

**Soc 508 - VIOLENCE
Fall Quarter 2008**

205 Boyd Lab : M W 1:30 – 3:18 pm

Instructor: **Lynette Martin**
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Office Hours: M W 9:30 – 11:00 am or by appointment. The best way to reach me is through email.

Required Texts:

Van Hasselt, V., & Hersen, M. (2000). Aggression and Violence: An Introductory Text. Allyn & Bacon.

Other Readings (CARMEN):

All other readings will be available via electronic reserve at the library. These readings may also be distributed on Carmen. Download and print these readings as soon as possible; don't wait until the last minute.

Course Objectives:

- To define behavioral acts that constitute violence
- To understand theories of violence
- To use these theories to interpret causal effects
- To encourage students in thinking more critically about the influence of society on violent attitudes, beliefs, communication and relationships.

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Course Expectations:

We will be examining many issues in this class, most of which will be somewhat controversial. I believe that respect is crucial in maintaining a healthy learning atmosphere. We may encounter situations where students have different opinions on the same topic, and I expect that as I respect your opinions, you will also show your fellow classmates and myself respect in disagreeing with each other.

Attendance:

Attendance is an important part of learning for everyone. Attendance is MANDATORY, will be taken during this course, and will be part of your class participation grade. You are expected to attend classes, and will be responsible for materials discussed in *all* classes, even if you are absent. You will only be allowed TWO absences during the quarter. Missing class is no excuse for missing an exam or handing an assignment in late. If you know that you will be absent from class when an assignment is due, you may make provisions to hand it in to me in advance. Students should be aware that attendance and performance are *strongly* correlated.

Course Requirements and Assignments:

Class Participation (20 points):

Participation in class discussions is an important learning tool, not only for you, but also for the rest of the class, as well as me. I highly encourage you to actively participate in class discussions and activities, but I also reserve the right to call on students. Attendance will count towards your class participation grade. Please feel free to ask questions during class, and not wait until the end of the class to approach me. I promise I won't bite!

Exams (50 points each X2 = 100 points)

There will be 3 exams in this class. However, only your top TWO exam scores worth 50 points each will be counted towards your final grade. These exams will cover material from the previous exam, except for the final exam, which will be comprehensive in nature. The format of the exams will consist of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. Each exam will also contain a "Bonus Question" worth up to 4 points. Further review and discussion of the exam format will be provided prior to each of the exams.

ALL exams will be returned to me at the end of the quarter. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of 1 point per exam to your final grade.

Make-up exams and Late Papers

Make-up exams will **NOT** be given in this course. If you miss an exam (regardless of reason), I will consider that exam your lowest score in this course, and will consider only the other 2 exam scores in calculating your final grade. Late papers will **ONLY** be accepted if **PRIOR PERMISSION** is given by the instructor or teaching assistant, and will be subject to a grading penalty of 2 points per day the paper is late (including weekends). There will be **NO EXTRA CREDIT** given in this class.

Papers that are shoved under my office door will **NOT** be accepted. *I prefer to receive papers via email if necessary.*

Assignments (30 points)

All students are required to complete a series of written assignments throughout the semester. Assignments will help to integrate the material covered in class and reinforce the connection between concepts and life experiences. These assignments may be in-class or take-home assignments, and will be short (1 paragraph – 2 pages) in length. Take-home papers will be double-spaced, typed papers, in 12-point font, and will be due the following day **at the beginning of class**. Most of these assignments will be unannounced, and students will not know that they will be getting a written assignment until the day of class.

Note: I react seriously to spelling and grammatical errors. I strongly suggest that you run a spell-check on all papers before handing them in.

Final Paper (50 points)

See details at end of syllabus.

Grading

Two exams (50 points each)	100 points
Assignments (30 points)	30 points
Final Paper	50 points
Class participation	20 points

Total Possible	200 points

Anticipated Grading Scale:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
185+	A	153-158	C+
179-184	A-	145-152	C
171-178	B+	139-144	C-
165-170	B	133-138	D+
159-164	B-	120-132	D
		Below 120	E

PLEASE NOTE THAT STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE ANY OF THE ABOVE ASSIGNMENTS WITHOUT A VALID REASON (AS DECIDED BY THE INSTRUCTOR) WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE AN E REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF POINTS RECEIVED IN THIS COURSE.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes all forms of student academic misconduct illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Unpaid student statement (departmental policy)

Faculty rules specify that students are to have their fees paid by the first day of enrollment for the quarter. [Faculty Rule 3335-9-12]. If you have not paid your fees, you will not be allowed to continue attending class until:

1. your fees are paid, OR
2. you have a signed letter from Financial Aid stating that you are working with them to get your fees paid.

Course Schedule

Week One

9/24 W Introduction to the Course

Week Two

What is Violence Crime?

9/29 M Social Psychological Approach
HH – Chpt.1,2

10/1 W Psychological Perspective/ Psychopathy / Neuropsychological Factors
HH – Chpt.3, 4

Week Three

10/6 M Criminological Perspective I
Vold & Bernard - Chpt.10,11,13

Homicide

10/8 W Murder
HH – Chpt.12; FL – Chpt.1, 11

Week Four

10/13 M Serial and Mass Murder
Fox & Levin, Holmes & Holmes (HH on Carmen) – Chpt 7
Film: The mind of a serial killer

10/15 W Homicide and the Police
Guest Speaker – Sgt. Sacksteder, Columbus Division of Police
HH – Chpt.13; FL – Chpt.7,8; Ressler, Burgess & Douglas PO

Week Five

10/20 M Exam 1

Sexual Assault

10/22 W Sexual Assault I
Guest Speaker – Sgt. David Pelphrey, Columbus Division of Police
Holmes & Holmes (HH on Carmen) – Chpt. 8

Week Six

10/27 M Sexual Assault II
Guest Speaker – Deborah Schipper
HH – Chpt.10, 11
Bonus Movie Assignment due (in lieu of jail visit)

Intimate Partner Violence

10/29 W Partner Abuse I – Guest Lecturer - CHOICES
Johnson & Ferraro; HH – Chpt.8

Week Seven

11/3 M Partner Abuse II – Typologies/ Risk Factors and Treatment Interventions
Kantor & Jasinski

Child Abuse

11/5 W Child Abuse
Guest Speaker: Sgt. John Hurst, Jr., Columbus Division of Police
Wallace – Chpt.2,3; HH – Chpt.5, Holmes & Holmes (Chpt. 9)

Week Eight**Collective Violence**

11/10 M Guest Lecturer – Prof. Andrew Martin
McCarthy, McPhail & Martin
Final Paper Due

11/12 W **Franklin County Coroner’s Office 1:30pm**
520 King Ave, Columbus, OH

Week Nine**Prediction of Violence**

11/17 M Prediction of Violence
HH – Chpt.15; Monahan & Steadman; Monahan (20 years); Grisso &
Appelbaum

11/19 W **Franklin County Corrections Center Tour 1pm and 2 pm**
370 S. Front Street, Columbus, OH

Week Ten

11/24 M **Exam 2**

11/26 W NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING

Week Eleven

Media and Violence/ Gangs and Violence

12/1 M Guest Speaker – Det. Mark Lovett, Columbus Division of Police

12/3 W Film: 15 minutes

Final Exam Week

12/9 R Final Exam 1:30 – 3:18pm

NOTE: This schedule is subject to change. Students are responsible for changes announced in class even if they did not attend class the day of the announcement.

FINAL PAPER

Students will be required to read a crime novel and apply the information to material discussed in class. The book may be **any non-fiction novel** about an offender who has committed one or more acts of violence. Based on the information supplied in the book about the offender's history (e.g. childhood abuse/neglect etc.) and personality characteristics, students will theorize as to the cause/s of violence for the particular offender using the theoretical perspectives learned in class. The paper will include a brief summary and description of the offender and the crime/s that he or she has committed, and any theories regarding the cause/s of the offender's violence. The paper will be 8–12, double-spaced, pages in length. Students will turn in the paper in 12 pt. Font, with standard 1-inch margins. **The paper will be due at the beginning of class on Monday, November 10th.**

Examples of acceptable books:

Gilmore, Mikal. "Shot in the Heart". – writing about brother Gary Gilmore

Schechter, Harold. "Deviant" – writing about serial killer Ed Gein (on whom the character Hannibal Lecter is based)

NOTE: You should only pick offenders who have been legally convicted of crimes. Ie. Offenders such as John Wayne Gacy or Ted Bundy are ok, but Jack the Ripper is not, since the identity of the ripper was never legally discovered.