

ENF627 Crime Analysis Project

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Capstone course utilizing the skills for other analysis courses, the student will work with an instructor to develop a crime analysis project. This project will describe a defined problem, set parameters for solving the problem, select tools and options for choosing a correct path for solving the problem. The project does not necessarily have to involve crime analysis but it must approach a significant problem that any police department might experience. To be taken last semester.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain and interpret various policing approaches and their role in managing and controlling crime.
2. Evaluate and utilize appropriate data resources in criminal research and analysis.
3. Develop and apply problem-solving strategies in crime-related scenarios.
4. Apply demographic information to crime research and problem-solving.
5. Identify and apply data integrity standards into analysis and research practices.
6. Analyze the appropriate application of descriptive and multivariate statistics, inferential statistics and the need for sampling in research scenarios.
7. Evaluate MOs, signatures, motives, and criminal behavior and their role in crime.
8. Apply crime mapping methods and spatial analyses in crime data research.
9. Apply qualitative, quantitative, temporal and spatial analyses in crime data research.
10. Utilize software to create analytical and visual presentations that illustrate crime data and statistics.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Included Resources:

Dantzker, M., Hunter, R., & Quinn, S. (Ed.4).(2018). *Research methods for criminology and criminal justice*. Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#).

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

This course has been designed as a **Position Post** course type.

This means that on **Wednesday** of each week, you will submit a “position post” to the forum in response to a given prompt. Although there is no specific minimum word requirement, your Position Post should:

- Be substantive enough to fully explore the question posed, while being well constructed and free of “filler” language and wordiness,
- Use, and properly cite, outside sources that support your position,

- Include your “Design Statement” that outlines your process for researching and constructing your Position

While **Saturday** assignments may vary, they will generally serve to deepen your understanding and build **connections** with the week’s learning topics. Examples of possible Saturday activities include:

- A second Position Post in response to a new prompt
- Summarizing themes in your peers’ Wednesday Position Posts
- Explaining how peers’ Wednesday Position Posts affect your own thinking about the topic.
- Critiquing and refining your original Post in response to new information (additional readings, etc.).
- *Note: since Saturday activities will vary, be sure to read directions carefully.*

By **Sunday** of each week, you will have a “summative” assignment due where you will **apply** what you learned. This could be an exam, a paper, a presentation, an infographic, etc. Be sure to read directions carefully for the assignment.

Finally, you will be writing a **reflection**, due each **Sunday**, that reflects on your learning. This kind of writing often asks you to think about your own thinking (metacognition) and will include a prompt to which you must respond. It is **not** writing about your feelings. Reflection is often the best way we learn something, so do your best to analyze your own thought processes.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity per week.

| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Total |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|------------|
| Forums Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (15) | Forums Activity 2.1 (25) | Forums Activity 3.1 (25) | Forums Activity 4.1 (25) | Forums Activity 5.1 (20) | Forums Activity 6.1 (20) | Forums Activity 7.1 (20) | 150 |
| Assignments Activity 1.3 (40) Activity 1.4 | Assignments Activity 2.2 (10) Activity 2.3 | Assignments Activity 3.2 (10) Activity 2.3 | Assignments Activity 4.2 (10) Activity 4.3 | Assignments Activity 5.2 (10) Activity 5.3 | Assignments Activity 6.2 (10) Activity 6.3 | Assignments Activity 7.2 (10) Activity 7.3 | 850 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| (10) | (50) Activity 2.4 (10) | (50) Activity 2.4 (10) | (50) Activity 4.4 (10) | (50) Activity 5.4 (10) | (50) Activity 6.4 (10) | (430) Activity 7.4 (10) | |
| 65 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 90 | 90 | 470 | 1000 |

Graduate Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

- ☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Introductory Post

Week 1 – Intro to Crime Analysis

- ☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ WED: Activity 1.2: The Crime Control Model
- ☐ SAT: Activity 1.3: Capstone Project Plan
- ☐ SUN: Activity 1.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 2 – Thinking Critically

- ☐ WED: Activity 2.1: Week 2 Skills
- ☐ SAT: Activity 2.2: Week 2 Skills Connection
- ☐ SUN: Activity 2.3: Capstone Project Plan
- ☐ SUN: Activity 2.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 3 – Analyzing Crime Rates

- ☐ WED: Activity 3.1: Week 3 Skills
- ☐ SAT: Activity 3.2: Week 3 Skills Connection
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.3: Capstone Project Plan
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 4 – Crime Statistics

- ☐ WED: Activity 4.1: Week 4 Skills
- ☐ SAT: Activity 4.2: Week 4 Skills Connection
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.3: Capstone Project Plan
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 5 – Criminal Behavior Mapping

- ☐ WED: Activity 5.1: Week 5 Skills
- ☐ SAT: Activity 5.2: Week 5 Skills Connection
- ☐ SUN: Activity 5.3: Capstone Project Plan

- SUN: Activity 5.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 6 – Qualitative Criminal Analysis

- WED: Activity 6.1: Week 6 Skills
- SAT: Activity 6.2: Week 6 Skills Connection
- SUN: Activity 6.3: Capstone Project Plan
- SUN: Activity 6.4: Weekly Reflection

Week 7 – Organizing Your Data

- WED: Activity 7.1: Week 7 Skills
- SAT: Activity 7.2: Week 7 Skills Connection
- SUN: Activity 7.3: Capstone Project (Final Draft)
- SUN: Activity 7.4: Course Reflection

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.