

CJ 5326 - Victimology

Online

Sul Ross State University

Fall 2026

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Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive overview of victimization, exploring its diverse causes and far-reaching consequences. Students will gain an understanding of the complex interactions between victims, the criminal justice system, and various social services. By examining the root causes of victimization, students will develop the critical thinking skills necessary to apply key concepts to real-world scenarios.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the Evolution of Victimology. Explore the historical development and key milestones in victimology, and discuss how societal perceptions of victims have changed.
- Illustrate the Victim's Journey. Create visual representations of a victim's journey through the criminal justice system and identify challenges at each stage.
- Analyze Crime Measurement Methods. Evaluate UCR, NIBRS, and NCVS, and discuss their implications for criminal justice policy.
- Examine Theories and Factors of Victimization. Explore theories explaining victimization and apply them to case studies.
- Investigate the Victim-Offender Overlap. Discuss the complexities of the victim-offender relationship and present case studies highlighting the overlap.
- Assess the Consequences of Victimization. Examine the physical, emotional, and psychological effects of victimization and discuss strategies for preventing repeat victimization.
- Explore Legal and Community Responses. Investigate legal aspects and community responses, and evaluate restorative justice efforts and support services.
- Understand Specific Types of Victimization. Examine intimate partner violence, child and elder abuse, and hate crimes, and discuss advocacy efforts for these populations.

Materials

Daigle, L. E., & Muftic, L. R. (2020). Victimology: A comprehensive approach (2nd ed.). SAGE Publications.

Print ISBN: 9781544344126

Class Schedule

Week	Dates	Subject Title
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1	August 24-30, 2026	Introduction to Victimology
2	August 31-September 6, 2026	Measuring and Extent of Victimization
3	September 7-13, 2026	Theories and Factors of Victimization
4	September 14-20, 2026	The Victim-Offender Overlap
5	September 21-27, 2026	Consequences of Victimization
6	September 28-October 4, 2026	Recurring Victimization
7	October 5-11, 2026	Victims' Rights and Remedies
8	October 12-18, 2026	Understanding and Measuring Homicide Victimization
9	October 19-25, 2026	Types, Theories, and Responses to Homicide Victimization
10	October 26-November 1, 2026	Understanding Sexual Victimization
11	November 2-8, 2026	Responses, Consequences, and Special Considerations in Sexual Victimization
12	November 9-15, 2026	Intimate Partner Violence
13	November 16-22, 2026	Victimization at the Beginning and End of Life
14	November 23-29, 2026	Victimization of Special Populations
15	November 30-December 6, 2026	Victimization at School and Work
16	December 7-9, 2026	Contemporary Issues in Victimology

Chapter Readings

Week	Subject Title	Chapter Readings
1	Introduction to Victimology	Chapter 1: Introduction to Victimology
2	Measuring and Extent of Victimization	Chapter 2: Measuring and Extent of Victimization
3	Theories and Factors of Victimization	Chapter 2: Theories, Explanations, and Factors of Victimization
4	The Victim-Offender Overlap	Chapter 3: The Victim-Offender Overlap
5	Consequences of Victimization	Chapter 4: Consequences of Victimization
6	Recurring Victimization	Chapter 5: Recurring Victimization
7	Victims' Rights and Remedies	Chapter 6: Victims' Rights and Remedies
8	Understanding and Measuring Homicide Victimization	Chapter 7: Homicide Victimization
9	Types, Theories, and Responses to Homicide Victimization	Chapter 7: Homicide Victimization
10	Understanding Sexual Victimization	Chapter 8: Sexual Victimization

11	Responses, Consequences, and Special Considerations in Sexual Victimization	Chapter 8: Sexual Victimization
12	Intimate Partner Violence	Chapter 9: Intimate Partner Violence
13	Victimization at the Beginning and End of Life	Chapter 10: Victimization at the Beginning and End of Life
14	Victimization of Special Populations	Chapter 11: Victimization of Special Populations
15	Victimization at School and Work	Chapter 12: Victimization at School and Work
16	Contemporary Issues in Victimology	Chapter 13: Contemporary Issues in Victimology

Assignments

Module 1: Introduction to Victimology

- Discussion: The Evolution of Victimology
- Assignment: The Victim's Journey: A Visual Representation

Module 2: Measuring and Extent of Victimization

- Discussion: Measuring Victimization
- Assignment: Essay on Crime Measurement Methods

Module 3: Theories and Factors of Victimization

- Discussion: Theories of Victimization
- Assignment: Victimization Theory Case Study

Module 4: The Victim-Offender Overlap

- Discussion: Blurred Lines
- Assignment: The Victim-Offender Overlap: A 5-Minute Case Study Presentation

Module 5: Consequences of Victimization

- Discussion: The Ripple Effect
- Assignment: The Impact of Trauma

Module 6: Recurring Victimization

- Discussion: Breaking the Cycle
- Assignment: Preventing Repeat Victimization

Module 7: Victims' Rights and Remedies

- Discussion: Empowering Victims
- Assignment: Victims' Rights Advocacy White Paper

Module 8: Understanding and Measuring Homicide Victimization

- Discussion: Understanding Homicide
- Assignment: Homicide Victim Impact Statement

Module 9: Types, Theories, and Responses to Homicide Victimization

- Discussion: Investigating and Prosecuting Homicide
- Assignment: Cold Case Analysis

Module 10: Understanding Sexual Victimization

- Discussion: Breaking the Silence
- Assignment: Sexual Assault Prevention Campaign

Module 11: Responses, Consequences, and Special Considerations in Sexual Victimization

- Discussion: Digital Dangers
- Assignment: Technology and Sexual Violence

Module 12: Intimate Partner Violence

- Discussion: The Cycle of Abuse
- Assignment: IPV Shelter Advocacy

Module 13: Victimization at the Beginning and End of Life

- Discussion: Protecting the Vulnerable
- Assignment: Vulnerable Populations Advocacy

Module 14: Victimization of Special Populations

- Discussion: Disproportionate Risks
- Assignment: Hate Crime Awareness Presentation

Module 15: Victimization at School and Work

- Discussion: Safe Spaces
- Assignment: Victimization at School and Work: Public Service Announcement

Module 16: Contemporary Issues in Victimology

- No Week 16 discussion board and no separate Week 16 assignment.
- Final Paper: Contemporary Challenges in Victimology, 10 to 12 pages, due Wednesday, December 9, 2026

Course Submission Guidelines

- Discussion main posts are due by 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time on Thursdays in Weeks 1 through 15.
- Discussion replies are due by 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time on Sundays in Weeks 1 through 15.
- Assignments are due by 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time on Sundays in Weeks 1 through 15.
- The final paper is due Wednesday, December 9, 2026, by 11:59 PM Mountain Standard Time.

Late Policy

Late discussions will not be accepted after the close of the week, 11:59 PM on Sunday. Assignments submitted after the deadline will incur a 10 percent deduction per day for a maximum of four days. After four days, the assignment will no longer be accepted. In exceptional circumstances, such as documented illness or emergency, please contact your instructor for possible accommodation.

Basis for Final Grade

Every graded item in this course is worth 100 points. Your final grade is calculated by category weight, not by a running point total, so each category counts toward your grade in the proportion shown below.

Category	Items	Points Each	Weight
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Weekly Discussions	15	100	30%
Weekly Assignments	15	100	55%
Final Paper	1	100	15%
Total			100%

Grade Distribution

Percentage	Grade	Description
90-100%	A	Excellent
80-89%	B	Better than Average
70-79%	C	Average
60-69%	D	Below Average
Below 60%	F	Failing

Technology Requirements

Blackboard is an integral course management tool for this class. Regularly checking Blackboard is mandatory to stay updated on course developments. Throughout the course, several Blackboard features will be utilized, including email, course documents, the discussion board, grade center, external links, and SafeAssign.

This course requires significant online activity. To participate and progress, students must have:

- Basic computer skills, including sending and retrieving emails, opening and attaching files for course assignments, and locating websites and resources on the internet
- Regular access to the internet, along with alternative locations for internet access such as the campus library

Any additional reading materials, resources, and other information will be posted in Blackboard under the heading "Materials." Students will be notified on how to access this information by the instructor via email and Blackboard announcements.

Assessment Rubric

- Assignments are graded with a rubric created by the instructor. Students will have access to their grades via the Blackboard grade center, along with feedback.
- Discussion forums are graded based on a rubric outlining expectations and point allocation. Feedback will be given alongside the grade after the instructor has evaluated the discussion.

Any student needing special assistance for any class aspect should contact the instructor immediately.

Support for Students with Disabilities

Qualified students with disabilities needing accommodations to ensure full participation in programs, services, and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Counseling and Accessibility Services Office in Ferguson Hall 112, Box C-117, at 432-837-8203.

ADA Statement: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with qualifying disabilities who seek accommodations must initiate a request for a meeting for accessibility services. Contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Counseling and Accessibility Services at 432-837-8203 or rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. More information is available at <https://www.sulross.edu/page/1384/accessibility-services>.

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. Online assignments should be submitted through Blackboard or SRSU email, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and protect their information. Procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Maintaining appropriate equipment and software is required according to the course's needs and requirements, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Attendance

Students are expected to regularly check Blackboard for assignments and pertinent information. The Department of Criminal Justice emphasizes that attendance is a direct predictor of student success. Therefore, CJ faculty will enforce a strict attendance policy. Students must log in for updates, assignments, discussion boards, and other course activity. Failure to log in will result in being dropped from the course for failure to attend.

It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any events that would prevent participation. Students may email the instructor. Attendance demonstrates maturity, responsibility, and a serious attitude toward education. Many times, students seek letters of recommendation from their instructors. Prospective employers and graduate programs are all interested in a student's class attendance record.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

In the learning environment, professional attitude begins in the classroom. Students and faculty will not tolerate or commit any form of academic dishonesty. This includes:

- Copying work from any source
- Assisting or allowing another to commit academic dishonesty
- Sharing answers during a test or in submitting an assignment
- Claiming another's work, data, or creative efforts as your own
- Resubmitting graded assignments for multiple classes
- Providing false information about your academic performance to the college

To avoid plagiarism, do not copy and paste into assignments without using proper quotation marks and citing the source in APA format.

Unauthorized Use of AI Tools

The unauthorized use of AI tools is considered academic dishonesty. Examples include:

- Using AI to generate essay content and submitting it as your own work without proper attribution

- Allowing AI tools to complete assignments or quizzes on your behalf
- Copying responses generated by AI and presenting them as original ideas or answers
- Using AI to rephrase or paraphrase your own work or another's work

Plagiarism Rules and Resources

- Direct quotes should be used very sparingly. Always provide a citation and use quotation marks or indented quotes for direct quotes.
- Paraphrasing and indirect quotations require a citation even if you change the sentence structure or words.
- Cite the source of ideas that are not your own, even if written in your words.
- Acknowledge all contributors when submitting collaborative work.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

Violations of academic policy are documented and may result in:

- Reduction in grade on the assignment
- No credit on the assignment
- A failing grade for the course
- Suspension or dismissal from the college

Dropping the Course

Students who wish to drop the class should follow the procedures outlined by Sul Ross State University. Failure to do so may result in an F grade. Consult the Sul Ross State University Student Handbook or university catalog for details.

Library

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers free resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password.

Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email at srsulibrary@sulross.edu, or by phone at 432-837-8123.

In some cases, you can borrow textbooks from the library. WorldCat allows you to be linked to libraries across America. If you find the book in the system, fill out a request form at the library.

Netiquette

Netiquette guidelines govern online behavior. All participants in the course are expected to contribute to the learning environment in a respectful manner when posting information. Additionally, academic discourse is expected. Helpful reminders are available at <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>.