

Marshall University Course Syllabus

CJ 655: Research Methods in Criminal Justice

As noted above and per your enrollment, this course is 75% online with 25% consisting of synchronous online sessions. All contact and communications will occur online and all course requirements are to be submitted online within this course.

Course Name	CJ 655 – Research Methods in Criminal Justice
Department	Criminal Justice & Criminology
Semester	Fall 2018
Name	Dr. Stephen Young
Email	Young250@marshall.edu
Telephone	304-696-3082
Office	Smith Hall 734
Course Start Date	August 20, 2017
Course End Date	December 14, 2017

For course start and end dates, as well as other deadlines such as add/drop and withdraw, go to the Academic Calendar <http://www.marshall.edu/calendar/academic/>

Course Materials

The following text is required for this course:

Title	The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice
Author(s)	Bachman, R.D. & Schutt, R.K.
Publisher	Sage
Edition	6 th (2017)
ISBN	ISBN-13: 978-1-5063-0681-0

Textbooks and materials may be ordered online at the Marshall University Bookstore <http://www.bkstr.com/marshallstore/home/en>

Course Details

Catalog Description: This course explores the elements of scientific research, the interaction between research and theory, and the use of data processing resources.

Credit Hours: 3

Computer Requirements

Requirements (this includes plug-ins, hardware/software check, etc.) for a MU Online course-<http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/muonline/2011/11/07/computer-requirements/>

Help Desk – for technical assistance 877-689-8638 (Toll free)

<http://www.marshall.edu/ucs/cs/helpdesk/>

Troubleshooting – for username/password problems, computer problems, and course tool problems-<http://www.marshall.edu/selfservice/loginselfservices/index.php>

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions -

<http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/muonline/category/skb/>

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice, and in part emphasized and reinforced through this course students will...

1. analyze and critique contemporary criminal justice issues using effective written communication skills with APA citations and information from scholarly sources;
2. evaluate theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and trends and identify relevant public policy implications;
3. demonstrate scientific literacy by applying research findings to real-world problems within the justice system; and
4. interpret descriptive and inferential statistical data.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Outcomes	How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course	How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course
A. Students will describe the fundamentals of social scientific inquiry, the link between theory and research, and policy.	Chapter 1 and 2 quizzes from the Sage Student Site, assigned readings, online discussion, draft introduction and literature review	Chapter 1 and 2 quizzes, research proposal
B. Students will demonstrate the elements of a research design, specifically conceptualization, operationalization, measurement, and research ethics as well as the issues of reliability and validity.	Chapter 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 quizzes from the Sage Student Site, assigned readings, online discussion	Chapter 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 quizzes, research ethics training assignment, research understanding assignment, pre-posl, draft methods assignment, research proposal
C. Students will examine the different approaches to research design, which includes experiments, quasi-experimental design, survey research, case studies, field research, content analysis, secondary data analysis, and mixed methods analysis.	Chapter 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12 quizzes from the Sage Student Site, assigned readings, online discussion	Chapter 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12 quizzes, and research proposal
D. Students will identify the limitations, weaknesses, and strengths of a design.	Chapter 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12 quizzes from the Sage Student Site	Chapter 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12 quizzes, pre-posal, and research proposal
E. Students will identify the approaches to analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data.	Chapter 13 & 14 quizzes from the Sage Student Site, online discussion	Chapter 13 & 14 quizzes

F.	Students will produce a research proposal using scholarly sources and proper APA citations.	Annotated bibliographies and reference page assignment, draft introduction and literature review, draft methods section, and preposal	Research proposal
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Assessment Measures & Grading Criteria

Assessment Measures

	Item	Activity	Value (Points)
(1)	Chapter Quizzes	14 chapter quizzes at 1pt/question	280
(2)	Discussion Questions	4 question sets	70
(3)	Assignments	Ethics training, Research understanding	125
(4)	Draft Proposal Papers	Annotated bibliographies, preposal, draft introduction, literature review, and methods sections	350
(5)	Research Proposal	1 research paper	200
(6)	Survey	1 student opinion survey	50
	Total Points		1075

You may check your grades at any time by clicking "My Grades."

Grading Criteria

A	90% – 100%	962– 1075 points
B	80% – 89%	854 – 963 points
C	70% – 79%	747 – 853 points
D	60% – 69%	640 – 746 points
F	0 – 59%	0 – 639 points

Chapter Quizzes (Use a regular PC, not an iPad or laptop)

Quizzes can be accessed by clicking on the appropriate button in each week. The dates for each exam can be found on the course schedule. A proctor will not be required, nor will any other special arrangements. All quizzes are timed (30 minutes each), with one at the end of each week. Before you take a quiz, you are provided with the opportunity each week to take the practice quiz for that chapter without penalty from the Sage Student Site. Your activity on the Sage Student Site is not linked to the course, so your practice efforts cannot be traced back to you, but it will provide you with feedback on the areas in which you may want to review prior to taking the "real" quiz. Each exam consists of 5 true/false questions and 15 multiple choice questions. Each quiz must be completed by the date listed on the schedule; however, keep in mind that you are allowed two attempts for each quiz with the highest score recorded as a grade.

PLEASE NOTE: You should be thoroughly prepared to take the quizzes without the use of your notes, textbook, or other resources as they are timed assessments, and you only have one opportunity to answer a question (i.e., you will not have time to go searching for answers nor come back to a question). Also keep in mind that each quiz is randomly generated; therefore, no two quizzes will be the same.

Discussion Questions

In total, there are discussion sessions in all four modules. Respond to the question(s) directly. Postings are to be written in a professional manner with proper grammar, spelling, and syntax. I advise students to type it in MS Word or other word processor to check for spelling, grammar, etc. and then copy the post over into the discussion forum. You should write it as you would any formal writing assignment and not an email or instant message. Furthermore, adhere to the netiquette policy. Discussions will be graded by using a rubric.

Assignments

Assignments will be administered over the course of the semester to reinforce key ideas and main concepts related to the course material. You will be prompted in each weekly folder with directions as how to proceed with these tasks. Assignments will be graded by using a rubric.

Draft Proposal Papers

To make the research proposal more manageable, drafts of the various sections will be submitted throughout the course. For example, to develop an understanding of the research topic, an annotated bibliography assignment will be completed, along with a reference page. This will lead into the next assignment, which is the building blocks of the methods section (aka pre-posal). With feedback from the instructor, students will be able to draft additional parts of the proposal (e.g., introduction, literature review, and methods section).

Research Proposal

Each student will be expected to complete a 15 page research proposal and/or research project (that is, 15 pages of body) on a crime-related topic. Nonetheless, each student will be guided through the research process to develop this proposal in full. The paper must be double-spaced and follow the *APA Publication Manual* for references and citations (6th edition). Directions are provided in Module One, week 4.

Collaborate Ultra

At least once a month, the class will meet via Collaborate Ultra. This is a real-time video conferencing tool in Blackboard, much like Skype, that will allow us to communicate about course concepts and materials. Since it opens in your browser, you will not have to install any software. Be sure when you login to MU Online to click on the Student Services tab at the top left and find the orientation module for Collaborate Ultra (NOT Collaborate Original), which includes how to get started, set up your browser, etc. If you are unable to attend a session, they will be recorded and archived.

Course Policies

Deadlines and Penalties

You must adhere to the dates listed for completion of quizzes, discussions, and assignments. Once a due date has expired, the item will no longer be accessible (or writeable, in the case of discussions) and you will receive a zero for that particular item. While there is some flexibility in an online course to proceed at your own pace, it is imperative that you complete the quizzes as well as the discussion sessions by the due dates listed on the schedule to assure successful course completion. The discussions, quizzes, and assignments will become **UNAVAILABLE** after midnight on the due date. Do

not wait until the last available minute on the due date to complete a quiz or assignment because you never know when a technological glitch can occur (which I cannot be responsible for). You should plan to complete all activities at least one day prior to the scheduled due date to be on the safe side. This way, if there is a technical problem, you can contact me and I can try to remedy the situation. If you contact me on the day an activity is due, I cannot do anything about it!

Excuses

Because there is a degree of flexibility in completing items, it is your responsibility to keep track of dates and give yourself enough time for completion. If you wait until the last minute, there is no one to blame but yourself. With that said, I am also not heartless. If there is something that occurs which prevents your access to the course for a significant length of time (e.g., serious illness, death in the family, or personal tragedy) please contact me as soon as possible and we may be able to work something out. In this case, I will need verification, and it will be left to my discretion on its acceptability.

Extra Credit

There is only ONE extra credit opportunity in this course. If you took my advice in my welcome letter, and completed the Orientation Quiz, you will receive as many as 10 extra points. This many not seem like a lot, but they have made a difference in many students' grades in the past, especially if they were on the border. Please DO NOT ask me for any additional extra credit opportunities. That is all I got!

Material on this Site

The PowerPoint presentations have been developed by the textbook publisher. Therefore, the slideshows are copyrighted. Furthermore, while every effort has been made to ensure that the slides are correct, every once in a while an error or inconsistency between the slides and the textbook may be present. If you notice such an error, please let me know so that it can be corrected. The bottom line is that you should rely on PowerPoint slides as a study aid only. The textbook and the course outlines, coupled with your notes are of most importance.

Academic Dishonesty

While this is an online course, the same standards used in a traditional classroom setting must be followed. That is, you are expected to do your own work. You must complete your quizzes individually, without the assistance of another person or your course materials. Anyone who violates this policy will receive a failing grade for the course.

Academic Dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication and falsification of data or information, plagiarism, bribes/favors/threats, and complicity. More specifically with regards to plagiarism, "It is the student's responsibility to clearly distinguish their own work from that created by others. This includes the proper use of quotation marks, paraphrase and the citation of the original source. Students are responsible for both intentional and unintentional acts of plagiarism" (MU Undergraduate Catalog). If a student violates this policy, discretion will be used by the instructor; the possible sanction to be applied will be a failing grade for the assignment, exam, or paper. For those of you who need a reminder about the policy, please refer to the MU Undergraduate Catalog.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense with extremely serious consequences. This includes everything from turning in someone else's work as your own, to buying a paper and

submitting it as your own, to paraphrasing (i.e., putting into your own words) ideas you got from other sources, whether books or the Internet. **PLEASE DO NOT QUOTE OR PARAPHRASE FROM ARTICLES/BOOKS OR FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE WITHOUT PROPERLY CITING THE SOURCE. YOUR WRITING MUST BE COMPLETELY IN YOUR OWN WORDS.** If you do not understand what plagiarism or paraphrasing is, please read the information below and/or visit Marshall's policy on plagiarism at this site: <http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/muonline/2011/11/16/plagiarism/>. Keep in mind that some of your assignments will be loaded into Safe Assign in order to check and assess plagiarism.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM: As a student at Marshall University I fully understand what plagiarism is. If I have any questions whatsoever about whether or not something should be cited or whether or not using someone else's ideas or words is appropriate, I will NOT guess and will consult my course instructor or the website noted above. If I am still confused, I will ask the course instructor and follow his/her advice because I know that my instructor takes this VERY seriously. I also acknowledge that I am fully aware of the penalty in this class for plagiarism/cheating of any type: failure for the semester and referral to the administration. I further acknowledge that I know the administration will put a report on my plagiarism in my permanent record. The administration will also decide if further punishment is warranted, including academic probation and possible expulsion.

University Policies

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on "Marshall University Policies."

- Academic Dishonesty
- Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates
- Computer Services Acceptable Use Policy
- Inclement Weather
- Dead Week
- Students with Disabilities
- Academic Forgiveness
- Academic Probation and Suspension
- Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students
- Affirmative Action
- Sexual Harassment

Course Schedule

Since this is an online course, you have some flexibility to work at your own pace within the week and Module. However, quizzes, discussion posts, assignments, and drafts must be completed by the due dates posted (see Table below). Even though you have the flexibility to work at your own pace, please do not underestimate the amount of time necessary to go through the online content in addition to thoroughly reading the chapters from the text. You should be prepared to spend at least 6-10 hours per week both online and offline to successfully complete the course.

Module One: August 20-September 16		
Week	Learning Activities	Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the course syllabus and the online learning platform (take the Orientation quiz for bonus points) Read Chapter 1 from Bachman and Schutt Review the outline for Chapter 1 and take notes using the book Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 1 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 1 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take the quiz for Chapter 1 (20 pts) 	Sunday, August 26 by 11:59PM (EST)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 2 from Bachman and Schutt Review the outline for Chapter 2 and take notes using the book Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 2 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout Read the article by Fox et al. and then complete the assignment (25 pts) Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 2 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take the quiz for Chapter 2 (20 pts) 	Sunday, September 2 by 11:59PM (EST)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 3 from Bachman and Schutt Review the outline for Chapter 3 and take notes using the book Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 3 and take additional notes if needed, using the presentation handout Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 3 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take the quiz for Chapter 3 (20 pts) Complete the assignment (100 pts) 	Sunday, September 9 by 11:59PM (EST)
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion questions for Module 1 (25 pts)	Tuesday, September 11 by 11:59PM (EST)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Online class meeting via Collaborate Ultra	Thursday, September 13 from 6-9PM (EST)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 4 from Bachman and Schutt • Review the outline for Chapter 4 and take notes using the book 	Sunday, September 16 by 11:59PM (EST)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 4 and take additional notes, if needed using the presentation handout □ Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 4 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) □ Take the quiz for Chapter 4 (20 pts) □ Read and review the directions for the research methods proposal 	
Module Two: September 17-October 14		
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Read Chapter 5 from Bachman and Schutt □ Review the outline for Chapter 5 and take notes using the book □ Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 5 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout □ Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 5 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take □ the quiz for Chapter 5 (20 pts) 	Sunday, September 23 by 11:59PM (EST)
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Read Chapter 6 from Bachman and Schutt □ Review the outline for Chapter 6 and take notes using the book □ Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 6 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout □ Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 6 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take □ the quiz for Chapter 6 (20 pts) 	Sunday, September 30 by 11:59PM (EST)

7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 7 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 7 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 7 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 7 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 7 (20 pts) <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the annotated bibliography assignment (50 pts) 	Sunday, October 7 by 11:59PM (EST)
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion questions for Module 2 (15 pts) 	Tuesday, October 9 by 11:59PM (EST)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Online class meeting via Collaborate Ultra 	Thursday, October 11 from 6-9PM (EST)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 8 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 8 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 8 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 8 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) Take <input type="checkbox"/> the quiz for Chapter 8 (20 pts) <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the building blocks assignment (100 pts) 	Sunday, October 14 by 11:59PM (EST)
Module Three: October 15-November 11		
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 9 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 9 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 9 and take additional notes, if needed using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 9 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 9 (20 pts) <input type="checkbox"/> Write and submit a draft introduction and literature review (100 pts) 	Sunday, October 21 by 11:59PM (EST)

10	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 10 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 10 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 10 and take additional notes, if needed using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 10 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 10 (20 pts)	Sunday, October 28 by 11:59PM (EST)
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 11 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 11 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 11 and take additional notes, if needed using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 11 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 11 (20 pts) <input type="checkbox"/> Write and submit a draft of the methods section of your proposal (100 pts)	Sunday, November 4 by 11:59PM (EST)
12	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion questions for Module 3 (15 pts)	Tuesday, November 6 by 11:59PM (EST)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Online class meeting via Collaborate Ultra	Thursday, November 8 from 6-9PM (EST)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 12 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 12 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 12 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 12 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 12 (20 pts)	Sunday, November 11 by 11:59PM (EST)
Module Four: November 12-December 12		

13	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 13 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 13 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 13 and take additional notes, if needed using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 13 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 13 (20 pts) <input type="checkbox"/> Submit your final research proposal (200 pts)	Sunday, November 18 by 11:59PM (EST)
14	<input type="checkbox"/> THANKSGIVING BREAK-Enjoy!	
15	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Chapter 14 from Bachman and Schutt <input type="checkbox"/> Review the outline for Chapter 14 and take notes using the book <input type="checkbox"/> Review the PowerPoint for Chapter 14 and take additional notes, if needed, using the presentation handout <input type="checkbox"/> Take the practice quiz and review additional practice materials (i.e., eFlashcards, video, audio, and podcast links) for Chapter 14 by going to the Sage Student Companion site below (under Interactive Exercises) <input type="checkbox"/> Take the quiz for Chapter 14 (20 pts)	Sunday, December 2 by 11:59PM (EST)
16	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion questions for Module 4 (15 pts)	Tuesday, December 4 by 11:59PM (EST)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Online class meeting via Collaborate Ultra	Thursday, December 6 from 6-9PM (EST)
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Take the final survey (50 pts)	Wednesday, December 12 by 11:59PM (EST)