**CJ-1340***Criminal Investigations*



  Instructor Contact Information

**Instructor:**Richard Los

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**Office Hours:**By appointment

**Office Number:**801-863-5419

  Course Description

Introduces the fundamentals of criminal investigations. Examines the techniques commonly utilized by investigative personnel for crimes against property and persons to include case management and documentation, interacting with victims, witnesses and suspects, and crime scene analysis.

***This is a core course for AA and BS degrees in Criminal Justice. It does not fulfill any GE requirements.***

  Course Outcomes

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

·         Describe the role of the first responders and crime scene investigators.

·         Evaluate the facts and circumstances of a crime scene.

·         Distinguish the appropriate investigative techniques to be applied to each individual crime scene.

·         Develop a method from which to interact, interview and/or interrogate victims, witnesses and suspects.

·         Describe the process of crime scene analysis and evidence gathering principles.

  Prerequisites and Needed Skills

**Course Prerequisites**

·         CJ 1010

·         CJ 1390 is also strongly recommended as a pre- or co-requisite for Criminal Justice majors

  Materials, Fees and Technology Tools

**Required Text**

·         Hess, K. M., Orthmann, H. C., & Cho, H. L. (2016). *Criminal Investigation* (11th ed.). Cengage Learning.

o    The 10th edition is fine to use as well.

·         **ChatGPT (and similar AI Tools) in This Course**

AI programs are not a replacement for your human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Writing, thinking, and researching are crafts that you must develop over time to develop your own individual voice.  At the same time, you should learn how to use AI and in what instances AI can be helpful to you.

The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

o    Brainstorming and refining your ideas;

o    Fine tuning your research questions;

o    Finding information on your topic;

o    Drafting an outline to organize your thoughts; and

o    Checking grammar and style.

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:

o    Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts/responses assigned to you or content that you put into a Teams/Canvas chat.

o    Completing group work that your group has assigned to you, unless it is mutually agreed upon that you may utilize the tool.

o    Writing a draft of a writing assignment.

o    Writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class assignments.

You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited in order to stay within university policies on academic honesty.

Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate what work is the student’s work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please reach out to me for a conversation before submitting your work.

How This Course Works

**Course Mode:**

This is an online course. All course content, assignments, and activities are located in Canvas. You are expected to log in to Canvas daily to complete all activities and assignments.

**Description of how course works:**

Because this is an online course, all coursework, materials, assignments, and assessments will reside in Canvas. It is your responsibility to access the course on a regular basis if you wish to pass the class. Don't fall behind.

For this **three (3) credit-hour** course students should expect to spend up to**9+ hours a week** completing course activities.

The syllabus and course outline provide a general plan for the course. Deviation from this plan may be necessary at the discretion of the professor.

**Student Responsibilities:**

·         *Start class the first week of the term.*

·         ***Be accountable by setting aside regular time each week to complete online course activities and assignments on time as noted per the due dates****.*

·         *Learn how to use Canvas including communication tools (e.g. discussion, Canvas inbox, etc.). Learn how to use Microsoft Teams to hold video/voice meetings, post chats, and retrieve files. If you have technology-related problems contact the*[*Service DeskLinks to an external site.*](https://www.uvu.edu/servicedesk/)*.*

·         *Be accountable for course requirements, including adequate preparation through related course materials, and learning activities.*

·         *Abide by ethical standards. Your work must be your own. Academic misbehavior will not be tolerated* *in my class. Students will receive a failing grade for the course (“E”) in addition to being reported to the Student Conduct and Dispute Resolution office for a recommendation of removal from the institution. See the*[*UVU Student ConductLinks to an external site.*](https://www.uvu.edu/catalog/current/policies-requirements/student-code-of-conduct.html)*.*

·         *Contact your instructor as early as possible if an emergency arises. Do NOT wait until the last minute to ask for an extension. Extensions are given only when a viable emergency exists AND you have communicated with me early.*

**Instructor Responsibilities:**

·         *Maintain an active presence in the course.*

·         *Respond to emails within ONE business day. Emails received after 12 pm MST on Friday will be responded to by noon the following Monday. If multiple emails are received regarding the same question or concern, they may be responded to with an announcement to the entire class.*

·         *Provide timely, meaningful and constructive feedback on assignments.*

·         *Facilitate an effective learning experience.*

·         *Refer students to appropriate services for issues that are non-course content specific. For instance, technical issue, writing labs, accessibility services, etc.*

·         *Mentor students through the course.*

**Inclusion Statement**

“Come as you are. UVU has a place for you.” — President Tuminez

Your experience in this class is important to me and I want you to feel included, respected and that your voice is heard.  As your instructor, it is my intent to create an inclusive and equitable learning atmosphere that is representative of a diversity of perspectives, and where all students are encouraged to share, express, and contribute in a safe environment.  Please feel free to contact me if you would like to talk about any suggestions and/or concerns. If that feels uncomfortable to you, you can also contact [the link for the Inclusion and Diversity CommitteeLinks to an external site.](https://www.uvu.edu/inclusion/home/eid-committee.html). to ask for help and support.

 Grading and Late Work Statement

**Grading Scale:**

Grades are issued at the end of each semester. All grades earned will be reflected on and remain on the official academic transcript. The following grading standards will be used in this class:

|  |
| --- |
| Grading Scale |
| **Grade** | **Percent of Points** |
| **A** | 95-100 |
| **A-** | 90-94 |
| **B+** | 86-89 |
| **B** | 83-85 |
| **B-** | 80-82 |
| **C+** | 76-79 |
| **C** | 73-75 |
| **C-** | 70-72 |
| **D+** | 66-69 |
| **D** | 63-65 |
| **D-** | 60-62 |
| **E** | 0-59 |

**Assignment Categories**

| Assignment Categories |
| --- |
| **Activity** | **Points** | **Percent** |
|  |  |  |
| Chapter Outlines | 260 | 13% |
| Discussions | 200 | 10% |
| Assignments | 300 | 15% |
| Chapter Quizzes | 900 | 45% |
| Final Exam | 340 | 17% |
| **Total** | 2000 | 100% |

**Late Work Statement:**

All late work will receive a 10% deduction from the score. If there is a reason for the late work, the instructor will talk with or email the student and determine if the deduction will apply.

 Assignment and Assessment Descriptions

**Chapter Outlines**

For each chapter you read, you will create an outline, flyer, bullet list, infographic, or whatever you might want to design that covers the major points of the chapter. You will use these outlines to study for your quizzes and exams, so make sure you include the most important information. The outlines should be good enough to hand to another student to help them understand and remember the concepts in the chapter.

**Discussions**

Discussions will be opportunities to explore topics together.  Posts to the discussion should add significantly to the conversation and support your point of view. *Comments that do not add significantly to a discussion will receive****no credit****.* It is okay to disagree in a discussion.  In fact much learning happens when we disagree.  However we need to be respectful and keep our online classroom a safe place to learn.

Due dates for discussions correspond with the initial post due date, which is **Thursday**.  Follow up comments are due by **Sunday**. Follow up posts are expected to be after the due date and are not marked late.  Discussions conclude by the **Sunday** following the due date. After this, posts will be marked late.

**Assignments**

There will be several assignments in this class, including reflection papers. For one of your assignments, you will be setting up a fake crime scene to give you practice with documenting evidence. Regardless of what you are tasked with, you are expected to critically evaluate what you are learning and apply it to your assignment.

**Assessments**

You will complete a chapter quiz at the end of each module (usually 15 questions) covering information from your text book. The comprehensive final exam covers the material from the textbook.

 Course Schedule

[**Course Schedule**](https://uvu.instructure.com/courses/576706/pages/course-schedule)

 UVU Policies and Resources

[**Policies and ProceduresLinks to an external site.**](https://www.uvu.edu/otl/students/policiesandprocedures.html)

[**Student Success ResourcesLinks to an external site.**](https://www.uvu.edu/otl/students/index.html)

[**Accessibility Services Links to an external site.**](https://www.uvu.edu/accessibility-services/)

·         Students who need accommodations because of a disability may contact the UVU Office of Accessibility Services (OAS), located on the Orem Campus in LC 312. To schedule an appointment or to speak with a counselor, call the OAS office at 801-863-8747. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals, email nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu or text 385-208-2677.

**Student Advisors**

·         For those students needing assistance in academic affairs in the Criminal Justice or Forensic Science programs, assistance with scheduling, or other academic problems please contact your advisor at [Criminal Justice Department AdvisingLinks to an external site.](https://www.uvu.edu/criminaljustice/advising/index.html).

  Technology Support Services

 For 24/7  technical support contact [Instructure's Canvas Support Live Chat Links to an external site.](https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student&sfid=001A00000085cNxIAI)

 (385) 204-4930 (Available 24/7)