

University of North Texas at Dallas  
Spring 2015  
SYLLABUS

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|---|---|
| <b>CJUS 4360D.092 "Criminal Investigation" (3 Hrs)</b>                                    |   |
|   |   |
| <b>Department of Urban and Professional Studies</b>                                       | <b>Division of Criminal Justice</b>   |
|   |   |
| <b>Instructor Name:</b>   | <i>Michael Santiago</i>   |
| <b>Office Location:</b>   |   |
| <b>Office Phone:</b>  | 817-504-6650 not before 9:00 AM or after 9:00 PM  |
| <b>Email Address:</b>   | michel.santiago@unt.edu   |
|   |   |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>  | Tuesday 7:00 PM – 9:50 PM (before each class session)   |
| <b>Virtual Office Hours:</b>  | <i>By appointment</i>   |
|   |   |
| <b>Classroom Location:</b>  | University Center Dallas RM 413   |
| <b>Class Meeting Days &amp; Times:</b>  | Tuesday 7:00 PM 9:50 PM   |
|   |   |
| <b>Course Catalog Description:</b>  | The study methods of obtaining and reporting information from the crime scene, victims, witnesses and suspects. Specific attention is given to investigation of index crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, arson, motor vehicle theft and larceny. Prerequisite(s): CJUS 2100, CJUS 3201 and CJUS 3300 or equivalents. (3 hrs.)  |
|   |   |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b>   | Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.   |
| <b>Co-requisites:</b>   |   |
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| <b>Access to Learning Resources:</b>  | <p>UNT Dallas Library:<br/>phone: (972) 780-3625;<br/>web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a></p> <p>UNT Dallas Bookstore:<br/>phone: (972) 780-3652;<br/>e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com">1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com</a></p> <p>Texas Education Agency: <a href="http://www.tea.state.tx.us/">http://www.tea.state.tx.us/</a><br/>TK20: <a href="http://www.coe.unt.edu/tk20">http:// www.coe.unt.edu/tk20</a></p> |
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| <b>Course Goals or Overview:</b>  |   |
|   | The goal of this course is for students to understand how important criminal investigation plays in the development of our criminal justice system.   |
|   |   |
| <b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes: (All outcomes below align with the INTASC standards)</b> |   |
| <b>To achieve these objectives this class will:</b>                                       |   |
| 1   | Introduce you to theories related to basic investigative responsibilities.  |
| 2   | Examine the various perspectives relevant to conduct a criminal investigation.  |
| 3   | Examine the proof required to investigate various crimes.   |
| 4   | Demonstrate and understand methods used to perform a criminal investigation.  |

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|----|---|
| 5  | Examine various witness and victim interviewing techniques.   |
| 6  | Examine investigative techniques used in investigating index crimes.  |
| 7  | Introduce you to the process of writing an effective report.  |
| 8  | Introduce you to different types of forensic / physical evidence at a crime scene.                              |
| 9  | Examine various methods of documenting the crime scene, note taking, photographing and sketching a crime scene. |
| 10 | Examine various methods of obtaining information and intelligence in criminal investigation.                    |

### **University Policies and Procedures**

#### **Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):**

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. For more information, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation/Student Development Office, Suite 115 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

#### **Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:**

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT-Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

#### **Exam Policy:**

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

There will be two scheduled exams that will be based on class lectures, selected chapters in the textbook, and any additional readings / information assigned in class. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Each exam will count 1/3<sup>rd</sup> percent toward student's final grade. An out of class assignment will be assigned and presented to the class during the semester. The out of class assignment / presentation will count 1/3<sup>rd</sup> percent toward the student's final grade.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct at [http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student\\_conduct/index.html](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html) for complete provisions of this code.

#### **Bad Weather Policy:**

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [www.unt.edu/dallas](http://www.unt.edu/dallas). Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

#### **Attendance and Participation Policy:**

Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

**Class attendance is very important.** You are allowed two unexcused absences, after which you must either provide documentation demonstrating a legitimate absence (illness or family emergency) or forfeit 5 points from your participation grade per unexcused absence (i.e., .5% of your final grade). Additionally, you may not turn in any assignment late except in the event of a documented excused absence.

**Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (e.g., swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

**Electronic Devices**

You may bring laptops to class in order *to access electronic copies of the readings or to complete assigned tasks*. Other electronic devices, such as cell phones and MP3/4 players, should not be used during class.

**Food/Drink**

Students are permitted to bring drinks into the classroom. However, eating is not permitted except for special occasions when food has been brought by/for everyone.

**Evaluation Procedure: The grades in this course will be based upon the following:**

|                        |                     |                   |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Quarterly Examinations | 4 @ 150 points each | 600 points total  |
| Discussion Questions   | 2 @ 75 points each  | 150 points total  |
| Film/Video Review      | 1 @ 100 points each | 100 points total  |
| Reaction Paper         | 1 @ 125 points each | 150 points total  |
|                        |                     | 1000 total points |

**Test Schedule**

February 10, 2015  
March 10, 2015  
April 7, 2015  
May 12, 2015

**Test schedule subject to change depending on weather and lecture progress.**

A=900-1000    B=800-899    C=700-799    D=600-699    F<600

**Last review: January 2015**  
**Instructor reserves the right to alter the course syllabus.**

