

## **ENF420 Criminal Interviewing**

### **(3 credit hours)**

### **Course Syllabus**

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### **Course Description**

This course will examine several different interview techniques including the PEACE model, Reid, and kinesics interviewing. This course emphasizes interviewing potential suspects, witnesses, and victims, with respect and dignity. This course will emphasize constitutional mandates including the avoidance of coercion, threats, or promises that cannot be kept. Topics include distinctions between interviewing and interrogation, preparation and the formulation of questions, application of law, videotaping, and distinguishing between truthful and false confessions.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Distinguish the differences between interviews and interrogations.
2. Explain the process and elements of obtaining information from an interview.
3. Evaluate the importance of the interview room and the actions of the interviewer.
4. Employ the details of interview preparation.
5. Assess behaviors of an interviewee and what they mean.
6. Analyze and interpret interrogation law.
7. Analyze the importance of videotaping to aid in the scrutiny of allegations made by both the interviewer and the interviewee.

### **Required Textbook(s) and Resources**

Textbook: Zulawski, D. E., & Wicklander, D. E. (2004). Practical aspects of interview and interrogation (2nd ed.). Boca Raton: Chapman and Hall/CRC. Bundle will include membership to the International Association of Interviewers

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 class you should plan your time wisely. With our accelerated, seven-week term, you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week** to complete readings and assignments. 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 forum discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Wednesdays** and response posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Saturdays**.
4. Major assignments and reflections are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Sundays**.

## Grading

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

| Activity                      | Week 1     | Week 2     | Week 3     | Week 4     | Week 5     | Week 6     | Week 7     | Total       |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Discussion                    | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 210         |
| Assignment:<br>Essay          | 50         | 50         | 75         | 75         | 75         | 75         | -          | 400         |
| Assignment:<br>Course Project | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 210         |
| Quiz                          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | 180        | 180         |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>110</b> | <b>110</b> | <b>135</b> | <b>135</b> | <b>135</b> | <b>135</b> | <b>240</b> | <b>1000</b> |

## Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | D: 60-69% | F: <60%

## Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

| Topic                                       | Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)  |
|---|---|
| Week 1: Overview, Preparation, and Strategy | <input type="checkbox"/> MON: Week 1 Introductory Discussion – Introductory Post<br><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 1 Discussion – Introductory Post |

| <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Learning Activities</b> (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 1 Introductory Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 1 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 1 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 1 Quiz</li> </ul> |
| Week 2: Interview Preparation                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 2 Discussion – Introductory Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 2 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 2 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 2 Quiz</li> </ul>           |
| Week 3: Interview Preparation (continued)                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 3 Discussion – Introductory Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 3 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 3 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 3 Quiz</li> </ul>           |
| Week 4: Interviewing                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 4 Discussion – Introductory Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 4 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 4 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 4 Quiz</li> </ul>           |
| Week 5: Establishing Credibility and Reducing Resistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 5 Discussion – Introductory Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 5 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 5 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 5 Quiz</li> </ul>           |
| Week 6: Reducing Resistance and Obtaining the Admission  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> WED: Week 6 Discussion – Introductory Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Week 6 Discussion – Secondary Post</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 6 Assignment: Essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 6 Quiz</li> </ul>           |
| Week 7: Development of the Admission and Conclusion      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> THU: Week 7 Assignment: Course Project</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Week 7 Quiz</li> </ul>   |

## 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.