

University of Southern Mississippi
School of Criminal Justice

Family Violence - CJ 464
9:30am - 10:45am T/R in LIB 208

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Office Location: School of Criminal Justice, AKH 122

Office Hours: T/R: 11am-12:30pm & 2:30-4pm; W: 8:30am-12:30pm

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REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS: 1) *Family Violence over the Lifespan: An Introduction* by Ola Barnett, Cindy L. Miller-Perrin, and Robin D. Perrin (2005) 2nd edition Sage Publications ISBN: 0-7619-2756-5; and 2) THREE Blank Scantrons.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course summarizes the most recent research on family violence and provides in-depth definitions and discussions about some of the most prevalent forms of family violence in the United States today. It offers a critical analysis of theory, scholarship, best practices surrounding domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, parricide, elder abuse, rape, and questions the myths surrounding the cycle of violence in American families.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOME: This course introduces the student to topics surrounding differing types of family violence that impact individuals and society-at-large. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define and identify the major types of family violence that are prevalent in the United States today and how these issues impact individuals, families, and communities over the life-course.
2. Discuss the major theoretical perspectives, methodologies, and statistical figures and findings that are relevant in studying these social problems.
3. Students will be able to identify major public policy initiatives directed at family violence and critically access how these social problems can be effectively addressed.

CLASS RULES/INFORMATION:

1. **BE ON TIME** - Please show respect to the instructor, guest speakers, and your fellow students by being **ON TIME**. Class will begin promptly at 9:30am. **BEFORE** class starts, turn off your cell phones, pagers, etc.
2. **COMMUNICATIONS** - You may call or email me at the number/email above if you have any questions. During the week, I will respond within 24 hrs. **You must use your official USM email (through the USM email system) to correspond with me.** To ensure student privacy and to protect your identities, I will not respond to emails from non-USM emails. **You must include your full name on your emails.**
3. **GUEST SPEAKERS** - We have several impressive guest speakers who have agreed to come in to our class. Please show them respect, as they have made a special effort to come to class and make themselves available for your benefit. Tests will have a considerable number of questions related to their lecture material. Students are expected to attend class every day, but **WITHOUT EXCEPTION**, on days with guest speakers.

4. **ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION** – Plan to attend class the entire scheduled time for each day per your course schedule. Although attendance is not *required*, attendance will be taken randomly. **Please note that when you miss class, you are unable to participate.** Class attendance/participation does make up a portion of your grade and can make a difference in a final letter grade. Simply put, students who repeatedly miss class will have low attendance/participation grades and poor understanding of lecture materials. I will reward students who attend class with insights into exam questions and other relevant information that will help them to be successful in the class. Excused absences are limited to observed religious holidays or official USM events (athletics, debate, etc.) that students notify me of IN ADVANCE via email or during class time. If you miss class, for any reason, YOU are responsible for getting notes and information from **another student**.
5. **LECTURES** - Lectures will cover supplemental material not in the text, and will make up a significant amount of test material. I encourage critical thinking and we will have in-depth discussions during class where you will be asked to participate. You are all encouraged to be an engaged and positive participant in our classroom. Weekly PowerPoint presentations will be emailed to your **USM email account** prior to class (by noon on Monday and Wednesday). Students are expected to download these materials when they become available and bring them to class every week. This practice will also facilitate more active participation in class lectures, as students will only have to make personal notes about the material. A number of handouts will be distributed during class to facilitate discussion. I will NOT keep extra copies after the class and it will be each student's responsibility to get a copy of the handouts from another student if they are not present. Students will be tested on this material and weekly lectures, as well as films viewed during class time, and/or guest lecture notes. **Students who consistently attend class, come prepared, and participate actively during class discussions will learn more and earn better grades. Please note that I may change the syllabus without notice. It is YOUR responsibility to check your email between classes to ensure that you are prepared.**
6. **DISABILITIES/RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS** – In accordance with University policy, if a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies. Address: The University of Southern Mississippi Office for Disability Accommodations, 118 College Drive #8586 Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001. Voice Telephone: (601) 266-5024 or (228) 214-3232; Fax: (601) 266-6035. Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1-800-582-2233 (TTY) or email Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu. Any students who have special needs due to disabilities and those students who will be missing classes due to observed religious holidays need to inform me of their needs by August 27th.
7. **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:** The field of criminology/criminal justice is based upon the integrity of those people working in it. It is assumed that students taking this class will live up to the highest levels of academic honesty. If I have reason to believe a student is cheating or being academically dishonest in any way, any and all procedures available to me will be instituted to have the student dismissed from the program and/or the University (see student code of conduct in University Catalog). **Do NOT try to cheat in this class. I will take any and all measures possible against any student who attempts to use academic dishonesty in any form in this course.**
8. **REACTION PAPERS:** Approximately 20% of your grade will be made up of from three SHORT reaction papers that you will complete during the course of the semester. These reaction papers will be

based on your knowledge, thoughts, reflections, and own life experiences and relating them back to topics raised by various expert guest speakers who will visit our class. Please note that all of the dates for when the guest speakers will attend and the subsequent reaction papers are marked your course calendar. Please plan your schedules accordingly to attend these classes. **IMPORTANT: YOU MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE GUEST SPEAKER, AND THEN BE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING CLASS TO TURN IN YOUR PAPER IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THESE ASSIGNMENTS.** Another student may not hand your paper in for you. If you miss class for the guest speaker you may NOT turn in a reaction essay - PERIOD. Class attendance is mandatory on these days and rolls will be checked prior to any credit being given. *Occasionally a speaker will need to reschedule unexpectedly due to another commitment, so you should plan to attend every class in case the assignments are pushed back due to unforeseen circumstances. If the course calendar must be changed to accommodate a speaker conflict, you will be responsible for being present even if it is a modification from the course calendar.*

EXCEPTIONS: Make-up reaction papers will ONLY be available to those students who must miss class and/or the scheduled speaker for one of these THREE reasons: 1) you are hospitalized (not just sick!) with written doctor verification and proof of hospitalization provided to the instructor, 2) you are participating in an official activity of a USM organization (you should give me an official letter at the beginning of the semester with the dates that you will miss class), or 3) you are observing an official holiday for your religious faith - **and you have notified me in ADVANCE of those dates.** If your absence is not due to one of these reasons (e.g., you were sick, your car got a flat, you got stuck in traffic, you have a wedding out of town to attend, your boss is making you work, etc.) **DO NOT ASK IF YOU CAN MAKE UP THE PAPER.** Either you are present for class during the guest speakers or you are not. For the few excused reasons above, reaction paper topics will be decided upon at the instructor's discretion and will be due within a few days of the original due date. It is students' responsibility to notify me well in ADVANCE if you have one of these exceptions so that we can agree on a due date. Again, I encourage you to consistently attend class and be ON TIME since these reaction papers will be due at the **beginning** of class following the guest speaker. Once they are collected, I will NOT accept late papers.

PAPER FORMATTING/REQUIREMENTS: Students will be provided with the question(s) for the reaction paper on the day that the guest speaker is at class and NOT BEFORE. Each student is required to follow these formatting/minimum requirements in a typed document as stated below:

- You MUST be present for the specified guest speaker AND the following class to turn your paper to be eligible for ANY credit. Students who skip class on either day will receive a zero on these assignments unless they speak with the instructor PRIOR and fall under one of the exceptions stated above.
- Type your name, student ID#, date, and Reaction Paper #(1, 2, or 3) at the top of the paper.
- Papers must be 12 point font, Times New Roman, double spaced, with 1" margins on all sides.
- Writing assignments are expected to be organized, well-written, free of grammatical and spelling errors, with responses to the questions thoughtfully and thoroughly answered. Sloppy, careless, hurried, or rambling work will receive a grade of zero and no partial credit will be provided. Points will be deducted systematically for incomplete sentences, not answering the questions posed by the instructor, or for not meeting the minimum requirements accordingly.
- Papers must be a MINIMUM OF 1.5 TYPED PAGES (with at least 3 FULL paragraphs). You are encouraged to write more than required if you wish, but for you to get ANY credit, it must be at least 1.5 pages in length. Students must answer all questions in the assignment to get full credit.
- Papers are due at the beginning of the class following the guest speaker.
- Each paper will be worth 30 POINTS.

9. EXAMS: Exams will include materials from your texts, lectures, articles, videos, guest speakers, and other supplemental materials covered in class or distributed via email. Exams are typically multiple choice with one or two short answer-style questions. **IMPORTANT: Make-up exams will NOT be considered unless** 1) you are hospitalized (not just sick!) with written doctor verification and proof of hospitalization provided to the instructor, 2) you are participating in an official activity of a USM organization (you should give me an official letter at the beginning of the semester with the dates that you will miss class), or 3) you are observing an official holiday for your religious faith - **AND you have notified me BEFORE THE EXAM via phone or email.** Simply you being sick is not a valid excuse for a makeup exam. Do not try to make up an excuse if you miss an exam! For example: you have to take it or you will lose your academic/athletic eligibility, you overslept, your power went out, your car wouldn't start, your boss kept you late for work, your best friend was in the hospital, your dog ran out the front door and you've been chasing it for hours, you were arrested and could only make one phone call. I have heard every excuse. **NONE OF THESE (OR ANY OTHER EXCUSE) WILL GET YOU A MAKEUP.** All makeup examinations will be full essay.

Regarding the exam questions: If class participation is good and respect is shown for our guest speakers and myself, I will offer KEY POINTS after videos and guest speaker lectures. **I will only do this if I see students taking notes, not doing other activities during class, being on time, and not packing up early to move along guest speakers or myself.** Your syllabus clearly shows that materials you are responsible for each examination, plus any items that I send to the class via email, show, or assign in class. There should be no surprises on your exam and I will determine if any curve is added to final exam grades. Grades are final once posted. Students who would like to review exams will have the opportunity to do so by appointment.

ON TEST DAYS: ALL HATS, CELL PHONES, PDA'S, CALCULATORS, WATER BOTTLES, OR OTHER DRINKS ARE TO BE PUT IN A BOOKBAG OR PURSE. Students who do not bring their blank scantron form on test day will not be able to take the exam and are NOT eligible for make-up exams. The instructor will NOT have extra forms for your use. You must also bring your USM student ID cards with you to the exam.*

10. IMPORTANT DATES

- 9/1/09 – Deadline to drop for 100% refund
- 9/30/09 – Deadline to drop w/o academic penalty

I reserve the right to change any part of the syllabus or the course requirements at my discretion.

GRADING SYSTEM:

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION	30 POINTS
WRITING ASSIGNMENT	90 POINTS
EXAM 1	100 POINTS
EXAM 2	100 POINTS
EXAM 3	100 POINTS
	420 POINTS TOTAL

GRADING SCALE:

90-100%	A	378-420 POINTS
80-89	B	336-377
70-79	C	294-335
60-69	D	252-293
50-59	F	251 AND BELOW

FAMILY VIOLENCE
COURSE SCHEDULE* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August 20 – Introduction

August 25 – History and Definitions of Family Violence

- Chapter 1

August 27 – Research Methodology / Theory

- Chapter 2

September 1

- *Dear Zachary*

September 3 – Child Physical Abuse

- Chapter 3

September 8 – GUEST SPEAKER – Jon Mark Weathers, District Attorney

September 10 – Child Sexual Abuse

- Chapter 4
- **Reaction Paper #1 DUE**

September 15 – Child Neglect

- Chapter 5

September 17

- *Awful Normal*
- Catch-Up & Review

September 22 – EXAM 1

September 24 – Child Psychological Abuse

- Chapter 6

September 29 – Key Issues in CM

- Chapter 7

October 1 – GUEST SPEAKER – *Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse*

October 6 – Parricide

- Articles

October 8 – NO CLASS – FALL BREAK ☺

October 13 – Parricide

- *When Kids Get Life*

October 15 – GUEST SPEAKER - *Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention*

October 20 – Dating Violence and Sexual Assault

- Chapter 8
- **Reaction Paper #2 DUE**

October 22

- Catch-Up & Review

October 27 – EXAM 2

October 29 – IPV – Adult Relationships

- Chapter 9

November 3

- *Once Were Warriors*

November 5 – NO CLASS ☺

November 10 – IPV – Abused Partners

- Chapter 10

November 12 – GUEST SPEAKER - Marilyn Howell - *Critical Coordinator, Domestic Abuse Family Shelter*

November 17 – IPV – Abusive Partners

- Chapter 11

November 19 – GUEST SPEAKER – Judge Deborah Gambrell

November 24 – Abuse of Elders and Disabled

- Chapter 12
- **Reaction Paper #3 DUE**

November 26 – NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break ☺

December 1 – What Can Be Done?

- Chapter 13
- Catch-Up & Review

December 3 – FINAL EXAM