

Marian University College of Arts, Sciences and Letters
Criminal Justice Program
CRJ 301 Syllabus: Criminal Investigation

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Marian University continues to monitor the evolving COVID-19 situation and align our academic planning with guidance from local and state officials. Our primary goal is to protect the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, and the Marian University community, while delivering quality education.

Be aware of Marian University's policy on facial coverings and physical distancing. Facial coverings are mandatory in all campus buildings and are required to be worn while in the classroom and during class. Students requesting accommodations regarding facial coverings should contact Director of Accessibility Services, Lisa Olig, at lmoliq65@marianuniversity.edu or 920.923.9051.

Notification of Illness: Please evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and other on-campus events if you are ill or experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Students who miss class due to illness will be given opportunities to access course materials online. You are encouraged to see appropriate medical attention for treatment of illness. In the event of contagious illness, please do not come to class or to campus to turn in work. Instead notify the course instructor by email about your absence as soon as practical, so that accommodations can be made. Please note that documentation for medical excuses is not required unless absence is greater than 7 days.

Semester: Spring 2021 Online January 18, 2021-March 7, 2021

Prerequisites Required: CRJ 101 and CRJ 201

Credits: 3 credits

Text: Criminal Investigation, 11th Edition, by Hess, ISBN: 9781285862613, Publisher: Cengage Learning

Course Description

This course is a study of the fundamentals of criminal investigations including the principles involved in the collection, processing, and preservation of physical evidence. Students will examine the unique aspects of death, sexual assault, and child maltreatment investigations including crime scene management, identification and evaluation of physical evidence found in the crime scene, and the collection and preservation of that evidence.

Teaching Strategies

The instructor of this course may use lecture, PowerPoint presentations, videos, group discussion, written assignments and case examples in order to accomplish our learning objectives.

*According to commonly-accepted collegiate academic practices, success in this **3 credit course** requires work equivalent to a minimum of **135 hours of work (approximately 45 in class and 90 outside of class)**. Divide 135 by the number of weeks your course is in session to find out how many hours per week you will have to devote to this course. Coursework includes reading assignments to prepare for the exams, case briefs and presentations, reviewing video to apply the book to real life situations, researching topics of interest and reviewing journal articles in the news applying the text book to real life situations.*

Criminal Justice Program

To promote the professional success, competence, and effectiveness of its graduates, Marian University's School of Arts and Sciences, Criminal Justice Program, endeavors to continually:

1. Educate students through challenging, relevant undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs.
2. Pursue individual diversity with dignity and respect.
3. Collaborate with the greater community, which it serves.
4. Effect social justice, the cultivation of intellect, and a willingness to serve.

Marian University Core Values

This course incorporates Marian University's commitment to the following core values:

1. **COMMUNITY:** Respecting our diversity as individuals, we encourage, challenge and nurture one another, joining together to accomplish our shared mission and vision.
2. **LEARNING:** We engage in a collaborative lifelong process of seeking truth and appropriating knowledge and values to transform the individual, our communities and the world.
3. **SERVICE:** Through active service and ministry, we support one another and seek to meet the needs of the larger community.
4. **SOCIAL JUSTICE:** We work to create individual and societal change, which supports the value, dignity and opportunity of every person.
5. **SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS:** Valuing Marian's Catholic religious heritage, we respect each individual's freedom to explore a diversity of spiritual beliefs.

Statement Regarding Persons with Disabilities

Marian University will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified people with disabilities. If you feel you need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact Lisa Olig, Coordinator of Disability Services and Academic Support, at 920-923-8951.

The Academic Honesty Statement

The rules and procedures dealing with academic honesty set forth in the Marian University Academic Bulletin will be followed in this class. Students are expected to have familiarized themselves with these rules and procedures. This applies to cheating, plagiarism and intentional misrepresentation of the

truth. If a paper is prepared by a student for this class, it is expected that the paper will be the student's own work and that any use of the work of another in a student's paper be properly quoted and cited.

Academic Honesty

- *Plagiarism* - presenting someone else's words, ideas, or data as your own work.
- *Fabrication* - using invented information or falsifying research or other findings.
- *Cheating* - misleading others to believe you have mastered competencies or other learning outcomes that you have not mastered.
- *Academic Misconduct* - other academically dishonest acts such as tampering with grades, taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an assessment, or selling or buying products such as papers, research, projects or other artifacts that document achievement of learning outcomes.

Academic honesty is highly valued at Marian University. Students must always submit work that represents their original words or ideas. If any words or ideas used in a class posting or assignment submission do not represent the student's original words or ideas, all relevant sources must be cited along with the extent to which such sources were used. Please make sure to cite the work you are referencing both in the text and on the reference page. Words or ideas that require citation include, but are not limited to, all hard copy or electronic publications, whether copyrighted or not, and all verbal or visual communication when the content of such communication clearly originates from an identifiable source.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Marian University has at the heart of its core values that it is a community committed to learning. Class attendance is essential to the learning process of the entire community. Absence from the class by a student not only limits that student's learning, but it also limits the learning of the entire class that is deprived of the student's input.

Any absence, for any reason, prevents the student and the class from getting the full benefit of the course. Students should be aware that class attendance may also be required for financial aid purposes and could impact existing or future financial aid. Students are, therefore, expected to attend all classes of the courses in which they are registered and to be on time.

Instructors may include class attendance as a measure of academic performance for grading purposes in the course syllabus. Such criteria are supported by Marian University. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor to discuss any missed class work due to absences. When a student is absent from class, it is up to the instructor to determine what make-up work, project, or test may be allowed.

Classroom and Campus Expectations

Students are encouraged to maximize their learning experience at Marian University. Ideal learning takes place in an environment where trust, mutual respect and active engagement are valued and observed by all participants.

Students at Marian University are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a professional setting. Students are expected to be respectful of the learning environment established by the instructor. No student has the right to be disruptive, disrespectful or uncivil in their conduct –

including language – in any setting at Marian University, including online, Facebook, and other web-based venues.

A student who the instructor believes is acting inappropriately in the classroom may be asked to leave the class for a session or longer, or may be administratively withdrawn by University officials.

Conduct and Discipline

1. The Professor reserves the right to change the course when and if needed to assure the learning outcomes are accomplished. If this happens, elements of this written syllabus will change. If necessary, the Professor will provide you with as much time as possible to change or modify any due dates and assignments that are required then.
2. Any student needing additional help should make arrangements with the instructor.
3. Class discussion should be conducted in a mature, professional manner. Students are encouraged to express their own opinions on course topics. Differences of opinion will be handled in a non-threatening, apolitical manner. Students will treat each other with respect. Discussion will be about ideas and not personalities. To disagree does not mean being disagreeable.

Grading Information

Two Exams (x2)	50% of final grade (25% each)
Weekly Online Assignments and Participation (x5)	50% of final grade (10% each)
Total:	100%

1. Exams: There will be two exams—a midterm and a final. The final exam is not cumulative. The exams will be posted online for you to complete during the week they are due. Both exams will consist of multiple choice questions, which will come from the textbook readings and associated PowerPoint presentations available on MO2.

2. Weekly Online Assignments and Participation: There will be weekly assignments posted online. These may include short written assignments, videos to view and comment on, and online forums in which to discuss particular topics of relevance. Participation is very important as we learn by sharing ideas and information. An online course requires the commitment from you as a student to be present in the classroom answering questions, asking questions, responding to peers, and posting comments. It is expected that these assignments be completed and turned in by the due dates posted. Points will be taken off for late submissions. Students who do not complete an assignment will receive a 0 for that assignment, which will affect the student's final grade.

Citations and References. Written work that uses outside sources and information, whether hardcopy or electronic, must cite those sources and provide references using an appropriate form – e.g., APA style. Refer to the *Marian University Reference Manual* if you have questions.

Grading Distribution

A = 100 – 93%	C = 76 – 73%
A- = 92 – 90%	C- = 72 – 70%
B+ = 89 – 87%	D+ = 69 – 67%
B = 86 – 83%	D = 66 – 63%
B- = 82 – 80%	D- = 62 – 60%
C+ = 79 – 77%	F = 59% and Below

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus as needed.

Marian University Standards for Professional Conduct

Professional behavior requires the highest standards of conduct. In public safety (e.g., law enforcement, corrections, security) and in business (e.g., accounting, finance, marketing), one earns the trust and respect of others through what they say and what they do. Professional behavior is a significant expectation for university students. It is said that the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior – the university is a student’s training ground for future professional work. Faculty and Staff in the School of Business and Public Safety expect the highest standards of honest, ethical professional conduct from each of our students – it is a component of students’ overall evaluation. There are several primary components of professional behavior: respect for others, full engagement, responsibility and integrity, and commitment to quality.

Respect for Others

Showing respect for others is the basis of all professional behavior. Professionals

- Are courteous and display good manners.
- Are punctual – i.e., not arriving late, not leaving early.
- Keep personal opinions of people private.
- Accept constructive criticism gracefully.
- Listen to others.
- Accept responsibility and apologize for any errors or misunderstandings.
- Speak clearly and in language others can easily understand.

Full Engagement

Professionals give their best effort in all tasks. They

- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity that encompasses the subject and its foundations.
- Are motivated to be a self-learner who initiates and sustains needed efforts to accomplish academic and personal goals.
- Recognize personal strengths and weaknesses and work to overcome or accept personal limitations.
- Accept that a demanding professional program requires personal sacrifices.
- Demonstrate cooperation and ability to both lead and serve as a team member.
- Participate actively in class.

Responsibility and Integrity

All professionals need to take responsibility for themselves and their work. Professionals

- Exercise honesty in all of their communications and work.
- Meet all deadlines for assigned tasks; ask for help in advance of the due date
- Are prepared before classes and meetings and when making presentations
- Are impartial – keep personal bias and intolerances out of discussions
- Are reliable and dependable
- Ensure they present themselves professionally with good hygiene and appropriate dress
- Demonstrate self-control and avoid public arguments and disagreements

Commitment to Quality

Always do your best work. Your name is on all of your work - it is a reflection of you.

- Assignments should be free of spelling and grammar errors.
- Assignments should be neatly formatted to enhance readability.
- All pages should be in the correct order.
- Ensure that your assignment fulfills all requirements and answers all questions.
- Ensure that your answers demonstrate understanding.

Writing

Central Idea/Critical Thinking (logic and argumentation)

5	The central idea/thesis/argument is stated clearly and responds appropriately to the assignment. The paper uses logic and evidence effectively, and each section provides a convincing argument to support the paper's central idea.	
4	The paper's thesis/central idea is stated clearly and responds appropriately to the assignment. The paper offers reasons to support its points, shows some interpretation of evidence, and explains connections between evidence and main ideas. There is some faulty logic.	
3	The thesis/central idea is adequate, but does not completely satisfy the assignment. It may develop the central idea only in general terms, use generalizations to support its points or examples that are not relevant, depend on unsupported opinion or personal experience, or assume that evidence speaks for itself. The paper demonstrates logic that is unclear or arranged ineffectively.	
2	The paper does not have a clear central idea or does not respond appropriately to the assignment, and/or the thesis/central argument is too vague or obvious. The paper may depend on clichés or overgeneralizations for support and/or offer little evidence.	
1	This paper lacks a thesis/central idea and does not respond to the assignment. It may have no appreciable organization, use irrelevant details or lack supporting evidence entirely, and/or is too brief. It lacks transitions and coherence.	

Organization

5	The paper consistently demonstrates a structure appropriate for purpose, audience, and/or technology field. It guides the reader through the chain of reasoning or progression of ideas, and utilizes transitions appropriately.	
4	The paper generally demonstrates a structure appropriate for purpose, audience, and/or technology field, an appropriate progression of ideas, and the correct use of transitional devices.	
3	The paper minimally demonstrates a structure appropriate for purpose, audience, and/or technology field, a basic progression of ideas, and a rudimentary usage of transitions that may inhibit idea flow.	
2	The paper demonstrates a random organizational pattern, with little to no paragraph coherence and too few or inappropriate transitions. It may lack topic sentences or main ideas and all (most) paragraphs do not relate to the central theme.	
1	The paper has no appreciable organization and may lack coherence and/or transitions.	

References/Support

5	The paper consistently utilizes sources appropriately and evaluates them critically while demonstrating a meticulous adherence to the citation methods appropriate to the discipline.	
4	The paper generally utilizes and cites sources appropriately, and evaluates them critically.	
3	The paper marginally utilizes and evaluates sources and demonstrates difficulty with the citation methods appropriate to the discipline.	
2	The paper does not utilize or evaluate sources appropriately and demonstrates difficulty with the citation methods appropriate to the discipline.	
1	The paper either has no/too few sources with little/no critical analysis and inappropriate citation.	

Style/ Mechanics

5	The paper contains almost no errors and demonstrates vocabulary usage and sentence style befitting the paper's audience and purpose.	
4	The paper contains few errors and generally demonstrates vocabulary usage and sentence style befitting the paper's audience and purpose.	
3	The paper contains several mechanical errors and only marginally demonstrates vocabulary usage and sentence style befitting the paper's audience and purpose.	
2	The paper contains several mechanical errors and inappropriate vocabulary usage and sentence style.	
1	The paper contains major mechanical errors and inappropriate vocabulary usage and sentence style.	

