

Sul Ross State University

Crime Analysis

Fall 2022

CJ 4302 Syllabus

Instructor: Oguzhan Basibuyuk, Ph.D

Campus Office: MAB 109

Telephone: 432 8378166

E-mail:oguzhan.basibuyuk@sulross.edu

Class hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 11:00-11:50 AM

Classroom: MAB 204

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday between 1:00 PM and 3 PM

REQUIRED TEXT(S)

Santos, R. B. (2016). *Crime Analysis with Crime Mapping. Sage (4th edition)*. ISBN: 978-1-5063-3103-4

<http://sulross.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php?action=browse#books/3371513/>

Clarke, R. V., & Eck, J. (2005). *Crime Analysis for Problem Solvers in 60 Small Steps*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

<https://popcenter.asu.edu/sites/default/files/library/reading/PDFs/60Steps.pdf>

<http://sulross.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php?action=browse#books/3371513/>

Additional readings (e.g., articles, reports) will be posted on Blackboard.

SRSU LIBRARY SERVICES

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, www.library.sulross.edu . Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Once you logged in to your Sul Ross Account on Blackboard you should be automatically connected to the library webpage as well. Thus, you can browse the online databases of the University and reach the articles on the reading list.

Syllabus is subject to updates and changes always look to the course announcements and reminders for updates. The faculty member reserves the right to amend this syllabus as needed.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to introduce you to the field of crime analysis. More specifically, the course focuses on the application of analytical techniques that support crime intervention and prevention strategies. Subspecialties include, but are not limited to: (1) analysis of crime in time, (2) analysis of crime in space, (3) analysis of crime targets/victims, and (4) intelligence analysis. The analytical process incorporates innovative strategic and crime mapping tactical applications.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide knowledge about various topics related to crime analysis. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

LO1- Understand the definition and fundamentals of crime analysis.

LO2- Learn, examine, and discuss the different theoretical foundations of crime analysis.

LO3- Able to explain the concept of the evidence-based policing and the role of crime analysis.

LO4- Develop competencies in the crime analysis process, application, data, and technology.

LO5- Develop competencies in geographic data and crime mapping

LO6- Understand the concepts and the main goals of repeat incidents and tactical data collection

LO7- Understand the definition and importance of administrative crime analysis and crime analysis for accountability

MARKETABLE SKILLS:

This course is designed also to help the students for building various marketable skills to use in their in careers Criminal Justice related professions. Specifically, in this course, the following marketable skills, which are some of the most important skills for such careers, will be emphasized during this course:

MS 1- Verbal and Written Communication Skills

MS 2- Critical Thinking and Observation

MS 3- Multicultural Understanding.

MS 4- Accessing Resources with Crime Data and the most current updates of legal codes and procedures.

MS 5- Teamwork and Working Collaboratively

MS 6- Analyzing the Factors Contributing to Crime

GENERAL CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Students are encouraged to attend the class, ask questions and express opinions, however, talking among students and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. You may bring beverages to class with you, but not food. 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 assigned readings, and for possible pop quizzes. Electronic devices are never allowed to use in class in a way to distract the instructor and other students. Keep your mobile phone in silent mode, otherwise switch it off. Violation of this crucial principal will be penalized. There will be one general rule in class which applies to all situations. This is also called “golden rule”. TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED.

GRADING:

Each student will submit 6 crime analysis reports (10% each for a total of 60%), and take an in-class exam (25%). More instructions on the assignments will be announced during the semester. The assignments will cover the following topics:

1. Theory Application

Each student will be assigned one specific type of crime activity (e.g., assaults at high schools). Using that type of activity, you will develop questions that need to be answered to analyze each aspect of the problem analysis triangle. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

2. Primary Data Collection

Each student will collect primary data (observations) about one crime problem that will be posted on BlackBoard. Specifically, we will go to the location of the crimes using Google Earth, collect data on the location type (e.g., commercial or residential) where crimes were committed, and then compare the incidents. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

3. Crime Mapping Exercise

Each student will find 2 examples of crime maps from any source (e.g., the Internet, newspapers, magazines, your local police department) and provide the information below. You should be choosy in your selections, so that you can discuss each of the following components: Type of map (single symbol, graduated by size, etc.); Geographic area represented in the map (e.g., city, state, neighborhood); Data on the map (e.g., crime, population, accidents); Time period of the data (i.e., list dates); Creator of the map (e.g., agency and individual, if listed). The information for all maps should be formatted into ONE Word document. It should be single spaced using the numbers and text above for each category discussed. Also, use headers MAP #1, MAP #2, etc. for the information for each map and insert a page break between the write up for each map. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

4. Tactical Coding Exercise

Each student will develop a tactical crime analysis matrix and code 10 of the police reports that are posted on BlackBoard. Each matrix will have ten records (rows) and 16 variables (columns). The variables will be announced in the classroom. You can either do this by hand or use a computer. Then, you will discuss the likely patterns across those 10 incidents in which offenders are unknown. Turn in a copy of the paper matrix at the beginning of next class. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

5. Pattern Bulletin Development

Each student will apply all analysis techniques that they have learned in this semester into a specific crime type. For this, you will work with a dataset that includes crimes committed between August 2015 and January 2016. For the spatial analysis, you will find a Google Earth file in kmz format. This assignment has three main objectives. 1) to practice the spatial analysis of a specific crime behavior, 2) to practice the analysis of time aspect of the crime, and 3) to develop a pattern bulletin if a pattern emerges out of the analysis after you combine both analyses (synthesis). More specific instructions will be provided in the classroom. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

6. Strategic Crime Analysis

Each student will explore patterns and trends of different crimes from various aspects in Scranton. In the analysis, you will first analyze general trends of UCR Part I crimes in the sample data to figure out which crime is consistently increasing over the past five years. Then, you will go deeper and analyze victims, arrestees, and property values for the acute problem in the jurisdiction to inform policy makers. More specific instructions will be provided in the classroom. 10% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

Reports are to be submitted via BlackBoard and handed in as hard copy.

No late papers will be accepted.

Midterm Exam: Students will take a mid-term exam to demonstrate their knowledge on the concepts and methods that they learned in the first half of the semester before the start of the hands-on part of the course. 25% of final grade. Due date will be announced during the class.

Participation: Each student's participation grade will reflect the level of engagement in class discussion and in-class activities, and it will be an ORAL examination. A significant portion of each class session will be devoted to discussing the assigned readings and applying what we have learned into different scenarios and real crime problems. You are expected to contribute to each class by voicing your ideas, comments, questions, and contribution to the analysis. To prepare for class, you

should complete the assigned readings, take notes on the authors' main points, and think about possible questions or discussion points for the class. In addition, you should bring up to the classroom the issues that you came across in conducting your analysis.

Students will be randomly asked to summarize the readings with discussion questions for each session. The accuracy of the answer will affect the participation grade. Participation is worth 10% of final grade.

Assignments	60 pts
In-Class Exam	25 pts
Attendance	5 pts
Participation	10 pts
Total	100 pts

Grading System

90-100 = A 80-89.9 = B 70-79.9 = C 60-69.9 = D under 60 = F

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).

IN-CLASS and ON-LINE 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. 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 daily and 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.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND BLACKBOARD HELP DESK

Sul Ross State University has established a variety of programs to help students meet the challenges of college life. Support to students includes advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and writing assistance. For a complete list of academic support services, visit the Student Support Services <https://www.sulross.edu/section/311/student-support-services>. For more information, students are encouraged to contact SSS at (432) 837-9118 or visit Ferguson Hall Room 105. For Blackboard help visit <https://www.sulross.edu/bb> or call 432-837-8523 (M-F 09:00 am-06:00 pm). You can get The Distance Education Handbook at <https://tvpb.sulross.edu/start/index.html>

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

W	DATES	TOPICS	READINGS
1	Aug.22-27	Introduction Crime Analysis and the Profession 1. Rethink Your Job	Santos (2017): Ch. 1 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 1
2	Aug.29-Sept.3	Theoretical Foundations of Crime Analysis 8. Use the problem analysis triangle 9. Know that opportunity makes the thief 10. Put yourself in offender`s shoes	Santos (2017): Ch. 2 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 8 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 9 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 10
3	Sept-5-10	Evidence-Based Policing and the Role of Crime Analysis 3. Know what is effective (and not) in policing 15. Know What Kind of Problem You Have Assignment # 1 Due	Santos (2017): Ch. 3 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 3 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 15
4	Sept-12-17	Crime Analysis Process and Application 19. Research Your Problem	Santos (2017): Ch. 4 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 19
5	Sept-19- 23	Crime Analysis Data & Technology 21. Collect Your Own Data	Santos (2017): Ch. 5 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 21
6	Sept.26- Oct 1	Geographic Data and Crime Mapping 16. Study the journey to crime 17. Know how hot spots develop Assignment # 2 Due	Santos (2017): Ch. 6 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 16 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 17 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 23
7	Oct.3-8	Crime Analysis Purpose and Audience 54. Tell a clear story 56. Use simple tables 57. Use simple figures	Santos (2017): Ch. 7 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 54 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 56 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 57
8	Oct. 10-15	Repeat Incidents and Tactical Data Collection 35. Understand the crime from beginning to end	Santos (2017): Ch. 8 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 35 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 36

		36. Be sure to answer the five "W" (and one "H") questions	
9	Oct. 17-22	MIDTERM EXAM Pattern Identification Process Chapter 1-9 Review 28. Identify risky facilities 29. Be ready for repeat victimization 30. Consider repeat offending 31. Know the products that are CRAVED by thieves	Santos (2017): Ch. 9 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 28 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 29 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 30 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 31
10	Oct.24-29	Identifying Meaningful/Useful Patterns Assignment # 3 Due	Santos (2017): Ch. 10
11	Oct.31-Nov. 5	Describing and Disseminating Known Patterns 23. Diagnose your hot spot 25. Pay attention to daily and weekly rhythms 26. Take account of long-term change Assignment # 4 Due	Santos (2017): Ch. 11 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 23 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 25 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 26
12	Nov.7-12	Analyzing Problems: Process and Statistics 7. Be guided by SARA- not led astray 27. Know how to use rates and denominators Assignment # 5 Due	Santos (2017): Ch. 12 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 7 Clarke & Eck (2005): Step 27
13	Nov.14-19	Analyzing Problems: Application of Techniques Part I	Santos (2017): Ch. 13 -14
14	Nov. 21-26	Analyzing Problems: Application of Techniques Part II	Santos (2017): Ch. 14
15	Nov. 28- Dec. 1	General Review of the course Assignment # 6 Due	
	Dec. 2-7	Final Exam Week	

END OF COURSE EVALUATIONS:

Student evaluations of faculty are administered online at the end of each term/session for all courses with five or more students. Students will receive an email containing a link to a survey for each course in which they are enrolled. All responses are anonymous.