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American Public University System
The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
Criminal Justice
CMRJ515
Sexual Exploitation of Children
3 Credit Hours
8 Weeks
None

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Instructor Information

Please see instructor contact information and bio under the Syllabus Tab itself

Course Description (Catalog)

This course will discuss the social and legal problems involved with sexual exploitation of children. Major issues that will be examined in this course will be child pornography, prostitution, pedophiles, law enforcement sexual offender databases, and victimization.
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Course Scope

This course will discuss the social and legal problems involved with sexual exploitation of children. Major issues that will be examined in this course will be child pornography, prostitution, pedophiles, law enforcement sexual offender databases, and victimization. The course focuses on all realms of the problem of sexual exploitation of children, including the offender typologies, the victims, and the criminal justice system’s past and current responses to these crimes.

Course Objectives (CO)

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to demonstrate and explain the following seven primary learning objectives:

CO1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges, and special issues concerning the child victim as a witness at trial.

CO2: Analyze the offenders and the root causes of their behavior.

CO3: Explain the history of issues surrounding child sexual exploitation, characteristics of parties involved in the investigative process, and the multidimensional aspects of and the investigation of child molesters.

CO4: Dissect a variety of child sex trafficking related issues, including legal issues surrounding the treatment of and investigation of parties, as well as victim issues.

CO5: Analyze an assortment of child pornography related issues, including, but not limited to, the victim issues, consumers, and laws.

CO6: Assess the law enforcement response and interventions currently in practice.

Course Delivery Method
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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.

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Course Resources

Required Readings

Week 1: Victimization / Perpetrator Behavior Analysis Part 1


Week 2: Victimization/Behavioral Analysis Part 2


Week 3: Internet Pornography – A Closer Look


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US v Williams; Cite as: 553 U. S. _____ (2008).

Week 4: Midterm and Sex Tourism

MIDTERM


WEEK 5: Sex Tourism and Child Trafficking


**Week 6: Paper Assignment and Prosecution and Legislation**


**Week 7: Moving Forward: Fighting the Threat**

The Criminal Justice System Response


**WEEK 8: Final Exam and Wrap up**

Final Exam.

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The points earned on course assignments will determine the course grade. The final grade in the course will be based on total points. Grades will be assigned based on the following term composite scores:

(1) Discussion Forum Questions (Takes Place in Online Forums) (26%)
There will be 6 weeks with discussion forum questions. These forums are geared to help students prepare for the midterm and final exam. Each students’ answer to the question should be between 750-1000 words. A minimum of two peer reviewed references need to be used in the development of your answer. Each feedback post needs to be 300 words or more, and should include information that helps to enhance the discussion on the topic. Do not only include statements such as great work, or excellent post. Try to include info that is challenging and respectful and that will stimulate debate. Also, be mindful of including references and citations whenever citing facts to support your position. Use at least one scholarly source in your reply. APA 6th edition citations and references must be used always!

Initial Post Due: Thursday 11:55 PM EST
Feedback Posts Due: Sunday 11:55 PM EST

(2) Research Paper Proposed topic and Annotated Bibliography (4%)
Due in week 2. Students must get their topic approved and submit an annotated bibliography with at least three peer reviewed sources.

(3) Research Paper (20%)
Each student will prepare and submit a 10-15 page research paper on a topic related to the prevention and/or investigation of the sexual exploitation of children. Instructor approves the topic in week 2.

The paper should be two parts. The first part is where students should offer details on the extent of the chosen problem of the sexual exploitation of children (whether it be child pornography on the internet, sex tourism, sex trafficking, etc.) In Part 2, students should include what the
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government currently does to address the identified problem AND policy recommendations that include some ideas/guidance on how to reduce the prevalence of the crime that is being discussed.

This will count as 20% of the final grade.

Students should have a minimum of 5 to 7 peer reviewed sources to support their paper.

**APA citation** is an absolute MUST!!

**(4) FINAL AND MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS (50%):**
The midterm and final exams will be taken open book. The exams will be posted in the electronic classroom under “exams”. These exams are graduate level essay exams.

The following applies to both the Mid-Term and the Final Exam:

1. I have opted to make both exams non-timed so please take your time and do your very best. Again, the goal of not doing the traditional timed exam for this class is that I would rather have a student's best effort and a lot of critical thought rather than a rush for the finish line.

2. Please remember these are graduate level “essay” exams and I will be looking for well supported views, and critical thought. Also please, write an ‘essay’ with an introduction and conclusion. Use peer reviewed sources to support your work.

3. As always, opinion alone is not enough.

4. Responses should be at least 750-1000 words each (not counting sources and references) and each should have at least 2 “different” peer reviewed sources properly cited in accordance with APA.

5. Again, content and critical thought are key here, but graduate level writing ability and meeting minimum requirements for length and sources are also included in the overall grade.

**SUMMARY:**
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Instruments</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Forums (Includes Introduction)</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper and Topic Proposal</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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8 – Week Course Outline

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

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<th>Learning Objective</th>
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<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Victimization Part 1</td>
<td>In Course Lessons: Read assigned articles.</td>
<td>(1) Post your introduction in the Discussion Forum</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Understanding Child Exploitation and the Offenders</td>
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<td>(2) Respond to the week 1 Forum questions</td>
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| 2 | **Victimization Part 2** | • CO 1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges, and special issues concerning the child victim as a witness at trial.  
• CO 2: Analyze the offenders and the root causes of their behavior.  
• CO 3: Explain the history of issues surrounding child sexual exploitation, characteristics of parties involved in the investigative process, and the multidimensional aspects of and the investigation of child molesters. | **In Course Lessons:**  
*Read assigned articles.* | (1) Respond to the week 2 Forum questions  
(2) Complete Assignment 1 (research topic approval) |
| 3 | **Child Pornograph** | • CO 5: Analyze an assortment of | **In Course Lessons:**  
*Read assigned articles.* | (1) Respond to the week 3 |
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>In Course Lessons:</th>
<th>Mid-Term Exam</th>
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</table>
| y: A Closer Look | child pornography related issues, including, but not limited to, the victim issues, consumers, and laws.  
- CO 6: Assess the law enforcement response and interventions currently in practice. | Forum questions | |
| 4 | Sex Tourism | CO 1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges, and special issues concerning the child victim as a witness at trial.  
- CO 2: Analyze the offenders and the root causes of their behavior.  
- CO 3: Explain the history of issues surrounding child sexual exploitation, characteristics of parties involved in | **Mid-Term Exam**  
Due NLT Sunday of Week 4 (midnight EST) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sex Tourism and Sex Trafficking</td>
<td>• CO 4: Dissect a variety of child sex trafficking related issues, including legal issues surrounding the treatment of and investigation of offenders. Victimization will also be addressed and defined.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecution and Legislation</td>
<td>• CO 1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges,</td>
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In Course Lessons: Read assigned articles.

(1) Respond to the week 5 Forum questions

(1) Respond to the week 6 Forum questions
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<th>MOVING FORWARD</th>
<th>FIGHTING THE FIGHT</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td>CO 1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges, and special issues concerning the child victim as a witness at trial.</td>
<td>In Course Lessons: Read assigned articles.</td>
<td>(1) Respond to the week 7 Forum questions (2) Turn in Research Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CO 6: Assess the law enforcement response and interventions currently in practice</td>
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<th>EVALUATING THE GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>CO 1: Synthesize knowledge of investigative techniques involved in the</td>
<td>In Course Lessons: Read assigned articles. Review all reading for exam.</td>
<td>Take the FINAL EXAM Due NLT Saturday of</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO 1: Define the • investigation of child sexual abuse, considerations prosecutors use to determine filing sexual abuse charges, and special issues concerning the child victim as a witness at trial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO 4: Dissect a variety of child sex trafficking related issues, including legal issues surrounding the treatment of and investigation of parties, as well as victim issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO 5: Analyze an assortment of child pornography related issues, including, but not limited to, the victim issues, consumers, and laws.</td>
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<td>CO 6: Assess the law enforcement response and interventions currently in practice</td>
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Policies

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
Written assignments will be free of English and grammar errors. All in-text citations and references will be properly formatted in APA Style 6th edition. Only acceptable scholarly references will be used during the class.

Citation and Reference Style
Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

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, 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.

Deductions:
- Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day
- Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day
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Netiquette
Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums 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 rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum 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 Sakai 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.

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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 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. The following 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 is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

**Turnitin.com**

**Turnitin.com** is a web-based plagiarism prevention application licensed, for campus use, through the APUS Online Library. The quick submit option lets
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faculty upload and check suspicious papers, without requiring student to create their own Turnitin.com profiles.

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

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