

**Criminal Justice 3303**  
**Crime and Justice in the Movies**  
**Wednesday 6:00pm-8:50pm**  
**MAB 107**

Instructor: Liza Ware  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 2-4 or by appointment  
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**Course Description:** This course is will focus on Movies based on true events; there will be fictional movies as well. Following each Film we will have a discussion and quiz. There will not be a midterm or Final exam for this class. It is imperative students attend each class as there will not be any make-up work allowed. There will be assignments throughout the semester based on the films and the true life events, i.e. papers on court cases, perpetrators, victims etc...

***Keep in mind Films may contain violence, vulgar language, nudity, graphic scenes etc...***

**Class Participation:**

Students are encouraged to ask questions and express opinions, however, talking among students and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Reading outside materials such as newspapers or other course work is not permitted during class time. Students should be prepared to engage in discussion over the film and for possible pop quizzes.

**Turn off all cell phones, headphones/I-pods etc.**

**Quizzes and assignments:**

There will be a quiz about the film and any outside information presented. Students will be given tasks to complete before watching the movie. This will include reading biographies, looking up pertinent terms, and news stories.

**Grades:** Quizzes will account for 90% of your final grade, attendance will make up the other 10%.

**Attendance:**

The Department of Criminal Justice feels very strongly that class attendance is a direct predictor of student classroom success. Therefore, the faculty of the CJ department as a group will enforce the following student attendance policy. This policy does not supersede the SRSU policy on student attendance; it simply reinforces those stated goals. Criminal justice faculty will take class attendance. In accordance with current SRSU policy, when a student misses a total of 9 hours of class, the presumption is that the student will be dropped from that class with an "F". Students who violate the SRSU attendance policy may also find that they are ineligible for any extra credit or any discretionary grading curve applied to any or all exams for that course/semester. It should also be noted that it is the **student's responsibility** to inform the

instructor prior to any University event that would cause an absence. Failure of the student to inform the instructor will result in that absence being recorded as **unexcused**. Attendance is important! Attendance demonstrates maturity, responsibility and a serious attitude toward education. Many times students wish letters of recommendation from their instructors. Prospective employers or graduate programs are all interested in a student's class attendance record. Additionally, instructors seldom teach only from the book. Missing a class (even an excused absence) will put you at a disadvantage for all of the materials covered when you were absent such as films, presentations, and guest lectures which cannot be made up. Attendance will be taken each class meeting; absences cannot be made up. **Students should be in class on time and should be prepared to stay for the entire class period. Students who are late will not be counted as attending if attendance has already been taken.**

**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).

**Any student needing special assistance on any aspect of the class needs to see the instructor immediately.**

**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).**

Remember this is a tentative schedule/plan for class; the Professor reserves the right to change whatever she feels is necessary.

### **Tentative schedule for Crime in the Movies**

This is a tentative schedule; films will be adjusted as necessary this is a list of possible films we will be watching

**Films:**

*A Time to Kill*  
*Monster*  
*Dahmer*  
*Zodiac Killer*  
*Goodfellas*  
*Heat of the Night*

*Serpico*  
*Casino*  
*Mobsters*  
*Gacy*  
*Seven*  
*American Psycho*

*To Kill A Mockingbird*  
*American History X*  
*Lincoln Lawyer*  
*Fracture*  
*Reservoir Dogs*  
*Pulp Fiction*

*Untouchables*  
*Henry Portrait of a Serial Killer*

*Mystic River*  
*Double Indemnity*

March 13-17th

SPRING BREAK Enjoy! Be Safe

May 5, 8-10

Graduation May 12, 2017

## **Undergraduate Criminal Justice Student Learning Objectives**

UG-CJ-SLO1: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities.

UG-CJ-SLO2: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories, and apply those theories to an analysis of practical criminal justice events.

UG-CJ-SLO3: Student will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice System, ability to identify the individual parts and costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and demonstrated knowledge in recognizing the political influences on the CJ system

### **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.