

## **CJ 3316 Domestic Violence**

Instructor: Shaun Barak  
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### **Books:**

Gosselin, Denise K. (2009). Heavy Hands: An Introduction to the Crimes of Family Violence 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Prentice Hall.

**Course Description:** Domestic Violence between adults is studied from an interdisciplinary perspective. The cycle of violence, dominance, and control are among the issues covered sociologically and psychologically. The legal perspective includes discussion of proactive arrest policies, restraining orders, and anti-stalking legislation that have emerged across the United States.

### **Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

- PLO 1.** Demonstrated knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities of criminal justice professionals. The ability to identify, assess, and compare Constitutional protections and individual rights and recognize violations of those Rights. Workable knowledge of the most significant legal challenges to criminal justice policy and the resulting changes to those policies.
- PLO 2.** Demonstrate knowledge of Criminological theories, and apply those theories to practical criminal justice events. The ability to identifying a prominent criminological theory within an actual criminal event or simulated criminal event. The ability to compare and contrast the basic concepts of the differing competing Criminological Theories.
- PLO 3.** Working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice and the ability to identify the individual parts of the CJ System. An awareness of the costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and the ability to recognize and be aware of political influence on the system. The ability to apply historical knowledge of the CJ system and recognize patterns of system change.

**Distance Education Statement:** Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul

Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

**Course Objectives:** This course takes an academic service-learning approach to educating the student on the criminal justice response to the crimes of family violence. Students will learn the history and scope of violence against women, child abuse, intimate partner violence, and abuse of older adults. Achieving cultural competence on family violence victimization is a key component.

As this is a Blackboard class, students are expected to log into the class frequently and turn in their assignments in a timely fashion. Any computer glitches must be reported promptly or the student will not receive credit on the affected work.

Technical problems can be reported to me - through e-mail is usually the best idea, and/or to the Sul Ross help desk by using lobo pass or calling 837-8888.

**Requirements:** Final grades for this course will be based on your performance on the following items: Chapter Quizzes – 10 points each for a total of 120 points (40%), Discussion Questions (15%), one Cumulative Final Exam (25%) and 2 news article summaries (20%).

**Tests:** The Quizzes will consist of 10 multiple choice questions per chapter. There are 12 chapters so this means a total of 120 points. The Quiz schedule will be listed under the exams section – Quizzes will be made available to students each week and you can take the quiz whenever you are ready as long as they are completed within the week time frame. There will be no make-ups for these exams. The Cumulative Final Exam will be worth 60 points – 5 questions per chapter from the entire book – in a multiple choice format. This exam will only be available December 3-10.

**Discussion Questions:** Each week there will be 1-2 discussion questions posted on the discussion board of Blackboard. Students will need to log frequently in order to deal with these questions in a timely manner. Students will also be expected to respond to the information posted by other students which may mean logging in several times a week. Rules for the content of the responses will be posted under the assignment section for this class. Students are expected to contribute in significant ways to the discussion boards, based on the readings, but also on personal experience and knowledge gained through other course work, media reports, etc. This portion of the course is expected to replace the normal dialog that would occur within an in-class course and students will be expected to have a thorough knowledge of the subjects being discussed. This should mean that students will have to do outside research.

**News Summary Assignment:** Students will be required to find 2 news items related in some way to Domestic Violence. Students should summarize the main points and post it to the discussion board. Each student will then be required to comment in a meaningful way on at least 2 of these posts for both news items which means you will have to respond to a total of 4 posts, 2 for each news item. Students are not required to comment on all of the posts. This assignment is worth 20% of the total grade. Due dates are listed on the Schedule below. Also a more detailed description of the news items are located under your assignments section on Blackboard.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and papers. Cheating on tests and plagiarism on assignments will result in a grade of “F” on that part of the course, a possible grade of “F” for the entire course, and possible recommendation for suspension from the university.

Plagiarism consists of presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source) and submitting examinations or other work in whole or in part as one's own when such work has been prepared by another person or copied from another person (see the Student Handbook).

**Important!**

See your instructor promptly if you are having problems with your course work or are in need of special assistance.

Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in the programs, services and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, in Counseling and Prevention Services, Ferguson Hall 112, Box C-117, (837-8203).

**Tentative Course Schedule – Subject to change if needed**

**Week 1 - August 25-Aug.31** Complete Introduction Question on the Discussion Board

**Week 2 – September 1-7** Discussion Question 1 – read Chapter 1- Quiz Chapter 1

**Week 3 – September 8-14** Discussion Question 2 – read Chapter 2- Quiz Chapter 2

**Week 4 – September 15-21** Discussion Question 3 – read Chapter 3- Quiz Chapter 3

**Week 5 – September 22-28** Discussion Question 4 – read Chapter 4- Quiz Chapter 4

**September 28 – 1<sup>st</sup> News Item Due – Responses to 2 news item posts due by Oct. 5**

**Week 6 – Sept. 29- Oct.5** Discussion Question 5 – read Chapter 5- Quiz Chapter 5

**Week 7 – October 6-12** Discussion Question 6 – read Chapter 6- Quiz Chapter 6

**Week 8 – October 13-19** Discussion Question 7 – read Chapter 7- Quiz Chapter 7

**October 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> News Item Due – Responses to 2 news item posts due by Oct. 26**

**Week 9 – October 20-26** Discussion Question 8 – read Chapter 8- Quiz Chapter 8

**Week 10 – October 27-Nov. 2** Discussion Question 9 – read Chapter 9- Quiz Chapter 9

**Week 11 – November 3-9** Discussion Question 10 – read Chapter 10- Quiz Chapter 10

**Week 12 – November 10-16** Discussion Question 11 – read Chapter 11- Quiz Chapter 11

**Week 13 – November 17-23** Discussion Question 12-read chapter 12-Quiz Chapter 12

**Week 14 – November 24-30** No Classes- Thanksgiving Break!

**Week 15 – December 3-10 Cumulative Final Exam 60 questions**