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American Public University System
The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security & Global Studies
CMRJ329 Criminal Profiling
3 Credit Hours
8 Weeks
Prerequisites: None

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Instructor Information

**Instructor:** See information provided in the Syllabus link in the classroom

**Email:** Please use internal classroom messaging system

Course Description (Catalog)

This course explores criminal behavior, its motivation, and the environmental influences and patterns of offending. Other topics examined are the approaches to profiling and how these investigative techniques are applied to helping solve crimes. The course will address aspects of behavior taking into consideration the definition of criminal profiling as the inference of offender traits from physical and/or behavioral evidence. Evaluations will be made of the history, theories, and investigative techniques regarding profiling crime offenders, using a unique blend of both social science, as well as psychological & legal research. It includes legal case excerpts to demonstrate the role of the profiler (investigator). This provides the student a solid understanding of the integral relationship between the profiling
techniques and theories of criminal behavior and the court system. It is recommended students take either CMRJ101 or CMRJ306 prior to enrolling in this course.

Course Scope

CMRJ 329 is an undergraduate course, which is divided into 8 weeks and is organized to give students a broad context in which to study the history, theories, and investigative techniques regarding profiling crime offenders, using a unique blend of both social science, as well as psychological & legal research. It includes legal case excerpts to demonstrate the role of the profiler (investigator) which provides the student a solid understanding of the integral relationship between the profiling techniques and theories of criminal behavior and the court system. Current topics such as inductive and deductive profiling, understanding modus operandi, serial rape and sadistic behavior are a few of the topics to be explored. Instruction is primarily textbook driven with accompanied written online lectures, real video/audio media exerts and online classroom weekly discussion.
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CO7: Differentiate the characteristics of an autoerotic fatality versus a suicide.

CO8: Assess how the science and art of profiling crime scenes, and subsequently offenders, from physical and psychological evidence is key to the investigation of a violent serial killer.

CO9: Interpret the behavioral concepts involved in arson and bomb scenes.

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Resources

The textbook for this course is Criminal Profiling by Brent Turvey (4th ed) and it will be provided as an e-book.


The textbook for this course will be provided as an e-book and is located in the APUS Library. Visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php. You must be logged in to eCampus first to access the links.

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Evaluation Procedures

There are a total of 100 points for this course broken down as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Grade Instruments</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forums (8)</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (5)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weekly Forums

Original responses to the forum questions each week need to be substantial (350-500 words per question) and significantly supported by the course textbook and at least one other peer reviewed, scholarly source. The citation and references will be in APA Style. Sources used for studies or statistical information should be less than 10 years old. Direct quoting should be limited. Interpretation in your own words is expected.

The Forum is our life link for this course. I expect the Forum to be read frequently by all and I expect everyone to invest significant time and energy in creating high-quality interactions and excellent dialogues. This is where ideas are bounced off of each other and discussions are to be generated about our topic of the week. Response postings are required to be 150 words.

Forum Grading Criteria:

Your forum grade will be encompassing both your original posting and your responses to others work. Work will be graded when the student has completed the entire assignment.

Online assignments submitted for grading are due by the last day of each week and
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include examinations and quizzes (graded electronically), and individual assignments. All main postings for the forum are to be posted no later than Thursday evening at 2359 hours each week. This allows time for others to respond to your posting.

Students will also be required to respond to at least two (2) other students postings with significant comments that have substance. Comments such as, “Good job!” or “I agree” do not earn you any participation points. Your responses to another’s work should be posted as a sub-thread to the student’s original posting whom you are commenting. All responses are due no later than Sunday at 2359 hours.

Quizzes: there are 5 quizzes in this class. They will be essay format and are required to be researched and referenced using up-to-date, scholarly sources. APA format is required. Direct quotes are not to be used in test answers.

Research Paper

For your criminal profiling research paper, you will pick a high profile criminal listed on the assignment page and explain the biological, situational, and developmental factors that contributed to this criminal’s behavior to include geographic mobility, Victimology and M.O/signature.

The paper should be 8-10 pages in length. This is excluding the title, abstract, and reference page. Each paper must be developed using peer reviewed research material from at least five sources. One of these sources may be your textbook.

References from various sources (i.e., text, academic journals [peer reviewed], professional journals, and web based materials) may be cited, and all must be of appropriate academic quality. Sources used for studies or statistical information should be less than 10 years old.

Reference lists from texts and articles related to topic of the Research Review Paper are good sources for references. Use of newspapers, news magazines, and similar periodicals must be kept to a minimum, and will be acceptable only as sources for supplementary information. References like “Wikipedia,” “Psychology Today,” and “Court TV” are not primary sources, are not peer reviewed (reviewed for empirical integrity, accuracy, and authenticity), and are not appropriate references for scholarly writing (with the possible exception of use for anecdotal background information).
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The Midterm and Final Exam - The Midterm and Final exams are open book/open note exams. They consist of essay questions. You may enter and exit the exam multiple times; however, you are on the honor system to only take 4 hours to complete the exam. APA referencing is required to include in text citations to credit your sources. Sources should be peer reviewed and up-to-date. Direct quotes are not to be used in test answers.

The Midterm Exam will cover material through week 5 and the Final Exam will cover material from week 6-8.

Please see the Student Handbook to reference the University’s grading scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>Learning Objective(s)</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
<th>Assignment(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | A History of Criminal Profiling  
Criminal Profiling: the Scientific Method, and Logic  
Nomothetic Methods of Criminal Profiling  
Geographical Profiling | Summarize investigative indicators associated with accurately recognizing, and reconstructing staged crime scenes.  
Assess how the science and art of profiling crime scenes, and subsequently offenders, from physical and psychological evidence is key to the | Introduction and Chapters 1, 2 & 3.  
Read material in Lesson 1 | Mandatory Introduction Assignment  
Forum 1 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>Forensic Psychology, Psychiatry, and Criminal Profiling</th>
<th>Crime Scene Reconstruction</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>investigation of a violent serial killer.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Explain the theories deductive and inductive criminal profiling.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summarize investigative indicators associated with accurately recognizing, and reconstructing staged crime scenes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Differentiate the relationship between Locard's Exchange Principle, Crime Reconstruction, Evidence Dynamics and their implications to forensic examinations in assisting the investigation of a possible criminal act</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Read material in Lesson 2</td>
<td>Chapters 4, 5, &amp; 11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 2</td>
<td>Take Quiz 1</td>
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### Course Syllabus

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3    | Crime Scene Analysis, Wound Pattern Analysis, Staged Crime Scene       | Summarize investigative indicators associated with accurately recognizing, and reconstructing staged crime scenes.  
Differentiate the relationship between Locard's Exchange Principle, Crime Reconstruction, Evidence Dynamics and their implications to forensic examinations in assisting the investigation of a possible criminal act.  
*Chapters 6 & 12.*  
*Read material in Lesson 3*  
*Forum 3*  
*Take Quiz 2* |
| 4    | Criminal Motivation, Case Linkage: Offender Modus Operandi and Signature, Victimology | Compare and contrast the meaning of offender signature and modus operandi.  
*Chapters 7, 10, 13 & 14.*  
*Read material in Lesson 4*  
*Forum 4*  
*Take Quiz 3* |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Additional Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fire and Explosives: Behavioral Aspects</td>
<td>Interpret the behavioral concepts involved in arson and bomb scenes.</td>
<td>Chapter 16 Read material in Lesson 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Terrorism</td>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 5 Midterm Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Domestic Homicide</td>
<td>Assess how the science and art of profiling crime scenes, and subsequently offenders, from physical and psychological evidence is key to the investigation of a violent serial crime.</td>
<td>Chapters 20, 21, 22 &amp; 23. John Douglas Video Read material in Lesson 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mass Homicide</td>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 6 Take Quiz 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serial Crime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Terrorism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Offender Characteristics: Rendering the Profile</td>
<td>Describe offender sadistic behavior characteristics associated with various criminal behaviors and criminal offender personalities. Differentiate the characteristics of an autoerotic fatality versus a suicide.</td>
<td>Chapters 8, 9, 17, 18 &amp; 19. Read material in Lesson 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Psychopathy and Sadism: Interpreting Psychopathic and Sadistic Behavior in the Crime Scene</td>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 7 Take Quiz 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sexual Asphyxia</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cyberpatterns: Criminal Behavior on the Internet</th>
<th>Criminal Profiling on Trial: The Admissibility of Criminal Profiling Evidence</th>
<th>Ethics and the Criminal Profiler</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Assess how the science and art of profiling crime scenes, and subsequently offenders, from physical and psychological evidence is key to the investigation of a violent serial killer.</td>
<td>Evaluate the roles and responsibilities of a criminal profiler in the development of profiling reports and trial strategy.</td>
<td>Chapters 15, 24, &amp; 25.</td>
<td>Forum 8, Final Exam, Research Paper is due</td>
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**Policies**
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Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

- Drop/Withdrawal Policy
- Plagiarism Policy
- Extension Process and Policy
- Disability Accommodations

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- 12-point Times New Roman style.
- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

Writing assignments shall be written using American Psychological Association (APA) style. For general guidance see Course Materials, Research Sources and Writing Comments, and for specific writing style guidance, see the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, sixth edition, 2010. Information is also available at web links:

http://www.apastyle.org/

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/24/

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults,
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students and working professionals I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

NETIQUETTE

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate—both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting—basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and—especially—satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-) , : ), 😊

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your
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classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors’ publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.


The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. These are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111) or class name.

If a guide you need isn’t available yet, let us know by emailing the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu

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**Turnitin.com**

Turnitin.com is a web-based plagiarism prevention application licensed, for campus use, through the APUS Online Library. Students will not have to submit papers to Turnitin. The assignment section automatically checks student’s work and the class instructor will check other assignments as needed.

Turnitin.com analyzes electronic submissions of student writing, compares them to the contents of a huge online database, and generates a customized Originality Report. The database used to produce this analysis contains a massive collection of documents available on the Internet from both free and commercial sources, as well as the full texts of all other papers that have been previously submitted to Turnitin.com.

Similarity index is based on the amount of matching text to a submitted paper:

- **Blue** = no matching text
- **Green** = one word to 24% matching
- **Yellow** = 25-49% matching text
- **Orange** = 50-74% matching text
- **Red** = 75-100% matching text

**Selected Bibliography**