

CJ 241-201: Victims of Crime

Spring 2015

Tuesdays 6:30-9:00, Smith Hall 416

**Criminal Justice & Criminology Program
Marshall University**

Matt Meadows

Phone: 304-634-7160 (cell)

304-526-8615 (office)

Email: meadow21@marshall.edu

matt.meadows@courtsv.gov (preferred)

Office Hours: By Appointment



REQUIRED TEXTS

Karmen, A. (2013). *Crime Victims: An Introduction to Victimology*, 8th ed. Belmont, CA: Cengage Learning ISBN# 9781133049722

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Examines victims of crime, the process and consequences of victimization. Also covered are victims' rights and services available for victims and victim compensation. (Marshall University Undergraduate Catalog).

CREDIT HOURS & PREREQUISITES

3 credits; None

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

A student must have a computer or access to one, as well as access to the internet to send and receive email messages. If you are using an email account other than your Marshall email account, you must set your Marshall email account to forward to your other account.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

| Course Learning Outcome <i>At the completion of this course, students will be able to:</i> | How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course | How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Explore a working definition of Victimology and its place in the field of Criminal Justice | In-class lectures and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |
| Understand and identify various sources of information for Victimology | In-class lectures and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |
| Explore victims of various crimes | In-class lectures, guest speaker, and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |
| Explore services outside of the criminal justice system provided to victims | In-class lectures, guest speakers, and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |
| Explore services within the criminal justice system provided to victims | In-class lectures, guest speakers, and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |
| Examine what the future holds for victims of crime | In-class lectures and discussions | Quizzes, writing assignments, and exams |

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- **Examinations:** There will be two exams during the semester, including the final. Each exam will be worth 25% of the final grade. The exams will consist of any combination of multiple choice, true/false, matching, and possibly short answer. The final exam is ***not*** comprehensive.
- **Writing Assignments:** There will be multiple writing assignments (generally, 1-3 pages) that will be required and will make up 20% of the final grade. All homework must be typed and is generally due the class session immediately following the assignment. Two percentage points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. Short of a school excused absence, there will be no exceptions. It is unfair to those students completing their work in a timely manner for those choosing not to submit their work on time to receive full credit.
- **Class Participation/Attendance:** This class will be conducted as a seminar, which means that everyone is expected to come fully prepared to discuss the readings. We will, as a group, discuss the various readings and related issues. It is absolutely imperative that each person become actively involved in the discussions, as this is the best way for all of us to get an education. As discussion is such an integral and important part of this class, 10% of your final grade will be assigned for class

participation/attendance. To earn these points is actually quite simple. Come to each class having read the assignments, having given some thought to the issues, and prepared to share your thoughts, opinions, etc. Class participation involves not only asking/answering questions and participation in discussions but attentiveness, not being chronically late for class, and most importantly attendance (you can't participate if you're not here!).

- **Quizzes:** There will be quizzes given throughout the semester that will contribute to the remaining 15% of your grade. Quizzes will consist of true/false, multiple choice, and/or completion questions.
- **Service Learning:** For 5% of your final grade, you will be required to provide a minimum of 10 hours of community service at an agency of your choice that provides some sort of service to victims of crime. Appropriate locations include (but not limited to) a local police department, The Women's Center, Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, or CONTACT of Huntington. This will be due during "dead week".

ATTENDANCE POLICY

You are expected to be here every week. Therefore, attendance will be recorded. Poor attendance will have an adverse effect on your grade. Ten points will be taken off for each unexcused absence. These points will be deducted from a total possible 100 points. All excused absences must be presented to me with proper documentation and must be submitted no later than the next class meeting following the one missed.

If you miss an exam or quiz with no legitimate excuse, a zero will be given for that test with no make-up test. If you are ill or know in advance that you will miss an exam for an acceptable absence, you must notify me ***BEFORE*** the scheduled exam time. For those students who do contact me and have a legitimate excuse, an alternative time to take the exam will be determined. The format of the make-up exam will be left to my discretion. In addition, students who are late on exam day will not be permitted to take the exam if another student has already completed the exam and has left the classroom; the exam in this case has been compromised. In other words, you will **NOT** be able to take the exam or take a make-up exam.

Anything conducted as an "in-class assignment" cannot be made up, with or without an excuse.

For your outstanding attendance, there will be an extra credit opportunity for the final:

ZERO ABSENCES=10% extra credit

ONE ABSENCE=8% extra credit

TWO ABSENCES=4% extra credit

For more information on absences and what constitutes one as "excused", see "University Policies" below.

| GRADES | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Criteria | Weight | Scale |
| Midterm Exam | 25% | 90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D Below 60% = F |
| Final Exam | 25% | |
| Homework/Inc-class Assignments | 20% | |
| Quizzes | 15% | |
| Attendance/Class Participation | 10% | |
| Service Learning | 5% | |
| TOTAL | 100% | |

ADDITIONAL “RULES OF THE ROAD”:

- 1) **I will not tolerate plagiarism.** Plagiarism is defined at Dictionary.com as “the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work.” I will consider using your computer’s “copy and paste” function to steal internet writings and submit them for your homework as plagiarism. I consider this plagiarism, because it is. It is highly unethical to engage in this activity. Please note that it is also wrong to steal another’s “thoughts” and use them as your own. Your responsibilities as college students include researching, reading, processing, and interpreting. You will not find stealing in this list. If I catch you cheating, you will be referred to the Department Chair.
- 2) There is to be no texting during class time. If you must take a call, please excuse yourself from the classroom. It is no big deal. I may have to take a call from time to time. Additionally, please place all phones on silent upon entering.
- 3) As a general rule, I do not allow my lectures to be tape-recorded. Exceptions are made for students with disabilities; however, prior permission must be obtained from me.
- 4) Don’t hesitate to ask questions. The dumbest question is the one not asked! If you ask a question I cannot answer, I will find out the answer and get back to you. Please remember that as a teacher, I am merely your guide through the field, I am not the field itself!
- 5) Enjoy! Have fun! Learn! Some students feel that each of these endeavors are independent of each other, they are not. You can enjoy and have fun while learning. I hope to make it as comfortable as I can for you, but it will take some work on your part as well.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Week 1 | January 13 |
| Introductions, Syllabus, and Chapter 1-What is Victimology? | |
| <i>January 12-16 Late Registration and Add/Drop (Schedule Adjustment)</i> | |
| Week 2 | January 20 |
| Chapter 2-The Rediscovery of Crime Victims | |
| <i>January 20 "W" withdrawal period begins</i> | |
| Week 3 | January 27 |
| Chapter 3-Victimization in the United States: An Overview | |
| Week 4 | February 3 |
| Chapter 4-Violent Crimes: Murders and Robberies | |
| Week 5 | February 10 |
| Chapter 5-Victims' Contribution to the Crime Problem | |
| Week 6 | February 17 |
| Chapter 6-Victims and the Criminal Justice System: Cooperation and Conflict; Part 1 | |
| Week 7 | February 24 |
| Chapter 7- Victims and the Criminal Justice System: Cooperation and Conflict; Part 2 | |
| Week 8 | March 3 |
| Midterm Exam | |
| Week 9 | March 10 |
| Chapter 8-Victimimized Children | |
| Week 10 | March 17 |
| SPRING BREAK-NO CLASS | |
| Week 11 | March 24 |
| Chapter 9-Victims of Violence by Lovers and Family Members | |
| <i>March 27 Last Day to Drop a Full Semester Individual Course</i> | |
| Week 12 | March 31 |
| Chapter 10-Victims of Rapes and Other Sexual Assaults | |
| <i>March 30-complete withdrawals only</i> | |
| Week 13 | April 7 |
| Chapter 11-Additional Groups of Victims with Special Problems | |
| Week 14 | April 14 |
| Chapter 12-Repaying Victims | |
| Week 15 | April 21 |
| Chapter 13-Victims in the 21 st Century: Alternative Directions | |
| Week 16 | April 28 |
| Dead Week and Catch-up | |
| Week 17 | May 5 |
| Final Exam | |

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*
- *Computing Services Acceptable Use*
- *Inclement Weather*
- *Dead Week*
- *Students with Disabilities*
- *Academic Forgiveness*
- *Academic Probation and Suspension*
- *Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students*
- *Affirmative Action*
- *Sexual Harassment*