

**CRIM 400 - 001: Applied Criminal Psychology  
Spring 2018  
George Mason University  
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30am – 11:45am  
Krug Hall, Room #242**

**Instructor and Contact:**

Instructor: Dr. Terry Gudaitis (Adjunct Faculty)

Contact Info: [tgudaiti@gmu.edu](mailto:tgudaiti@gmu.edu)

In emergencies only: [gudaitis@cybercrimeprofiler.com](mailto:gudaitis@cybercrimeprofiler.com)

Office hours: By appointment, available before or after class

**Email and Communication:**

Please check your Mason email. I will communicate regularly with students through Mason email. See <http://masonlive.gmu.edu> for information on how to use your account. In an emergency, if you need to use a different email address please notify me or set up forwarding to that address. I check my email frequently and it's the quickest way to reach me.

**Course Description and Objectives:**

The objective of this course is to analyze the mind of criminals who commit heinous crimes. This class will examine what factors that influence violent criminals, e.g. environment, mental disorders and personality. We will examine research in the field of criminal investigative analysis. Throughout this course students will learn the history and methods of criminal profiling, analyzing crime scenes for offender behaviors and characteristics utilizing science and logic reasoning. Students will study criminal profiles and equivocal death analysis from forensic and behavioral evidence. This course will also cover forensic victimology.

**Required Textbook:**

Criminal Profiling: An Introduction to Behavioral Evidence Analysis. Fourth Edition.

Author: Brent E. Turvey. ISBN 978-0-12-385243-4

**Disclaimer and Alert:**

The materials we will be covering contain graphic photos and disturbing content, which can be upsetting to some. This class covers several gruesome homicide cases in order for us to learn and analyze offender behavior. Please be advised about this material, as it can be disturbing. If you feel you need to talk to someone, please contact the George Mason Counseling and Psychological Services at 703-993-2380 or online at [caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu).

**Course Format:**

Class will mainly be presented in lecture format. There may be class participation exercises as well as relevant case studies. Corresponding materials will be posted on Blackboard throughout the course or emailed to the students. The posted materials on Blackboard may not necessarily be identical to those presented in class. Therefore, attending lectures on a regular basis will be beneficial to your grade in this course.

**Course Policies:**

Audio recording of lectures to augment in-class note taking is only permitted with advanced notice and with instructor's permission. Videotaping in any form is not permitted. Laptops, iPads & Tablets are permitted but must only be used for note taking. Smartphones should not be used for any reason during class. If you have an emergency (e.g., text, email, or other notice from social media), please excuse yourself from class to respond to the critical communication. Please be respectful of your peers and instructor and do not engage in activities that are unrelated to class.

**Attendance/Class Participation:**

Students are responsible to attend class. Class attendance is mandatory and will impact your grade. An attendance sheet will be passed around or taken during each class. Students are not permitted to sign the attendance sheet for another student. In-class participation is important and adds to the learning environment. Attendance/class participation will impact your final grade.

**Honor Code:**

George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. All students are expected to be familiar with this Honor Code. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See [honorcode.gmu.edu](http://honorcode.gmu.edu) for more detailed information.

**Students with Disabilities:**

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

**Add/Drop Period and Spring 2018 Calendar:**

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. Available from the Registrar's Website at [registrar.gmu.edu](http://registrar.gmu.edu). After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from the class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

A full Spring 2018 calendar is available at: <https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/3-year-calendars/>

**Grading:**

Your final grade will be calculated with four components as follows for a total 100 points:

1. Attendance/Participation: Missing more than 5 classes will lower your final grade by ½ grade (e.g., A to A- or B- to C+)
2. Exam #1: 30 points
3. Exam #2: 30 points
4. Criminal Profile Paper: 40 points

### Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Total Points
A+	97 – 100
A	93 – 96
A -	90 – 92
B+	86 – 89
B	82 – 85
B-	80 – 81
C+	76 – 79
C	72 – 75
C-	70 – 71
D	65 – 69
F	64 and Below

### Exams (30 points each):

The midterm and final exams will be closed book and will use a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks and short answer or essay. Make-up exams will only be given under exceptional, unavoidable circumstances with proper documentation. If you know in advance that you will have to miss an exam, please notify me ASAP.

### Criminal Profile Paper (40 points):

You are to select a serial killer or deviant criminal and explain the biological, situational and developmental factors that contributed to the criminal's behavior. Examine their crimes and provide motive, intent, MO and Signature analysis. The profile paper needs to be thorough and detailed with a comprehensive description of the subject's background (both criminal and noncriminal) including the following:

- Seek to explain the subject criminal's behavior utilizing techniques and theories learned in class.
- Include information on the criminal's M.O./Signature, the offender's motive, and intent.
- Examine victimology and provide forensic victimology if victim information is available.
- Explain other relevant consequences of the crime (e.g., public reaction, secondary victims, media/reporting, law enforcement activities)

The paper should be 10-15 pages in length. References should be from various sources, including but not limited to textbooks, academic journals, professional journals, and web based materials.

NOTE: Wikipedia is not a valid source. All hard copy and online sources need to be properly cited, preferred APA style. You will need to email me who you will be profiling by TUESDAY February 27, 2018.

The paper is due by class on THURSDAY April 12, 2018. **\*\*DIGITAL COPIES ONLY\*\***

Please turn in your report in .docx or .PDF format via GMU email.

### Privacy Policy:

Please respect the privacy of any students (and the instructor) who may disclose personal information in the class. Please respect everyone's right to freely choose whether to disclose or not disclose personal information.

### **Bad Weather and Other Emergencies:**

Check Mason's homepage at [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu) or call GMU's closing line at 703-993-1000 to see if classes are cancelled for inclement weather or other emergency circumstances. You can also register for Mason's emergency alert system at <https://alert.gmu.edu>. If I have to cancel class due to an emergency, I will attempt to email you ASAP at your GMU email address. I encourage you to check your GMU email the night before class or the morning of to ensure there have been no cancellations.

## **Course Schedule**

This is the intended course schedule. As the semester progresses and evolves, some of these dates and scheduled items may change due to weather closures, emergencies, or other circumstances. Changes will be provided as necessary and as soon as possible.

In addition to reviewing the chapter information, the classroom sessions will include lectures, case studies, applied profiling examples, and scenarios.

TUES JAN 23    Introductions and Introduction to the course - Goals, Objectives, and Expectations

THURS JAN 25    Chapter 1 – History of Criminal Profiling  
Lecture: Gainesville Florida – Serial Killer Case

TUES JAN 30    Chapter 2 – Science, Logic, and Cognition  
Lecture: Linguistics, Culture, and Geography

THURS FEB 1    Chapter 3 – Methods of Criminal Profiling  
Lecture: Integrated Profiling Method

TUES FEB 6    Chapter 4 – Forensic Psychology/Psychiatry  
Lecture: Psychological Testing, Polygraphs, and Interview Techniques

THURS FEB 8    Chapter 5 – Behavioral Evidence  
Lecture: Home Invasion

TUES FEB 13    Chapter 6 – Crime Scene Analysis  
Lecture: Kidnapping and Ransom – Domestic and Overseas

THURS FEB 15    Chapter 7 – Victimology  
Lecture: Understanding Clients and Case Outcomes

TUES FEB 20    Chapter 8 – Sexual Deviance  
Lecture: Rape and Sexual Assault

THURS FEB 22    Chapter 9 – Sexual Asphyxia

TUES FEB 27 Lecture: Assessing Evidence - Live Crime Scenes versus Photos  
PROFILE PAPER TOPICS DUE; Chapter 10 – False/Fabricated Reports  
Lecture: Deception and Lying

THURS MAR 1 Review for Midterm; Chapter 11 – Crime Reconstruction  
Lecture: Harassment and Stalking

TUES MAR 6 EXAM #1: MIDTERM

THURS MAR 8 Chapter 12 – Crime Scene Characteristics  
Lecture: Extortion and Blackmail

**TUES MAR 13<sup>th</sup> and THURS MAR 15<sup>th</sup> – No Classes – SPRING BREAK**

TUES MAR 20 Chapter 13 – Motive and Intent  
Lecture: The Dark Overlord

THURS MAR 22 Chapter 14 – Modus Operandi (MO) and Signature  
Lecture: Computer Forensics

TUES MAR 27 Chapter 15 – Cyber Crime and Cyber Profiling  
Lecture: Email and Electronic Threats

THURS MAR 29 Chapter 16 – Arsonists and Bombers  
Lecture: Manifestos, Essays, and Blogs

TUES APR 3 Chapter 17 – Offender Characteristics  
Lecture: Insider Threat, Workplace Violence and Espionage

THURS APR 5 Chapter 18 – Psychopathy and Sadism  
Lecture: Mental Illness and Pre-meditation

TUES APR 10 Chapter 19 – Sex Crimes  
Lecture: Violence, Power and Control

THURS APR 12 PROFILE PAPER DUE IN CLASS; Chapter 20 – Domestic Homicide  
Lecture: Verbal Abuse and Domestic Violence

TUES APR 17 Chapter 21 – Mass Murder  
Lecture: Las Vegas Shooter Case

THURS APR 19 Chapter 22 – Pattern Crimes  
Lecture: Protection, Prevention, and Personal Security

TUES APR 24 Chapter 23 – Terrorism  
Lecture: Hunting Terrorists

THURS APR 26 Chapter 24 – Ethics

Lecture: Personal Sanity and Profiler Limits

TUES MAY 1 Chapter 25 – Courtrooms and Trials

Lecture: Depositions, Official Statements and acting as an Expert Witness

THURS MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> – LAST DAY OF CRIM 400 CLASS; Wrap-up and Review for Final

THURS MAY 10 – EXAM #2 – FINAL (NOTE: This date is tentative)