

Syllabus
CRIJ 5310 section 060
Spring 2022

Instructor: Carrie L. Easley, MS

Office: N/A

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(The best way to contact me is via email at ceasley@uttyler.edu)

Office Hours: By appointment only. I am an adjunct instructor, and I am not on campus, but I can make myself available for a meeting via Zoom, if needed.

Course Overview: An in-depth exploration of the concept of Y. (*Your course overview should correspond with the catalog description. If it doesn't, please submit a form to review the course description in the Curriculum Management portal. We want our catalog course descriptions to be current.*)

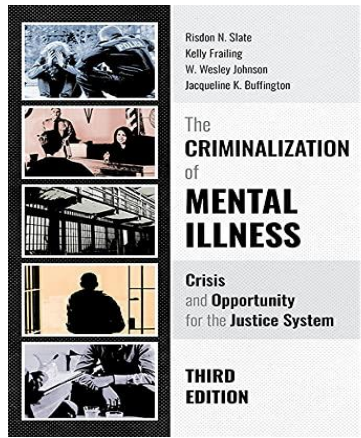
Student Learning Outcomes:

1) Get a better understanding and knowledge of mental illness and how persons with mental illness significantly impact the criminal justice system.
2) Become familiar with the mental health courts, the proceedings, and individuals' rights and the legality when interacting with individuals with a mental illness.
3) Become more familiar with history of mental illness and how society has moved from institutionalization to deinstitutionalization and why.
4) Discuss the importance of law enforcement agency training criteria and how it law enforcement agencies have become frontline mental health workers.

Overall "Big Question" we will be focused on all semester: How can the criminal justice system achieve an acceptable standard of justice in the United States regarding policing and interaction with persons with mental illness?

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Slate, R., Frailing, K., Johnson, W.W., & Buffington, J. (2021). *The Criminalization of Mental Illness: Crisis and Opportunity for the Justice System* (3rd Edition). Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press. ISBN 9781531004422



Assignments and weights/point values

1. Discussion Boards	20%
2. Lecture Quizzes	15%
3. Writing Assignments/Reflection Papers	20%
4. Paper Topic	5%
5. Semester Paper	25%
6. Final Exam	<u>15%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale:

A	93% or greater
B	83 – 92%
C	73 – 82%
D	63 – 72%
F	below 63%

**keep in mind, I round up. This means a 79.45 rounds to 79.50, which rounds to a 80.0

Late Work and Make-Up Exams: Unfortunately, illnesses, deaths in the family or other traumatic events are part of life. Such events are unwelcomed and because I understand how difficult these times are, if you contact me within 24 hours of the event and provide documentation, I will be happy to give you a make-up quiz or extend an assignment deadline.

The general rule is that I will not accept any late assignments. Please pay particular attention to the due dates for each assignment.

Attendance Policy (optional): This is an online course, but it is not a self-paced course. It is your responsibility to remain current. There are specific reading assignments and assessments that you are expected to complete on or before the due date/time. Of course exceptions of an

emergency nature arise so please let me know if you cannot make the deadline for a particular assignment.

UT Tyler does have a [Class Attendance policy](#) in the catalog.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Getting Started:

In the “Getting Started” module is where you will familiarize yourself with the syllabus, frequently asked questions, as well as links to resources to help you throughout the semester. You will find that Module 1 and Module 2 have already been posted. You will need to make sure you pay close attention to the required readings, discussion board post and quiz that is posted in Module 1. You will take the quiz until you receive a 100%. Previously mentioned in this syllabus, you have been informed on the grading scale. If you have any questions, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

Lecture Quizzes and Weekly Required Readings:

These quizzes could come from your weekly assigned readings, videos, or both. While I may not have a video with each weekly reading, I do have several videos that you will be required to watch and a quiz could possibly follow. The same goes for the required weekly readings. I will use much of this information to create a quiz, so that I know you are reading the required weekly readings. You must watch the videos that are posted, read the required readings, and complete any quizzes for the week completed by Saturday at 11:59pm.

Discussion Boards:

There will be numerous discussion boards this semester. Each of these will require you to think and apply the material you learned in your reading. Each discussion board will require you to make a post that is 250 words or greater. You must use evidence to support your position. This will require you to use the APA documentation when using someone else’s work (cite properly). You must reply to other students (a minimum of two students), along with commenting on any posts to your original posting. The **initial post** to your discussion board is due no later than **11:59pm on the Thursday** of the week when a discussion board occurs. This ensures all students have an opportunity to learn from other students. All replies to the discussion board will be due by 11:59 each Saturday of the week a discussion board occurs. Follow the specific instructions associated with each discussion board. Keep in mind, I will hold each one of you to a higher standard when responding to discussion board posts. Mental illness can be a very “touchy” topic and its stigma often keeps individuals from receiving proper treatment. With that being said, you are entitled to your opinion, however you must keep your responses professional. I will not tolerate responses that are unprofessional, racist, or biased.

Writing Assignments/Reflection papers:

There will be several reflection papers during this semester where you will be allowed to demonstrate your knowledge and application of your learning. These will be rated on your own written skills (grammar, spelling and diction), along with your analytical ability in connecting the course material to the assignment prompt. These writing assignments are designed to help you

improve your writing skills because effective writing is extremely important for the criminal justice student. Each reflection paper is due on the Saturday by 11:59pm of the week each is assigned.

Minimum Assignment Requirements:

1. You must use one-inch margins, Times New Roman with 12 pt. font.
2. Double spaced.
3. Use APA format.
4. Number your pages at the top right of each page.
5. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE
6. Use headings as this keeps you focused on what you will write about and it also informs the reader what he or she will read. (It is also an APA requirement)
7. Cite credible sources to support any argument you may have.
8. Upload in Canvas using a work document (.doc or .docx).

Paper Topic:

You will be required early in the semester to identify a diagnosis within mental health that you are more interested in learning about through research into the academic literature and government sources. You will have to inform me by week 3, which diagnosis you chose to further your knowledge in. You will choose only one diagnosis from the following:

- Major Depression
- Bipolar Disorder
- Schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder

Semester Paper:

The diagnosis you chose during week 3 of the semester will be the same diagnosis you will use to complete your semester paper. This paper will allow you to research and gain more in-depth knowledge about the mental health diagnosis that you chose while relating it to criminal justice. Your paper should reflect that you have researched the diagnosis and how the criminal justice system is affected daily by individuals with mental illness. Details for your paper are below:

1. The paper must be aligned with the diagnosis you had pre-approved by me, which was submitted during week 3 of the semester.
2. You must use one-inch margins, Times New Roman with 12 pt font.
3. Use APA standards and formatting (title page, headings, reference page, numbered pages, etc.).
4. The paper must be completed in Microsoft Word. I will not accept any assignment via email. It must be uploaded in Canvas.
5. A ten (10) page minimum that utilizes at least six (six) peer-reviewed references. The title page, abstract, and reference pages are not included in the minimum page requirement.

Important reminder: generally, when writing an academic paper you will not use the same informal language you use during daily conversations. This type of informal language will negatively impact your grade.

Final Examination:

For your final examination, there will be a 75-question test that will be made up of true/false questions and multiple-choice questions. There will also be a short answer question that you will be required to answer. The questions will be taken directly from your required readings throughout the semester.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

This calendar is a tentative course schedule. All the initial discussions are due on Thursdays by 11:59pm with replies/responses due on Sundays by 11:59pm.

Module 1: Introduction to The Criminalization of Mental Illness

Week 1: January 10-15 This is the first week of the semester and you should be familiarizing yourself with the syllabus, due dates and what is expected of you. You will review the “Getting Started” module as well as read the first chapter in the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Assignments:

Read Chapter 1, Introduction from the Slate et al., 2021 book. Complete the Discussion Board #1. You must introduce yourself in this initial post as well as state one thing you hope to learn from this class. Due by Jan 15 (initial post is due by Thursday, Jan 13 and replies by Saturday, Jan 22- no later than 11:59pm on both days)

Complete introduction quiz until you receive 100%. Due by Jan 15 at 11:59pm.

Module 2: The History of Criminalization of Persons with Mental Illness

Week 2: January 16-22 Last week’s reading gave you a very broad overview over mental illness and the diagnoses that are considered serious mental illness. We will learn in this week’s readings and video, more history on mental illness and why law enforcement agencies have become frontline mental health workers.

Assignments:

Read Chapter 2, The History of Criminalization of Persons with Mental Illness from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Watch the you tube video that is in module 2. Due by Jan 22 at 11:59pm.

Writing assignment/Reflection paper (Writing # 1) due in Canvas by Jan 22 at 11:59pm.

***UT Tyler is closed on Monday January 17 for the MLK Holiday

Module 3: Challenges and Needs of Persons with Mental Illness in the Criminal Justice System

Week 3: January 23-29 This week has a rather large amount of reading in the Slate et al., 2021 book, but the amount of information is crucial for your learning in this class. In this week's reading assignment, we will learn the many challenges and needs that many individuals with mental illness encounter, as well as the challenges and needs for the criminal justice system. You will find that stigma plays a major role in the challenges and needs. You will also submit to me via email, the topic that you chose to expand your knowledge for your semester paper.

Assignments:

Read chapter 3, Challenges and Needs of Persons with Mental Illness in the Criminal Justice System from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Watch the you tube video posted in module 3. Due by Jan 29 at 11:59pm.

Take the quiz over chapter 3 posted in module 3. Due by Jan 29 at 11:59pm.

Submit to me, via email, at ceasley@uttyler.edu the topic you have chosen to further your learning for your semester paper. Due Jan 29 at 11:59pm.

***Census Day is January 24th

Module 4: Civil Commitment

Week 4: Jan 30- Feb 5 It seems as if you have taken in a large amount of information regarding mental illness and the challenges thus far. But you have just begun to gain an understanding to the many different facets that make up mental illness. There is no way possible we could learn everything there is to know about mental illness in this semester; the challenges that individuals face not only in the day-to-day living in the community, but the challenges that the criminal justice system faces despite mental illness and its

entirety. This week we will discuss Civil Commitments. What are civil commitments? How does civil commitment differ from criminal commitment? Controversies that surround inpatient civil commitment. We will also discuss outpatient commitment and the controversies. How do civil commitments affect the criminal justice system?

Assignments:

Read chapter 4, Civil Commitment in the Criminal Justice System from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Complete Discussion Board #2. You must make your initial post, and then respond to a minimum of two (2) classmates post which is due by Feb 5 (initial post is due by Thursday, Feb 3 and replies by Saturday, Feb 5- no later than 11:59pm on both days).

Module 5: The Law Enforcement Response to Persons with Mental Illnesses in Crises

Week 5: February 6-12

This week we begin to discuss further the law enforcement's role and response to individuals with mental illness; various trainings regarding interacting with individuals with mental illness and crises; and the importance of the different models that various law enforcement agencies adopt.

Assignments:

Read chapter 5, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Watch the you tube videos posted in module 5. Due by Feb 12 at 11:59pm.

Take the quiz over chapter 5 posted in module 5. Due by Feb 12 at 11:59pm.

Module 6: Jail Processing of Persons with Mental Illness

Week 6: February 13-19

This week we take a further step into the jails and the challenges that jails in the United States encounter regarding persons with mental illness.

Assignments:

Read chapter 6, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Take the quiz over chapter 6 posted in module 6. Due by Feb 19 at 11:59pm.

Module 7: Competency & Criminal Responsibility of Criminal Defendants

Week 7: February 20-26

Now we will direct our focus toward the court room to discuss the challenges that arise for persons with mental illness. Not only does the individual face challenges, but the legal system also faces challenges as well. We will discuss competency and insanity. Do they mean the same thing? Plea agreements, court ordered evaluations to determine competency, and even criminal responsibility.

Assignments:

Read chapter 7, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Watch the you tube video posted in module 7. Due by Feb 26 at 11:59pm.

Take the quiz over chapter 7 posted in module 7. Due by Feb 26 at 11:59pm.

Complete Discussion Board #3. You must make your initial post, and then respond to a minimum of two (2) classmates post which is due by Feb 26 (initial post is due by Thursday, Feb 24 and replies by Saturday, Feb 26- no later than 11:59pm on both days).

Module 8: Mental Health Courts

Week 8: Feb 27- March 5

Now that we are more familiar with criminal responsibilities of criminal defendants, lets look at mental health courts. What are mental health courts? Why were they created? What is their purpose? What areas of concern are present in mental health courts?

Assignments:

Read chapter 8, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Take the quiz over chapter 8 posted in module 8. Due by March 5 at 11:59pm.

March 7-12

Spring Break

(I know that this is a time for you to relax and regroup, however if you are not caught up on the readings you can use this time to catch up or even read ahead.)

Module 9: Mental Illness in the Prison Population: Secure and Treat?

Week 9: March 13-19

This week's reading focuses on the prison population and how mental illness directly affects the population within. This week we will write a reflection paper over the reading assignment.

Assignments:

Read chapter 9, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.
Watch the you tube video posted in module 9. Due by March 19 at 11:59pm.
Writing assignment/Reflection paper (Writing # 2) due in Canvas by March 19 at 11:59pm.

Module 10: Continuation of Mental Illness in the Prison Population

Week 10: March 20-26 This week will be a lighter week. This will be a continuation of mental illness in the prison population. This week you will not have a reading assignment, however there will be a discussion board assignment based on the video.

Assignments:

Watch the you tube video posted in module 10. Due by March 23 at 11:59pm.

Complete Discussion Board #4. You must make your initial post, and then respond to a minimum of two (2) classmates post which is due by March 26 (initial post is due by Thursday, March 24 and replies by Saturday, March 26- no later than 11:59pm on both days).

Use the remainder of this time to work on your semester paper.

Module 11: Diversion and Reentry: Strategies for Discharging Offenders Living with Mental Illness

Week 11: March 27-April 2 At some point, many offenders are released from prisons and jails. Even when an offender doesn't have a mental illness, there are still challenges that persons can face when reentering society. This week we will look at discharge planning, diversion, and probation and parole.

Assignments:

Read chapter 10, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Watch the you tube video posted in module 11. Due by April 2 at 11:59pm.

Take the quiz over chapter 10 posted in module 11. Due by April 2 at 11:59pm.

***March 28: last day to withdraw from one or more classes with "W"

Module 12: Conclusion: Striving for Informed Policies

Week 12: April 3-9

Congratulations! This is your last reading assignment out of the Slate et al., 2021 book. This week's reading assignment gives you a small insight into the importance of informed policies. Mental illness and the criminal justice system will continue to be bound to each other.

Assignments:

Read chapter 11, from the Slate et al., 2021 book.

Take the quiz over chapter 11 posted in module 12. Due by April 9 at 11:59pm.

Watch the you tube video posted in module 11. Due by April 9 at 11:59pm.

Module 13: Semester Paper

Week 13: April 10-16

This week you will use this time to complete your semester paper. Please refer to module 13 as well as the requirements and criteria mentioned in the section "Semester Paper" of this syllabus.

Assignments:

You will submit your semester paper in canvas in module 13. Due by April 16 at 11:59pm.

Module 14: Final Exam

Week 14: April 17-23

This week we will wrap up your semester with the final exam.

Assignment:

Final exam is due by Friday, April 22 at 11:59pm.