SYLLABUS

CRJ 301-003 – Research Methods in Criminal Justice
Spring 2009 – Dr. Timothy C. Hart

CLASS MEETINGS:  Tuesdays/Thursdays 1:00pm – 2:15pm
                  CBC C235

OFFICE HOURS:    Monday and Wednesday 1:00pm – 2:15pm
                  Tuesday and Thursday 2:30am – 3:45pm or by appointment
                  Greenspun Hall #5122

           Pine Forge. Thousand Oaks, CA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Introduction to the methods of criminological research; overviews of
philosophy of science, research ethics, research design issues (such as sampling
and measurement), and methods of data collections (including survey,
ethnographic, experimental, and evaluation research).

GRADING:
1. Message Board Discussions  200 points  (8 at 25 pts. each)
2. Unit Quizzes               200 points  (8 at 25 pts. each)
3. Application Exercises      250 points  (10 at 25 pts. each)
4. Ethics, IRB, & Research Assignment  100 points
5. Midterm Exam               125 points
6. Final Exam                 125 points

Final course grades will be based on 1,000 points and graded according to the
following scale:

A = 900-1,000
B = 800-899
C = 700-799
D = 600-699
F = 0-599

NOTES:
The instructor will also make use of materials and information outside of the
textbook. Students will be held responsible for all assigned readings, class notes,
handouts, video tapes, etc. Audio/visual recording of lectures is prohibited.

TARDINESS:
If you arrive and the class door is shut, please see me after class. Do not enter and
disturb the class in progress.
ECDs: Please turn off or “mute” all Electronic Communication Devices (ECDs) such as cell phones, pagers, etc. before coming to class. Audio recording of the course lectures is not permitted.

MISCONDUCT: “Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.” (Student Conduct Code). An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism: “Using the words or ideas of another, from the internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources.” See the “Student Academic Misconduct Policy” (12/05, in the approval process).

CHILDREN: Children are not permitted in the classroom. Although there is no policy prohibiting bringing children to class, it falls within the Student Conduct Code, Sections III.K. and L. relating to “disrupting” the classroom and/or university operations. See http://studentlife.unlv.edu/judicial/student.html.

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DISABILITIES: The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/.

SYLLABUS The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus at any time during the semester. If changes are made, information regarding the changes will be conveyed to students in class and will also be posted on WebCampus.

EMAIL By policy, faculty and staff are required to e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Therefore, all e-mail communication from the instructor for this course will be sent via Rebelmail.
### COURSE OUTLINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Midterm &amp; Ethics in Research Project</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Ethics, IRB, &amp; Research Assignment Midterm</td>
<td>3-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Qualitative Methods and Qualitative Data Analysis</td>
<td>9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>1. Discussion Board 2. A &amp; A Exercise 9 3. Unit Quiz</td>
<td>4-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Final Exam</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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*All assignments are due by the start of class on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted.*

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**DISCUSSION RUBRIC:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Message Board Participation</th>
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</thead>
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| 21-25  | • Substantial, original contributions that further the work of the class.  
         | • Original, thoughtful analysis of materials  
         | • Frequent, informed references to lesson material.  
         | • Frequent interaction with students.  
         | • Responses are thoughtful and advance discussion  
         | • Clear and fluent writing.  
         | • Postings made on a timely manner. |
| 16-20  | • Significant contributions to the class.  
         | • Periodic interaction with classmates.  
         | • Some analysis of materials.  
         | • Clear and fluid writing.  
         | • Most postings made on a timely manner. |
| 11-15  | • Student meets the minimum requirements for responding to message board posts,  
         | and comments were brief and did not demonstrate a sound understanding of the  
         | material (example: good point).  
         | • Vague or summary references to materials.  
         | • Significant writing errors.  
         | • Infrequent interaction with classmates. |
| 0-10   | • Student did not meet minimum standards for the class. |