community conscientiously ensure the validity and protect the integrity of academic work and the grades earned for such work.

II. Violations of academic honesty

Please see the link for actions that may be taken if there are circumstances of academic dishonesty.

<https://stockton.edu/policy-procedure/documents/procedures/2005.pdf>

Accommodation Statement

Eligibility

Students who seek services from the Learning Access Program must be registered students with Stockton University. When a student self-discloses their disability to the Learning Access Program, they also need to submit dated documentation that identifies the student's diagnosed disability, functional limitations, and suggested accommodations. The documentation will be reviewed on a case by case basis during a personal intake interview with one of our coordinators. Accommodations are designed to provide equal access for academic success while maintaining the academic standards of the program.

Students who would like to register with the Learning Access Program should call 609.652.4988 and leave a voicemail or email lap@stockton.edu.

Student Privacy Rights (FERPA)

Student Access

A student may examine all elements of his or her record, subject only to proper identification and reasonable allowances for time, place, and supervision. The student may challenge the accuracy of any entry. Upon submission of valid evidence of error, the University Registrar corrects the inaccuracy and notifies appropriate offices of the correction. The student may also challenge the appropriateness of any entry not consonant with the elements of a student record as stated above. Appeals from any determinations by the Office of Student Records and Registration are to the Office of the Provost.

Incomplete Course Policy

A student may be eligible to request an incomplete from the instructor, if it is determined that 1) the student is doing satisfactory work, and 2) due to an illness or emergency the student will be unable to complete the course work within that academic term. If an incomplete is granted, remaining course work must be completed and submitted before the last class day in the next term.

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Spring 2021 Schedule below. Please note the schedule may be subject to change based on class progress through the materials. It is your responsibility to know what is going on in class and if changes have been made. (see below)

This Schedule is subject to change based on the completion of course material and student progress

****It is up to you to adapt/adjust to the schedule- especially presentations- be prepared**

Date	Criminology Reading Assignments/Class Objectives	Assignments Due	Presentations Due
January 26, 28	Introduction, Review of Syllabus Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Chapter 1 What is Forensic Psychology	From my perspective reaction due on discussion board Due 1/28	
February 2, 4	Forensic Psychology and Policing: Chapter 2 Police Assessment, pre-and post-employment offer, psychiatric evaluations, fitness for office	From my perspective reaction due on discussion board due 2/4	
February 7, 9	Forensic Psychology and Policing: Chapter 3+ Police Interrogations, Body language as a source of information, and False Confessions, Profiling, Geographic Profiling and forensic autopsies	Journal Article #1 Due 2/9	
February 16, 18	Forensic Psychology and Policing: Chapter 3+ Eyewitness identification, testimony, lineups and polygraph exams	Behavioral Analysis due 2/18	
February 23, 25	Forensic Psychology and the Courts: Chapter 4 Jury Selection, Witness Preparation and Expert Testimony	Psych. Profiling Assignment Due 2/25	
March 2, 4			<i>Without Conscience Presentations live via zoom</i>
March 9, 11	Forensic Psychology and the Courts: Chapter 5 Legal Competency, Competency to stand trial, Legal assessment of responsibility		
March 16, 18	Forensic Psychology and the Courts: Chapter 5+ Pretrial Assessments, Risk Assessments, Civil Commitments	Without Conscience Reaction/Reflection due 3/18	
March 23, 25			<i>Insane Presentations live via zoom</i>
March 30	No Class- Preceptorial Advising Day	Journal Article #2 due 3/30	
April 1	Forensic Psychology and the Courts: Chapter 5+ Insanity Defenses	Insane Reaction/Reflection Paper due 4/1	
April 6, 8	Chapter 12+ Correctional Psychology/Programming in Adult Settings		
April 13, 15			Hot Topics Presentations Due
April 20, 22	Chapter 7 The development of delinquent and criminal behavior		
April 27, 30	Chapter 13: Juvenile Justice and Corrections		
	Final Exam end of day	PCL-R Assignments Due (Final Paper)	