

CRIM 499_SENIOR SEMINAR

Professor: Carrie Trojan, Ph.D.

Office Hours: by appointment/via Zoom

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COURSE OBJECTIVE:

This course integrates fundamental concepts, theories, research methods, and statistics learned within the criminology major. This course serves as the capstone course for the criminology major and is intended to gauge what students have learned in their criminology courses.

TEXTBOOK:

There is no textbook for this course. However, to pass the Senior Assessment exam at the end of the semester, you will need to review the material that you learned in several core courses that comprise the criminology major: CRIM 101: *Introduction to Criminal Justice*, SOCL 300: *Social Statistics*, SOCL 302: *Research Methods*, and CRIM 330: *Criminology*.

GRADE DETERMINATION:

This course is a pass-fail course. In order to 'pass' CRIM 499, you must successfully complete the following task:

1. Achieve a score of at least **60** on the objective Senior Assessment Exam by the dates listed in the course schedule

*Note: Students who fail to achieve a score of 60 on the Senior Assessment Exam will be required to complete a remedial task of the professor's choosing. This remedial task will be graded pass/fail by the professor and possibly one other criminology professor. As this is a pass/fail course, your score on the exam does not reflect a letter grade; if you earn a 60, you earn a grade of pass.

SENIOR ASSESSMENT EXAM

In order to pass this portion of the course, a student must earn a score of 60.

The exam consists of **100** multiple choice questions. There are **4** sections to the exam, each with 25 questions, covering material from the following courses: CRIM 101: *Introduction to Criminal Justice*; CRIM 330: *Criminology*; SOCL 300: *Social Statistics*; and SOCL 302: *Research Methods*.

The exam is taken through blackboard. **The exam can be taken at home; you do not need to go to a proctored testing center.** The exam is **timed**. Students will have *two hours* to complete **all 4 sections of the exam** and you should monitor your time yourself.

Students may take the exam any day from Monday April 12 to Friday April 16. The exam will appear on blackboard beginning Monday April 12 and will shut off at 11:59PM Friday April 16.

The questions were written by full-time faculty who regularly teach that course. A study guide can be found on the course blackboard page. If you have questions about any item within a subject

area, you should go to the professor who taught that course when you took it or whomever is listed as teaching it this semester on the WKU course schedule.

Students are asked to complete the exam in advance of finals week. This is to ensure that if a student does not pass the exam, ample time remains in the semester for them to complete the remedial task, allow me time to grade it, and finish the semester on time.

Covid-19 note: If you become ill from COVID 19 or experience any other extreme situation, notify me ASAP if you feel it will prevent you from taking the exam during the scheduled times.

REMEDIAL ASSIGNMENT

If a student does not earn a score of 60 on the assessment exam, they should contact me via email *immediately* to receive the remedial assignment. This assignment will be graded as pass/fail by either the listed course instructor or a committee of criminology faculty members.

If you are required to complete this assignment, you will submit it via a link in blackboard no later than **Wednesday April 28 by 11:59 PM.**

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	ITEM
Monday March 8	Course begins - students will have access to the study guide
Monday April 12 to Friday April 16	Student must take the Senior Assessment Exam. The exam will be available from 8AM Monday until 11:59 PM Friday on these dates.
Wednesday April 28	Remedial assignment is due by 11:59PM and should be submitted through blackboard. Note: only students failing to earn a score of 60 on the exam are required to complete this assignment.

Resolving Complaints about Grades

The first step in resolving a complaint about grades is for the student to attempt to resolve the problem directly with the course instructor. See the Student Handbook, available at <http://www.wku.edu/handbook/> for additional guidance.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and the Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at <https://www.wku.edu/policies/docs/251.pdf>.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.