

# CCJ 4938: Family Violence

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Time: 3:35-4:50pm

Building: WJB 2005

**Instructor:** Dr. Erin Castro

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 2:30-3:30pm  
Thursdays 2:00-4:00pm

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 9:00-11:00am  
Thursdays 2:00-3:00pm

## Course Description

This course will introduce students to the concept of family violence and the issues that surround criminal justice responses, protections, and policy in the United States. Lecture material will cover three broad topic areas: child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and elder abuse. During this 16 week course, students will explore the legal definitions, prevalence, causes, consequences, and responses to each form of violence. Paper assignments will be constructed to enhance student learning outside the classroom, while in-class discussions will be used to promote critical thinking skills. Overall, students will attain a basic understanding for the context and extent of family violence.

## Required Text

There will be one **required** reading text for this course:

Hines, D. A, Malley-Morrison, K. M., Dutton, L.B. (2012). *Family Violence in the United States: Defining, Understanding, and Combating Abuse*. (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) Sage Publications  
ISBN: 978-1412989008

## Grade Composition

Assignment	Ea. Pts	Pts	%
Exams	200 (x3)	600	60%
Papers	200 (x2)	400	40%
Extra Credit	1% (x5)		5%
Total		1000	105%

## Grading Scale

A	930+	C+	770-799.9
A-	900-929.9	C	730-769.9
B+	870-899.9	C-	700-729.9
B	830-869.9	D	650-699.9
B-	800-829.9	F	649.9-

## Papers

To enhance learning and absorption of class material, students must complete two writing assignments (each are worth 200 points, 40% of overall grade). Papers must be 4-5 pages in length, use 12-point Times New Roman font, be double spaced, use 1-inch margins, and be submitted through Canvas as a Microsoft Word document (.doc, .docx). Brief directions and prompts are below:

- **Compare and Contrast:** For this paper, (1) within two states of your choosing pick well known cases of comparable family violence - that is one case per state, (2) briefly describe the facts of each case and address the who, what, when, where, how, and why (30 points each, 30% of grade), (3) identify two ways in which the responses to the cases were similar and explain (30 points for each similarity, 30% of grade), (4) identify two ways in which the responses to the cases were dissimilar and explain why (30 points for each dissimilarity, 30% of grade). Include proper grammar, formatting, and introduction/conclusion paragraphs (20 points, 10% of grade). *\*Note you cannot use any case discussed in class or in the book. You must also be detailed in your comparisons and be able to answer "how" each case is dis/similar and why.*
- **Policy Recommendation:** For this paper, (1) Identify 2 ways you believe the criminal justice system or legislature (laws, police, courts, corrections, prevention) fails to adequately deal with or prevent family violence (30 points for each failure explained, 30% of grade), and (2) provide a thoughtful policy suggestion/change that you believe would mitigate each issue (30 points for each policy, 30% of grade). Be sure to identify what form of family violence you are discussing and back up your claims/opinions with research facts presented in the course (15 points for each solution and problem, 30% of overall grade). Include proper grammar, formatting, and introduction/conclusion paragraphs (20 points, 10% of grade).

## Exams

Exams will be used to assess student knowledge of course material. These exams will be comprised of 40 multiple choice questions and will be worth 200 points each (5 points per question, 60% of overall grade). There will be four exams administered through the semester, however, only the top 3 scores will count toward a student's final grade. The first three exams are not additive and only cover course material from the previous exam forward. The fourth and final exam is cumulative and will test student retention of knowledge from the entire course.

- **Exam Day Protocol:** On the day of the exam students must bring a pencil and FSU ID card (students without a proper ID will not be allowed to turn in their exam and will receive a zero). Headphones, smart watches, phones, and any other electronic device are not permissible during the exam. The instructor will provide more details on exam protocol during the semester.
- **Make-up Policy:** Since only three of four exam grades are counted toward a student's final grade there will be no opportunities for make-up examinations. The only exceptions to this policy is if (1) you have to miss two or more scheduled exams, (2) excuse for missing exam is due to involvement in (a) FSU Athletics, (b) ROTC, (c) emergency. FSU Athletes and ROTC members must notify instructor of any double conflict at least one week prior to the scheduled exam so that other arrangements may be made. In cases of emergency the student must provide a doctor's note detailing the medical emergency. Make-up exams will be in essay format and students will be asked to provide a long essay answer to five of six questions asked.

## **Attendance Policy/Extra Credit**

There is no explicit attendance policy for this course. However, there will be five pop-quizzes given throughout the semester that will serve as a method for awarding extra credit and to evaluate general attendance. Pop-quizzes will be comprised of a single question and will be graded as correct or incorrect. Students who answer questions correctly will have 1 **percentage** point added to her/his overall grade.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

I will not tolerate academic dishonesty or plagiarism in my course. All FSU students are bound by the Academic Honor Policy: <https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism please consult the following link: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html> (Links to an external site.). Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to the appropriate personnel (me, your instructor). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with me, your instructor.

## **Disability Accommodations**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) Register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and (2) Bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the Student Disability Resource Center has been provided. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice)  
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu  
<https://dos.fsu.edu/sdrc>

## Semester Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Aug. 27	Syllabus Day/Introduction	Chp 1
	Aug. 29	Defining Family Violence	
2	Sep. 3	Understanding Research	Chp 2, 3, & 4
	Sep. 5	<b>Child Maltreatment:</b> Definition, Types, and Prevalence	
3	Sep. 10	Correlates and Consequences	NO CLASS
	Sep. 12		
4	Sep. 17	Learning and Attachment Theories	
	Sep. 19	Criminal Justice Responses & Prevention	
5	Sep. 24	Sibling Violence	Chp 10 (329-340)
	Sep. 26	Exam 1 Review	
6	Oct. 1	<b>Exam 1</b>	Chp 5 & 6
	Oct. 3	<b>Partner Violence:</b> Definition, Types, and Prevalence	
7	Oct. 8	Correlates and Consequences	
	Oct. 10	Control and Feminist Theories	
8	Oct. 15	Criminal Justice Responses & Prevention	Paper #1 Due
	Oct. 17	Stalking	
9	Oct. 22	LGBTQ Relationships	Chp 8
	Oct. 24	Exam 2 Review	
10	Oct. 29	<b>Exam 2</b>	Chp 9 & 10 (341-350)
	Oct. 31	<b>Elder Abuse:</b> Definition, Types, and Prevalence	
11	Nov. 5	Correlates and Consequences	
	Nov. 7	Strain and Ecological Theories	
12	Nov. 12	Documentary	NO CLASS
	Nov. 14		
13	Nov. 19	Criminal Justice Responses & Prevention	Paper #2
	Nov. 21	White Collar Crime and Financial Abuses	
14	Nov. 26	Disability	THANKSGIVING BREAK
	Nov. 28		
15	Dec. 3	<b>Exam 3</b>	NO CLASS
	Dec. 5		
16	Dec. 10	<b>Exam 4</b> <b>MONDAY – 5:30-7:30PM</b>	