

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**CJ-5331 – Seminar in Criminal Profiling**  
**Summer I, 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Mark Rubin  
Phone: 936-333-7265  
E-Mail: [mrubin@sulross.edu](mailto:mrubin@sulross.edu)  
Office Hours: By Appointment.

**Texts:**

Turvey B. (2012). *Criminal Profiling: An Introduction to Behavioral Evidence Analysis*.  
Boston: Elsevier/Academic Press. ISBN: 978-0-12-385243-4.

**Criminal Justice Graduate Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

**CJ PLO 1:** Ability to identify, assess and compare policy processes and outcomes in criminal justice. Ability to identify and analyze various legal challenges to laws and policies within criminal justice.

**CJ PLO 2:** Applicable knowledge of specific Criminological theories. The ability to identify and apply Criminological theories to criminal events. A working skill set of Criminological theory, with the ability to compare and contrast competing theoretical arguments.

**CJ PLO 3:** Develop a working knowledge of the process and application of the methods of scientific research. The ability to critique a piece of research based on its methodology. Develop the ability to apply research to Criminal Justice and Homeland Security policy.

**Course Description:** This course explores the fundamentals of criminal profiling and behavioral analysis. Discussions will include the definition of profiling, analysis of both the psychological basis and practical applications of criminal profiling, its uses in investigations and the court system, and historical applications in theory and practice. Students will also explore the relationship between profiling and its application in crime and crime scene analysis, forensic science, and specific crimes.

**Platform:** This course will be contained within the Blackboard format and will not meet in person during the term. **Students are expected to log in regularly to complete assignments.** Students should familiarize themselves with all of the sections of blackboard available for this course. Assignments and tests will be listed under the appropriate subheading. Students will also need to become familiar with the discussion board for completing some of this work.

**As this is a graduate course, students will be expected to be self motivated, and work independently.** Standards for graduate courses are higher than those for undergraduate work – students will engage in more research, reading, and writing. 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 Help Desk at 432-837-8888 locally, 8888 from on campus or 1-888-837-2882 from out of area. You can also log into the LTAC system and create a ticket by going to <https://techassist.sulross.edu/> If you report an issue through the Help Desk or create a ticket by logging into the system, you should send me an email with a description of your issue and the ticket number so I can help ensure that technical issues are addressed and do not negatively affect your grades. If you do not promptly report your technical problems, you will not get credit for any work affected by the problem.

**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.

**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 Grace Duffy in the Accessibility Services Office, Ferguson Hall 112, Box C-122, (432) 837-8203.

**Requirements:** Final grades for this course will be based on your performance on the following items:

- Discussion Forums (10 @ 10% each) 100%

### **Discussion Questions:**

The ONLY method of student learning and evaluation in this class will be discussion forums.

It is my opinion that discussion forums are a place for students to learn from each other. As a graduate class, you rely more on each other to foster learning than you do on the professor. That being said, while I read EVERY post in the discussion forums, I rarely interject myself into the discussions; I rarely respond to individual posts. I share my viewpoints in Announcements to the class. If you wish to discuss a particular issue, please let me know and I will respond accordingly.

Since discussion forums are the primary place of learning in an online class, students will need to log frequently in order to deal with discussion forums 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, if not daily. **The professor will review all initial posts and responses, but may or may not respond to individual students.**

The course week runs from Thursday to Wednesday of each week. Students will be presented with a discussion question related to the chapter readings and related lecture notes for the week. Discussion questions will become visible each Thursday at 6:00AM. Students are expected to post their initial response to the discussion thread **NO LATER THAN Sunday at 11:59PM Central Time** of each week. Late initial posts will have a 20% deduction.

Thereafter, students must respond to AT LEAST two of their classmates **NO LATER THAN 11:59PM on Wednesday** of each week a discussion question is due. Responses must be presented as critical comments of a substantive nature. Responses that simply state a student's agreement with the initial post will not be accepted. Responses must be civil in tone and not derogatory towards the initial poster's opinion. This is a forum for learning and, while differences of opinion are permitted, respect for opposing opinions must be accompanied by mutual respect. **The discussion question will close on Wednesday at 11:59PM.** Your responses should be AT LEAST 100 words in length (*again, yes, I count*).

## Course Schedule

### Week 1

**7 – 13 July 2016:**

**Textbook Reading:** Chapters 1, 5, and 9

**Deliverable:** Discussion Questions DQ-00, DQ-01, DQ-02

### Week 2

**14 – 20 July 2016**

**Textbook Reading:** Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 10

**Deliverable:** Discussion Questions DQ-03, DQ-04

### Week 3

**21 – 27 July 2016**

**Textbook Reading:** Chapters 14, 15, 16, and 17

**Deliverable:** Discussion Questions DQ-05, DQ-06

### Week 4

**28 July – 3 Aug 2016**

**Textbook Reading:** Chapters 22 and 23

**Deliverable:** Discussion Questions DQ-07, DQ-08

### Week 5

**4 – 10 Aug 2016**

**Textbook Reading:** Chapters 28, 30, and 31

**Deliverable:** Discussion Questions DQ-09, DQ-10