

# SYLLABUS

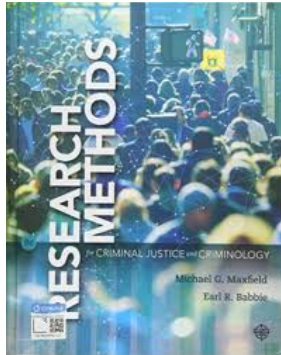
## CJ 3170 Criminal Justice Research Methods

**Instructor:** Tom Chiang, M.A., M.S.Ed.

**Department:** Criminal Justice

**E-Mail:** tchiang@csustan.edu email is the best way to get a hold of me

### Required Text



*Research Methods for Criminal Justice by Maxfield & Babbie.*

- **EDITION:** 8TH
- **PUBLISHER:** CENGAGE L
- **ISBN:** 9781337091824

### **Catalog Course Objectives**

Directed social science research applied to gathering data in criminal justice and criminological research. The focus will be on special problems encountered in research settings and groups where information about crime is to be gathered and analyzed. Include review of research.

### **Learning Objectives**

The main learning objective of the course is to prepare students to have a better understanding of criminal justice/criminology research and eventually conduct a scientific social research on their own. After completing this course, students will be able to:

- identify and demonstrate their understanding of fundamental terminologies and elements in a scientific social research,
- conduct a literature review and apply this literature review to their final research project
- understand and explain actual knowledge and theoretical background of conducting a scientific social research,
- design and create a criminal justice related research project, and
- produce a scientific criminal justice social research on their own in the future

## Evaluation Assignments & Percentage of Total Grade

### *Final Research Project- 55%*

- Choosing your topic from provided list on Canvas - 5 %
- Based on chosen topic above and original research from scholarly sources, write an introduction to the topic, a literature review section, at least 2 research questions & hypotheses section, and an APA reference section- 20%
  - Original Assignment 1 - 8%
  - Revised Assignment 1- 12%
- Choose a research design from provided list on Canvas and write a paragraph supporting your decision as to why it is the best method- 10%
  - A revised copy will go into your proposed research/ data design section (see assignment below)
- Based on chosen topic above, contains the same elements found in above assignment plus a proposed research/ data design section, abstract, and a preliminary budget- 20%
  - Original Assignment 2 - 8%
  - Revised Assignment 2- 12%

### *Exams/Quizzes- 45%*

- Exam 1- 20%
- Exam 2- 25%

### *Extra Credit - 5% - 10 %*

To add up to 10 % to your final grade, meet with instructor (me) as much possible if you have questions regarding assignments.

## Grading Policy

The final grades will be assigned according to the following scales:

100 - 90% A	75 - 73% C
89 - 86% B+	72 - 70% C-
86 - 83% B	69 - 63% D
82 - 80% B-	62 - 60% D-
79 - 76% C+	X < 60% F

Please note that since this is a Writing Proficient (WP) course, you will have to earn at least a C- to fulfill your University writing requirement for graduation. If you receive a D in this class, you can (1) retake this class and earn at least C- or (2) take a different WP class and pass that class

with at least a C- to fulfill your graduation writing requirement. If you receive an F in this class, you will need to re-take this class and earn at least a C- to fulfill your CJ and WP requirement. \*\*WPST is no longer required for taking a WP course nor for graduation.

### **Written Assignments and Exams**

All written assignments must be typed and double-spaced and submitted via Canvas. Please follow all the deadlines specified in the course syllabus.

### **Late Assignment**

***No late assignments*** will be accepted **UNLESS** you reach out via email for an extension ***prior to OR within 24 hours after*** assignment is due.

### **Cheating**

Cheating on exams or copying another people's assignment (plagiarism) will not be tolerated; anyone violating this policy will receive an "F" for the course. Plagiarism According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, to "plagiarize" means: • to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own • to use (another's production) without crediting the source • to commit literary theft • to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source According to <http://www.plagiarism.org/article/what-is-plagiarism> all of the following are considered plagiarism: • turning in someone else's work as your own • copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit • failing to put a quotation in quotation marks • giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation • changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit • copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)

Here is the link to the Student Conduct Code: <https://www.csustan.edu/sites/default/files/JudicialAffairs/documents/StudentConductCode.pdf>

## **RESOURCES**

### **University Library**

The Library offers face-to-face sessions as well as online tutorials and research guides <http://library.csustan.edu:8080/researchassistance.html>

### **Disability Resource Services**

CSU Stanislaus respects all forms of diversity. By university commitment and by law, students with disabilities are entitled to participate in academic activities and to be tested in a manner that accurately assesses their knowledge and skills. They also may qualify for reasonable accommodations that ensure equal access to lectures, labs, films, and other class-related activities. Please see the instructor if you need accommodations for a registered disability. Students can contact the Disability Resource Services office for additional information. The Disability Resource Services website can be accessed at <http://www.csustan.edu/DRS/> Phone: (209) 667-3159 University

### **Writing Center**

The Writing Center offers free individual and small group tutoring to students from all disciplines and at all levels of proficiency. Dedicated to encouraging dialogue among writers and helping students become successful writers, the Writing Center provides a supportive, judgment-free atmosphere in which tutors share strategies and experiences at each stage of the writing process. Graduate and undergraduate tutors are evolving writers who, through experience and training, continue to develop their abilities as tutors and writers.

The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.csustan.edu/writingcenter/>

Phone: Writing Center: (209) 667-3465

Email: [writingcenter@csustan.edu](mailto:writingcenter@csustan.edu)

### **Schedule**

**Jan 28—Feb 11: Chapter 1- Crime, Criminal Justice, & Scientific Inquiry (Page 4-Page 14)**

**Feb 11—Feb 25: Chapter 7- Experimental & Quasi Experimental Designs**

**Feb 25- Mar 4: Chapter 9- Survey Research**

**Mar 4- Mar 18: Chapter 8- Sampling**

**Mar 13: *Topic Due***

**Mar 18: *Exam 1 on topics above***

**Mar 18- April 1: Chapter 12- Agency Records, Content Analysis & Secondary Data**

**April 1- April 15: Chapter 11- Field Observation**

**April 8: *Assignment 1 Due***

**April 15- April 29: Chapter 10- Qualitative Interviewing**

**April 17: *Research Design Proposal/ Justification Due***

**April 22: *Assignment 1 Revised due***

**April 29- May 6: Chapter 1- Crime, Criminal Justice, & Scientific Inquiry (Page 14- Page 26)**

**May 6: *Exam 2 on topics above***

**May 13: *Assignment 2 Due***

**May 23: *Assignment 2 Revised Due***