George Mason University
CRIM 595 – B01
Online Interpersonal Violence
Summer 2022

Instructor: Dr. Jin R. Lee
Email: jlee331@gmu.edu
Office Location: Enterprise Hall, Room 303
Class Meetings/Location: Online Asynchronous
In-Person Office Hours: Contact via email to arrange in-person meetings
Online Office Hours: Contact via email to arrange virtual meetings

REQUIRED TEXT
Required readings and course materials will be posted on Blackboard.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The objective of this course is to examine the rise of online interpersonal violence behaviors, including identifying the causes and correlates of online interpersonal violence offending and victimization. Considerable time will be spent exploring the following online interpersonal violence behaviors: cyberbullying, online harassment, revenge porn/nonconsensual pornography, and cyberstalking. This course will also explore the etiology of online interpersonal violence and identify the ways that technology has shaped human behavior and enabled new patterns of offending and victimization over the last three decades. This course will help students understand the complex nature of online interpersonal violence, the evolution of the behavior (e.g., from offline interpersonal violence to online interpersonal violence), and its significance across a variety of disciplines including the social and information sciences. The development of security technologies used to defend against these attacks, as well as the laws and policies used to investigate, prosecute, and deter these behaviors will also be discussed.

TEACHING STRATEGY
The course is taught by online lecture recordings, discussion posts, analysis papers, term papers, and academic/scholarly readings.

A NOTE ON CONTENT
By its nature, criminology and criminal justice requires us to focus on some controversial and mature topics, such as violence, sexuality, victimization, racial tension, etc. While debates are welcome, any and all forms of disrespect and discrimination will not be tolerated. If there are any topics that may cause you any distress, please let me know.

GRADES
Discussion Board Posts (30% of grade): There will be six (6) discussion board post assignments, each worth 5% of the final grade. Discussion Board Posts are due every week, beginning Week 1 and ending Week 6. Students are required to answer the following questions in their Discussion Board Posts: (1) Summarize one of the topics covered in this week's lesson (e.g., weekly required readings and/or content from the online lecture recording), including a discussion of its main principles, tenets, and/or related research; and (2) state why you found this

topic/aspect most interesting. While students may use a similar format of writing in their Discussion Board Posts, they must not use the exact same language from post to post. For instance, students should not express "X topic was interesting because it helped explain something I was always curious about" across all their posts. While the layout of responses may be similar, posts' content must be different and not overlap from week to week. In addition, while there is no word-count requirement for these Discussion Board Posts, you are required to give substantive thought to the question/topic and demonstrate your comprehension and command of class material. Students may access these graded Discussion Board Posts starting on Monday (12:00 AM EST) of that course week. Discussion Board Posts must be submitted before its Sunday night deadline (11:59 PM EST).

Analysis Papers (30% of grade): There will be two (2) analysis paper assignments, each worth 15% of the final grade. Students are required to dissect a peer-reviewed journal article that is either testing a theory or examining an aspect of online interpersonal violence. Students are required to address the following five questions in their Analysis Papers:

(1) What are the basic propositions or hypotheses being tested in the study/analysis, and how do they relate to the core theory and/or aspect of online interpersonal violence?
(2) What is the sample population being used; what are the key dependent and independent variables being tested; and how are they operationalized?
(3) Do the study's hypotheses find support? If so, how?
(4) Is the study/analysis a partial or complete test of criminological theory? If so, how?
(5) How does the study expand our understanding of criminological theory and/or online interpersonal violence as a whole?

The first Analysis Paper is due on Week 3, whereas the second Analysis Paper is due on Week 7. Students may choose course content (e.g., a peer-reviewed journal article) from either the current or previous portion of the course. For example, Analysis Paper 1 (assigned on Week 3) can assess a peer-reviewed journal article introduced in Weeks 1 to 3. To provide another example, Analysis Paper 2 (assigned on Week 7) can draw from course material from Weeks 4 to 7. While there is no strict word-count requirement for these Analysis Papers, you are required to give substantive thought to the question/theory/topic and demonstrate your comprehension and command of class material. Analysis Papers are due via email (jlee331@gmu.edu) by the end of the designated course week (Weeks 3 and 7). Specifically, Analysis Paper 1 is due by June 26, 2022 (11:59PM EST), whereas Analysis Paper 2 is due by July 24, 2022 (11:59PM EST).

Term Research Paper (40% of grade): There will be one (1) term research paper worth 40% of the final grade. Students will be expected to write a 10-to-15-page research paper (inclusive of notes, references, and tables) on a topic of their choosing. Term Research Papers are due via email (jlee331@gmu.edu) on July 30, 2022 (11:59 PM EST). Papers must be submitted in APA format, 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins throughout.

The Term Research Paper is a general argumentative research paper. Students will be given several paper topics requiring them to answer a question (or a series of questions) as fully as is possible using supporting arguments from both outside research articles and the required course texts. This paper will require students to react to a statement or policy, apply theory to a certain

online interpersonal violence, or address a current and topical issue related to online interpersonal violence. Paper topics will be provided in a separate document on Blackboard.

Before you submit your paper, please take the following four (4) steps to ensure you get as many points as possible for the assignment:

1. Re-read your paper multiple times before submission. Since your writing is a reflection of your thoughts, it is vital that you take the time to read through your paper and check that the ideas make sense and flow properly together.

2. Make sure you spell check your paper using both Microsoft Word <u>and</u> by hand. Spell check does not identify when you have put in a common misspelling like "too" when you mean "two." Also, do not use contractions as they do not belong in a professional document.

3. Always write and format your paper using APA conventions/standards: See website below for general instructions and guidelines on APA formatting.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html

4. Ensure that <u>all</u> your references are cited properly. Please quote an author if you feel their comments support or refute an idea. However, quote only when absolutely necessary, since it will make more sense if you put the ideas into your own words. If you put an author's ideas in your own words, make sure you reference the author at the end of the sentence. If you have any questions on citations, please contact me immediately. Plagiarism is a serious offense and one the University does not take lightly. There is only so much I can do to alleviate the consequences if you engage in plagiarism. You will not get any credit for the assignment if you plagiarize and will be sent to the Dean to discuss consequences.

GRADING SCALE

93 or above	= A (4.00 Points)
90-92.99	= A- (3.67 Points)
87-89.99	= B+ (3.33 Points)
83-86.99	= B (3.00 Points)
80-82.99	= B- (2.67 Points)
77-79.99	= C+ (2.33 Points)
73-76.99	= C (2.00 Points)
70-72.99	= C- (1.67 Points)
65-69.99	= D (1.00 Points)
64.99 or less	= F (0 Points)

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance
Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course.

Class Participation
You are expected to complete the assigned readings and participate in all class assignments. Students are encouraged to express their opinions and views on the topics and issues discussed in this course. If you do not understand something, feel free to ask questions. This is the easiest way to do well in the course.

Office Hours
Office hours will be held both in-person and online by appointment using either Zoom or email—whichever works best for both the instructor and the student. Online appointments should be made at least 48 hours in advance for scheduling purposes (i.e., same-day appointment will not be accepted). In-person and online appointments should be requested by emailing the instructor (jlee331@gmu.edu). Make sure to include your name, the course code, and a few days/times that work best for you. The instructor will then coordinate a day/time that fits both schedules.

Missed Exams/Assignments/Deadlines
Make-up evaluations (e.g., discussion board posts, analysis papers, and term papers) *will not* be given except in cases of extreme circumstance. Accompanying written documentation is required as per University policy. Documentation does not guarantee that a make-up evaluation or extension will be given. As the professor in this course, I have the discretion to determine what cases warrant a make-up and what cases do not. Finally, you must notify me *before* the day of the evaluation's deadline to explain your absence. If you do not adhere by any of the aforementioned rules, you will not be given the opportunity to complete the make-up. Reasons pertaining to personal, technical, or negligence issues (e.g., laptop/computer not working; Internet connection was bad/faulty on the day the assignment/quiz was due; mismanaged my time; other course assignments overlap with this one, etc.) will not be considered excusable circumstances. If other issues that hinder students' performance and class progress arise, students should contact the professor in advance to discuss alternative action plans.

Emailing Etiquette
Please read the following article for a useful guide on email etiquette:https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087

While I will be checking Blackboard email, please email me at jlee331@gmu.edu using your GMU emails on the Outlook platform for faster responses. In addition, please put the course number in the subject line and sign your email with your name. I will usually answer emails within 24-48 hours. However, if you have not received a response from me within 48 hours, feel free to email again just in case I did not receive it.

Class Demeanor
Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Any form of disruption or disrespect towards your fellow classmates or me will not be tolerated—even if you think you are joking. Students guilty of such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action.

Academic Honesty
George Mason University's Honor Code requires all members of this community maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Students are expected to abide by the Mason Honor Code, which prohibits lying, cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing (https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/). Ignorance of the rules is not a valid defense. Familiarize yourself with this policy and remember your legal fundamentals.

Note: All graded work for this class (including discussion board posts, analysis papers, and term papers) must be completed underlined independently. Please ensure that the work you submit in this class is your own and that you provide proper citations when referencing another person's words or ideas. Instructors are required to report all violations of the Honor Code to the Mason Honor Committee. Violations of the Honor Code may result in a failing grade for the assignment or exam, a failing grade for the course, or any additional penalties determined by the committee, including dismissal from the University.

Limits to Confidentiality
As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Non-Confidential Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, complicity, and retaliation to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-993-3686 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance or support measures from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing *titleix@gmu.edu*.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit http://ds.gmu.edu/ for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu | Phone: (703) 993-2474

Drops and Adds
The last day to add this course is June 9, 2022. The last day to drop this course without tuition penalty (e.g., 100% tuition refund) is June 9, 2022. The last day to drop this course with tuition penalty (e.g., 50% tuition refund) is June 15, 2022. The last day to drop this course with full tuition penalty (e.g., 100% tuition liability) is June 23, 2022.

Commercialized Lecture Notes
Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

Campus Closure or Emergency Class Cancelation/Adjustment
If the campus closes, or if a class meeting needs to be canceled or adjusted due to weather or

other concern, students should check Blackboard [or other instruction as appropriate] for updates on how to continue learning and for information about any changes to events or assignments.

Course Materials and Student Privacy
All course materials posted on Blackboard or other course sites are private to this class. By federal law, any materials that identify specific students (via their name, voice, or image) must not be shared with anyone not enrolled in this class.

Video recordings—whether made by instructors or students—of class meetings that include audio, visual, and/or textual information from other students are private and must not be shared outside the class.

Live video conference meetings (e.g. Collaborate or Zoom) that include audio, textual, and/or visual information from other students must be viewed privately and not shared with others in your household or recorded and shared outside the class.

<u>COURSE SCHEDULE</u>
(subject to change; all changes will be announced)

Date	Topic	Readings	Due
Week 1 (June 7-12)	Technology and the Emergence of Online Interpersonal Violence	Grabosky, 2001 Finkelhor, Mitchell, & Wolak (2000) Choi & Lee (2017)	Discussion Post 1
Week 2 (June 13-19)	Criminological Theory and Online Interpersonal Violence	Lianos & McGrath (2018) Van Ouytsel, Ponnet, & Walrave (2018) Van Ouytsel, Ponnet, & Walrave (2020)	Discussion Post 2
Week 3 (June 20-26)	Cyberbullying	Slonje, Smith, & Frisen (2013) Sabella, Patchin, & Hinduja (2013) Patchin & Hinduja (2015)	Discussion Post 3 Analysis Paper 1
Week 4 (June 27-July 3)	Online Harassment	Finn (2004) Vogels (2021)	Discussion Post 4

		Nadim & Fladmoe (2021)	
Week 5 (July 4-10)	Cyberstalking	Kaur et al. (2021) Reyns, Henson, & Fisher (2011) Fissel (2021)	Discussion Post 5
Week 6 (July 11-17)	Revenge Porn, Nonconsensual Pornography, and Sexting	Lee & Darcy (2021) Patchin & Hinduja (2019) Langlois & Slane (2017)	Discussion Post 6
Week 7 (July 18-24)	Law Enforcement Efforts, Challenges, and Policy Implications	Koziarski & Lee (2020) Lee et al. (2021) Holt (2018)	Analysis Paper 2
Week 8 (July 25-30)	Emerging Threats and Future Thinking	Roundy et al. (2020) Chatterjee et al. (2018)	Term Paper