

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
University of Florida

SPRING 2019

PSY 4930 Sec 4F59 Class No. 22569 Syllabus
Monday-Wednesday-Friday 2nd period 8:30 AM to 9:20 AM
Room 3194 MCCA

Professor Thomas G. Pye, JD
Office: 136 Psychology Bldg.
tom@pyelaw.com (or through CANVAS)
352-381-9799 (office)
352-381-9726 (fax)
Office Hours: W 7:30 to 8:20 by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Alyssa Presson apresson@ufl.edu Role: Discussion Preparation
Tyler Duffy duffytylerm@ufl.edu Role: Case Briefs Assistance

Discussion TA Office Hours: Friday's Class time/in classroom
Case Brief TA Office Hours: Thursdays periods 6- 7, which is 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance.

No Required Text Book

Readings:

There will be 10 Court Cases on key Forensic Psychology issues this semester, either linked or provided via pdf file on Canvas.

What is the focus of Forensic Psychology?

This class has a heavy emphasis on the law and the legal system. You will be learning a lot of legal terminology and legal concepts. This course will provide you with an advanced introduction to forensic psychology — a subfield of psychology in which basic and applied psychological science or scientifically-oriented professional practice is applied to the law to help resolve legal matters.

"Forensic" comes from the Latin word for "court," and "forensic psychologists" are psychologists who help courts make decisions about people when some question related to psychology is involved. Thus, forensic psychologists typically are involved in cases before the legal decision is made, and they help courts make informed decisions about cases.

By the end of this course students will be informed about the following topic areas:

- General Introduction as to what Forensic Psychology is
- Court Consulting as it relates to Forensic Psychology
- How Forensic Psychology relates to Police
- The study of Serial Killers
- Notable Serial Killers
- Profiling of Criminal Suspects
- Science in the Courtroom
- Eye Witness Identification issues
- Civil Issues relating to the science of Forensic Psychology

The development of critical thought is emphasized. You will read and critically analyze arguments on both sides of relevant contemporary psycho-legal issues as brought out by reading about significant legal matters relating to these topics.

ACCOMMODATIONS

"Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation." The signed documentation will then be the responsibility of the student to return to the DSO.

COMMUNICATION

You will find that I take a very active interest in your success in this class. I try to get to know each and every one of you. I encourage you to email me any questions, comments, or concerns that you may have at any time. You may be surprised how helpful this communication can be and how I welcome it. You will receive a prompt reply.

CLASS DEMEANOR

I try to create a relaxed environment to foster discussion. In order to do that, I request that everyone arrive on time, with your cell phones "off". No texting, no chatting, no working on other class assignments, no video games or other distractions on laptops (you can however use your laptops for note taking).

Grading: 1000 Possible Points as Follows:

1. 600 Points (60%) EXAMS

Three Multiple Choice Exams, non-cumulative covering the Lectures

1 st Exam (Lectures to date)	30 questions 180 Points
2 nd Exam (Lectures since Exam 1)	30 questions 180 Points
3 rd Exam (Lectures since Exam 2)	40 questions 240 Points

There is NO make up for a missed exam without a documented emergency. These are right from the lecture, thus attending each lecture is essential for doing well in the class.

2. 300 Points (30%) CASE BRIEFS

- (1) There will be ten (10) Case Briefs (each student on their own and without the help of any classmate) of 1 page.
- (2) Each Case Brief will be awarded up to 30 points, 300 possible points between the 10 assigned papers through the term, thus 30% of your total grade.
- (3) You will receive a Case Brief Template detailing what needs to be done in the Case Brief and the way to earn all possible points. **FOLLOW THE TEMPLATE.** Brevity is rewarded.
- (4) Case Briefs are due via Canvas by 5 PM on the days noted in this syllabus, you will receive the reading assignment on Sunday during the week that it is due and can turn in your Case Brief anytime after the assignment is posted.
- (5) Any Case Brief that is uploaded later than 5 PM will be blocked by CANVAS and receive no points. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE**, and as such, computer issues and even illness will not be an excuse for late Case Briefs since you will have all week to complete the paper. Do not wait until the last minute to try

- to upload, and use a browser that is compatible with CANVAS to upload, and make sure you get a message indicating the upload was a success.
- (6) Your grades on these Case Briefs are generally posted within 36 hours of the deadline, so check your Canvas regularly for grades and comments as well.
 - (7) Questions associated with the case briefs are to be directed to TA Tyler Duffy duffytylerm@ufl.edu

3. **100 Points (10%) Discussions**

- (1) In class, student led discussions will be held on topics of particular interest or controversy associated with a weekly Case Brief that has been turned in [see No. 2 above].
- (2) There will be a total of six (6) or perhaps seven (7) if needed, of these discussions during the course of the semester. Each discussion will be for approximately 30 minutes during class time according to the schedule listed below.
- (3) Students will be assigned discussion "groups" of 4-6 students. Each side of the group will consist of approximately 2-3 students. Each group member IS required to speak equally during the presentation.
- (4) The Discussion Teaching Assistant will be the go to person on the discussions and will meet with both sides of the group two times for each discussion [one meeting on the Friday during scheduled class time and the second meeting occurring sometime over the weekend, almost always on Sunday, before the discussion in order to practice a run-through and/or final thoughts].

CHECK YOUR SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND CONFLICTS FOR ANY OF THE BELOW DISCUSSION DATES AND EMAIL ME tom@pyelaw.com and provide a copy to the Discussion TA Alyssa Presson apresson@ufl.edu SO THAT YOU DO NOT GET ASSIGNED TO A GROUP ON A WEEKEND THAT YOU HAVE A CONFLICT. A CONFLICT IS DEFINED AS AN ACADEMIC ISSUE OR FAMILY OBLIGATION. **DO THIS BY 11 AM ON JANUARY 14 2019**

Groups:

Discussion 1	Friday - Monday 1/25/18 - 1/28/18
Discussion 2	Friday - Monday 2/01/18 - 2/04/18
Discussion 3	Friday - Monday 2/08/18 - 2/11/18
Discussion 4	Friday - Monday 2/15/18 - 2/18/18
Discussion 5	Friday - Monday 2/22/18 - 2/25/18
Discussion 6	Friday - Monday 3/22/18 - 3/25/18
Discussion 7	Friday - Monday 3/29/18 - 4 /01/18 (if needed)

Be available these dates

CHECK YOUR EMAIL AND CANVAS TWICE DAILY:

I tend to be in frequent contact with the class. It is how I assign the weekly readings. It is also how I assign the discussion groups and how I post your grades for your Case Briefs, etc.

Since this schedule below is preliminary, changes may be made to the schedule if some sections require more time or discussion, or other events or issues present themselves.

If I am absent, I will post it in advance, so check your email and E learning Canvas before class each day.

Lecture Power Points

Outlines of these are on E Learning Canvas under Assignments on a weekly basis or sooner, depending on how quickly we cover them in class.

Attendance Policy

Besides Exam Dates, those dates associated with your Discussion Presentation and the Discussion Rubric, there is one **REQUIRED Class day**:
January 14, 2019

Penalty for a non-excused absence on a required attendance day shall be 5 points off your total final score. The remainder of the class dates are at your discretion, but advised.

GRADES

This class will be graded with the plus/minus system based on the following point totals, there will be NO extra credit, and there is NO grade "boosting" or "rounding up", for example a 899 is a B+ and will NOT be boosted or rounded up, the same follows for all of these numbers below:

93-100% [930-1000] = A
90-92% [900-929] = A-
87-89% [870-899] = B+
83-86% [830-869] = B
80-82% [800-829] = B-
77-79% [770-799] = C+
73-76% [730-769] = C
70-72% [700-729] = C-
67-69% [670-699] = D+
63-66% [630-669] = D
60-62% [600-629] = D-
Below 600 is failing

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

University policy defines scholastic dishonesty as any act that violates the rights of another student with respect to academic work or that involves misrepresentations of a student's own work. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to): cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing (misrepresenting as one's own work anything done by another); submitting the same or substantially similar papers for more than one course without consent of all instructors concerned; depriving another of necessary course materials; or sabotaging another's work. For a full description of what constitutes academic dishonesty and plagiarism, see the University of Florida Student Honor Code at: <http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4018.pdf>

University Resources:

Libraries - <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/computing.html>

Psychology Advising: <http://www.psych.ufl.edu/~undergrad>

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
University of Florida

SCHEDULE

Jan 7 – Jan 11

Monday	Introduction/Discuss Class/Grading/Assignments
Wednesday	Lecture
Friday	Lecture

Jan 14 – Jan 18

Monday	Interview and presentation (REQUIRED ATTENDANCE)
Wednesday	Lecture
Friday	How to do a Case Brief for Forensic Psychology

Jan 21 – Jan 25

Monday	Holiday
Wednesday	Lecture
Thursday	CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday	(1) Reading assignment 1 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper (2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS (3) Discussion group #1 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

Jan 28 – Feb 1

Monday	Discussion #1
Wednesday	Lecture
Thursday	CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday	(1) Reading assignment 2 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper (2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS (3) Discussion group #2 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

Feb 4 – Feb 8

Monday	Discussion #2
Wednesday	Lecture
Thursday	CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday	(1) Reading assignment 3 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper. (2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS (3) Discussion group #3 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

Feb 11 – Feb 15

Monday Discussion #3
Wednesday **Exam 1 (Lectures to date)**
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 4 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS
(3) Discussion group #4 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

Feb 18 – Feb 22

Monday Discussion #4
Wednesday Lecture
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 5 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper.
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS
(3) Discussion group #5 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

Feb 25 – March 1

Monday Discussion #5
Wednesday Lecture
Friday Catch up day (if needed)

March 4 – March 8 SPRING BREAK ENJOY!

March 11 – March 15

Monday Lecture
Wednesday Lecture
Friday Lecture

March 18 – March 22

Monday Lecture
Wednesday **Exam 2 (Lectures since Exam 1)**
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 6 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper.
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS
(3) Discussion group #6 meets in classroom with Discussion TA

March 25 - March 29

Monday Discussion #6
Wednesday Lecture
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance

Friday (1) Reading assignment 7 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS
(3) Discussion group #7 meets in classroom with Discussion TA.

April 1 – April 5

Monday Discussion #7 (if needed)
Wednesday Lecture
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 8 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS

April 8 – April 12

Monday Lecture
Wednesday Lecture
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 9 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS

April 15 – April 19

Monday Lecture
Wednesday Lecture
Thursday CASE BRIEF TA OFFICE HOURS: periods 6- 7, 12:50 to 2:45 at Library West, ground floor to the left of the entrance
Friday (1) Reading assignment 10 will be on CANVAS all week, use this day to do/finish the paper
(2) Paper due by 5 PM via CANVAS

April 22 – April 25

Monday catch up if needed
Wednesday **Exam 3 (Lectures since Exam 2)**