

**CRIM 400 - 002: Applied Criminal Psychology
Fall 2019
George Mason University
Tuesday and Thursday 4:30pm – 5:45pm, LH2**

Professor and Contact:

Professor: Dr. Terry Gudaitis

Contact Info: tgudaiti@gmu.edu

In emergencies only: gudaitis@cybercrimeprofiler.com

Office hours: Monday & Wednesday - 2:30pm - 4pm; or by appointment

Email/Blackboard 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.

Each set of lecture notes/slides and additional readings will be posted to Blackboard.

Course Description and Objectives:

The objective of this course is to analyze the behavior of criminals who commit heinous crimes. This class will examine what factors influence violent criminals. Throughout this course students will learn the history and methods of criminal profiling, analyzing crime scenes for offender behaviors and characteristics utilizing profiling methodologies and logic reasoning. Students will study criminal profiles and equivocal death analysis from forensic and behavioral evidence.

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.

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 your professor 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 papers/reports are run through several plagiarism software programs and databases. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See 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 Fall 2019 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. 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 Fall 2019 calendar is available at: <https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall-2019/>

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 essays. 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. Taking an exam late may result in a penalty.

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 based on one or more profiling methodologies. 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 methodologies and theories learned in class.
- Include information on the criminal's MO/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; and future implications).

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 in APA style within the paper and in a reference list. A full criteria will be provided in class.

The paper is due TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5th 2019. **DIGITAL COPIES ONLY in .PDF 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 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, guest lecturer schedules, 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 AUG 27 Introductions and Introduction to the course - Goals, Objectives, and Expectations

THURS AUG 29 Chapter 1 – History of Criminal Profiling
Lecture: Gainesville Florida – Serial Killer Case

TUES SEPT 3 Chapter 2 – Science, Logic, and Cognition
Lecture: Methodology – Linguistics/Culture and 5-Factor & Geographic Profiling

THURS SEPT 5 Chapter 3 – Methods of Criminal Profiling
Lecture: Integrated GBM Profiling Method

TUES SEPT 10 Chapter 4 – Forensic Psychology/Psychiatry
Lecture: Criminal Psych Professionals and Profiling Exercise

THURS SEPT 12 Chapter 5 – Behavioral Evidence
Lecture: Multiple Profiles – Home Invasion & Elder Abuse

TUES SEPT 17 Chapter 6 – Crime Scene Analysis
Lecture: Serial Stalking

THURS SEPT 19 Chapter 7 – Victimology
Lecture: Research Paper Criteria & Profiling Exercise

TUES SEPT 24 Chapter 8 – Sexual Deviance and Chapter 9 – Sexual Asphyxia
Lecture: Rape and Sexual Assault

THURS SEPT 26 Chapter 10 – False/Fabricated Reports
Lecture: Deception and Lying

- TUES OCT 1 Chapter 11 – Crime Reconstruction
Lecture: Guest Speaker - FBI
- THURS OCT 3 Case Reading – As Assigned
Lecture: In-class Exercise
- TUES OCT 8 Start Reviewing for Midterm (Review your chapters 1-11)
Lecture:
- THURS OCT 10 In-class Review for Midterm – Chapters 1-11 and Class Notes

(NO CLASS ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 15th)

- THURS OCT 17 EXAM #1: MIDTERM – in class
- TUES OCT 22 Chapter 12 – Crime Scene Characteristics and Chapter 13 – Motive and Intent
Lecture: Making of a Criminal and The Life Spiral
- THURS OCT 24 Chapter 14 – Modus Operandi (MO) and Signature; Chapter 16 – Arsonists and Bombers
Lecture: Kidnapping & Ransom; Child Abduction
- TUES OCT 29 Chapter 15 – SKIP – See Posted Reading
Lecture: Electronic Threats
- THURS OCT 31 Posted Readings – Ransomware Homework
Lecture: Profiling Exercise
- TUES NOV 5 Chapter 17 – Offender Characteristics
Lecture: Guest Speaker – CyberCrime and Computer Forensics

(PROFILING RESEARCH PAPERS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 5th)

- THURS NOV 7 Chapter 18 – Psychopathy and Sadism
Lecture: Mental Illness and Pre-meditation
- TUES NOV 12 Chapter 19 – Sex Crimes
Lecture: Violence, Power and Control
- THURS NOV 14 Chapter 20 – Domestic Homicide and Extra Reading/Data for Profiling Exercise
Lecture: Cold Case Profiling Exercise
- TUES NOV 19 Chapter 21 – Mass Murder
Lecture: Mass Murder, Genocide, Group Deviance, Active Shooters
- THURS NOV 21 Chapter 22 – Pattern Crimes
Lecture: Personal Security, Response and Case Study

TUES NOV 26 Chapter 23 – Terrorism
Lecture: Hunting Terrorists – Culture and Behavioral Assessment

(THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 1)

TUES DEC 3 Chapter 25 – Courtrooms and Trials
Lecture: Ethics and acting as an Expert Witness

THURS DEC 5 **LAST DAY OF CRIM 400 CLASS**; Wrap-up and Review for Final

FINAL EXAM – The final exam will be given sometime between Dec 11th – Dec 18th. The final exam schedule will be posted after the last day to add classes (September 3rd) on:

<https://registrar.gmu.edu/topics/final-exam-locator/>

- Final Exam will cover chapters 12 through 25 (skip Chapter 15), class notes, and guest lecture information.
- The time, date, and location will be announced in class once the information is posted by GMU.