

**University of Maryland**  
**CCJS 346: Domestic Violence**  
**Spring 2019**  
**Section SG91 ~ 3 credits**  
**Tuesday, 11:00am to 1:30pm**  
**Building III, Room 2225**  
**Professor: Nicole Romeiser**  
**E-Mail: nicoleromeiser@yahoo.com**

**Course Description**

This course will focus on family violence as it relates to intimate partner violence, child abuse, and elder abuse. Theories of causation will be discussed as well as responses to these types of issues and crimes by the criminal justice system.

**Course Goals/Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, students will understand the historical and social contexts that contribute to family violence. They will be able to describe and critique the various research and theoretical perspectives available to explain family violence. They will be able to identify the types, the stages, and the signs of abuse in children, elders, and intimate partners. They will understand programs, services, and legal remedies available to protect victims of domestic violence, victims of child abuse, and victims of elder abuse. They will be able to describe family violence offenders and programs available to help offenders.

**Required Reading**

Gosselin, Denise Kindschi. Family and Intimate Partner Violence; Heavy Hands. Sixth Edition. Pearson. 2019 (ISBN 13: 978-0-13-486821-9)

It Shouldn't Hurt to Go Home; Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence;  
[www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)

Strategies for a Safer Future: A Guide to Obtaining Protective & Peace Orders in Maryland; Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence; [www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)

Stalking: A Guide for Victims. Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence.  
[www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)

**Office Hours**

By appointment, but I am usually available before and after class.

**Course Methodology**

The class will consist of lectures, classroom discussion/activities, visual aids, and guest lecturers. Students are responsible for any information provided in class as well as any information provided in the textbook. All readings should be completed prior to the

scheduled class. **Students are expected to arrive on time for every class.** Should students lapse into a pattern of chronic late arrivals and/or failure to complete the reading assignments; closed book, unannounced quizzes will be given.

### **Examinations**

There will be two examinations. The midterm examination is scheduled for **March 12, 2019**. The final examination is scheduled for the week of **May 16-22, 2019**. Unless prior permission is given, all students are required to take the examination on the day it is administered. If prior permission is not obtained, students will receive a zero ("0") for that examination. The instructor is not bound to provide the same examination/format for make-up examinations.

### **Paper:**

You will be required to write one three to five page paper. The paper will be based upon an out-of-class experience. Specifically, you will be **required** to observe a domestic violence docket for the **District Court or Circuit Court of Maryland for Montgomery County**. The domestic violence docket is held in the Silver Spring District Court on Thursday and in the Rockville District Court on Friday. Circuit Court is held Monday through Friday.

You are required to view and to write about at least three (3) cases to include one (1) criminal case. Your paper will describe in detail your experience in these types of cases as an observer of the legal process. However, you must do more than simply report your observations. You must relate the academic portion of this class with what actually occurred in the courtroom. You must take into account the topics we have discussed in class and how these topics are relevant to your experience. You are required to provide at least ten (10) examples of how your courtroom experience related to what you have learned in class.

### **Format of the paper is as follows:**

Date:

Courtroom:

Judge:

Charges:

Name of the defendant/respondent:

Name of victim/plaintiff:

Facts or summary of the case:

Disposition of the case:

Connections to class:

For example, Connection 1:

## **Court Attendance Paper Grading:**

Court Attendance with written documentation: 30 points  
Viewing one criminal case: 10 points  
Relating the experience back to class: 50 points  
Grammar/Punctuation/Spelling: 10 points

**The due date for this paper is April 23, 2019.** Papers are due in class. E-mailed copies will not be accepted. A late and/or handwritten paper will be downgraded 5 percentage points for every day it is not received. Papers with several grammatical, spelling, or typographical errors will receive lower grades. Proper citations are required. Students will use the APA format for this paper. **Students can submit an OUTLINE of their court experience for review by April 2, 2019. The purpose is to ensure enough material for the assignment. Outlines will not be accepted after that date.**

**If you are unable to attend court in Montgomery County due to logistical problems, please let me know and perhaps alternate arrangements can be made for another District or Circuit Court. If you attend a District or a Circuit Court in another county or area and do not inform the instructor, 10 points will be deducted from your paper grade.**

## **Homework Assignments**

If homework is assigned, it is due no later than five minutes after the class period begins. Assignments will not be accepted via email. Any student who does not turn in the homework assignment by the time specified will receive a zero for the assignment.

## **Class Participation**

You are expected to actively and constructively participate in class. Class participation is important to both understanding assigned readings and performing well on other assignments in the class. Students are encouraged to bring in articles on current events for class discussion.

## **Grading Criteria**

Mid-Term Examination: 100 points  
Paper: 100 points  
Final Examination: 100 points  
Class Participation: 30 points

In Fall 2012, the University implemented the plus-minus grading policy which assigns differential point values to the '+' and '-' designations for letter grades. The current explanation and implementation of the policy can be found here:

<http://www.testudo.umd.edu/plusminusimplementation.html>

For this course, the plus/minus grading system will be used.

Grades will be made available via the ELMS website for CCJS 346.

## **Course Schedule and Reading Assignments**

Any changes to the course schedule/reading assignments will be announced in class or via the “Announcements” tab on ELMS for CCJS 346.

### **January 29, 2019**

Course Introduction

Chapter 1: Global Violence against Women

Chapter 2: History of Violence in the Family

### **February 5, 2019**

Chapter 2: History of Violence in the Family

Chapter 3: Focus on Research

### **February 12, 2019**

Chapter 3: Focus on Research

Chapter 4: Introduction to Child Abuse and Neglect

### **February 19, 2019**

Chapter 4: Introduction to Child Abuse and Neglect

Chapter 5: Investigating Child Abuse

### **February 26, 2019**

Chapter 6: Adolescent and Young Adult Victimization

Chapter 7: Adolescent Perpetrators

### **March 5, 2019**

Chapter 6: Adolescent and Young Adult Victimization

Chapter 7: Adolescent Perpetrators

### **March 12, 2019**

**Mid Term Exam**

### **March 19, 2019**

**No class (Spring Break)**

### **March 26, 2019**

Chapter 8: Intimate Partner Violence

### **April 2, 2019**

Chapter 8: Intimate Partner Violence

### **April 9, 2019**

Chapter 9: LGBTI Partner Abuse

Chapter 10: Abuse Later in Life

**April 16, 2019**

Chapter 10: Abuse Later in Life

Chapter 11: Adult Perpetrators

**April 23, 2019****Papers Due**

Chapter 12: The Police Response to Intimate Partner Violence

Chapter 13: Stalking and Homicide

**April 30, 2019**

Chapter 13: Stalking and Homicide

**May 7, 2019**

Chapter 14: The Court Response to Intimate Partner Violence

**May 14, 2019**

Special Topics

**Week of May 16-22, 2019****Final Exam****Student Responsibilities:**

Students have a wide range of academic and personal motivations for enrolling in this class. Be cognizant and respectful of this fact as students may have family or friends who have personal knowledge of domestic violence.

Regarding assignments and examinations, students should always observe the highest standards regarding academic honesty and integrity. Your academic work should be the result of your efforts, thoughts, and ideas. When writing papers or assignments, you should consistently use an appropriate citation style, indicating exactly where you are quoting or have been inspired by the work of others.

Cheating on any assignment or examination will result in the following disciplinary actions: (1) "XF" (a cheating F) will be the grade earned for the course, and (2) possible expulsion from the University of Maryland effective the following semester. All cases of academic misconduct will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct at University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). Examples of conduct meriting such disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) cheating on an examination with or without the assistance of another student or students (2) submitting, as your own work, a paper that is either wholly or partially plagiarized, such as purchasing a paper from an internet site or superficially rewriting the work of others without proper citations, or (3) collaborating with fellow students on assignments or take-home examinations for which you were instructed to work alone.

In this class, students are allowed to use their personal computers to take notes. If a student is found to be using a personal computer in any way not specifically related to the day's class discussion that student would lose the privilege of using a computer in class. The instructor reserves the right to disallow all students from using personal computers at any time during the semester.

The use of electronic devices is prohibited in class. This includes computers, MP3 devices, smart phones, phones, calculators, gaming devices, etc. Students must place all electronic devices in their book bags, purses, etc. or leave them at home. They are not to be placed on the desk. If these devices are seen and/or used during class, the student will be asked to leave the class immediately. If these devices are seen and/or used during an exam, the exam will be collected from the student and the student will no longer be allowed to continue taking the exam. The exam score will be noted as "0". If a student is expecting an emergency call, please let me know prior to class so arrangements can be made to accommodate your emergency.

Students are expected to treat each other with respect. Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated. Students who are unable to demonstrate civility with one another, the teaching assistants, or the instructor will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct or to the University Campus Police. You are expected to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct.

In reference to a student missing a class, below is the university's policy:

"It is the policy of the University to excuse the absences of students that result from the following causes: illness of the student, or illness of a dependent as defined by Board of Regents policy on family and medical leave; religious observance (where the nature of the observance prevents the student from being present during the class period); participation in university activities at the request of University authorities; and compelling circumstance beyond the student's control. Students claiming excused absence must apply in writing and furnish documentary support for their assertion that absence resulted from one of these causes."

On May 10, 2011, the Campus Senate amended the *University of Maryland Policy for A Student's Medically Necessitated Absence from Class V-100 (G)*

Under this new policy, instructors are expected to accept as an excused absence a self-signed note from a student who has missed a single lecture, recitation, or laboratory, attesting to the date of the illness. This note must also contain an acknowledgement by the student that the information is true and correct and that providing false information is prohibited under the Code of Student Conduct. The student is also obligated to make a reasonable attempt to inform the instructor of his/her illness in advance. A student is allowed only ONE self-signed note per class for the semester. The requirement for accepting a self-signed note does not apply to a "major scheduled grading event." For purposes of this class, that is the

day of any exam or when the paper/presentation is due. A student who experiences a prolonged absence or an illness preventing attendance at a major scheduled grading event is required to provide written documentation of the illness from the Health Center or an outside health care provider, verifying the dates of the treatment and the time period during which the student was unable to meet academic responsibilities.

The documentation for missing a class will be submitted to the instructor before, but no later than the first day of class upon the student's return.

If a student has missed a substantial number of class sessions or course assignments, it may be helpful to speak with an advisor.

Should a student need accommodations in the classroom or for assignments/examinations due to a verified, documented learning or physical disability, please inform me of your situation (via email or in person) immediately, so proper UMCP documentation and accommodation procedures are followed.

The lectures delivered in class and the course materials that are created and distributed are protected by federal copyright law. My lectures are recorded or delivered from written lectures in order to ensure copyright protection. You are permitted to take notes of my lectures and use course materials for your use in this course. You may not record, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes for any commercial purpose without my written consent. Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials, possess commercial copies of my notes (i.e., Terpnotes), or assist another person or entity in selling or distributing those materials may be considered in violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, part 9(k).

All enrolled students are provided access to the University's email system and an email account. All official University email communication will be sent to this email address (or an alternate address if provided by the student). Email has been adopted as the primary means for sending official communications to students, so email must be checked on a regular basis. Students are responsible for keeping their email address up to date or for redirecting or forwarding email to another address. Failure to check email, errors in forwarding email, or returned email will not excuse a student from missing University announcements, messages, deadlines, etc.

Your feedback about this course is very important therefore several forms of evaluation are available throughout this semester. One important campus-wide evaluation, CourseEvalUM, is the online evaluation at the end of the semester. Students can go directly to the website to complete their evaluations.

In the event of inclement weather or other emergency conditions, you should follow delays and closures for the "Universities at Shady Grove or USM Shady Grove Center," rather than any individual participating USM institution. Closures and delays will be sent over the e2Campus notification system, as well as being reported on local radio and television news stations. You may also call USG at **301-738-6000** for recorded updates

related to closures or delays. In the event that the University is closed for an emergency or extended period of time, I will communicate with you via email or phone to indicate schedule adjustments, including rescheduling of examinations and assignments.

Course communication for such things as class cancellations, room changes, or other announcements, will be done through the “Announcements” tab on ELMS for CCJS 346.

### **Course Related Policies**

Please consult [www.ugst.umd.edu/couserelatedpolicies](http://www.ugst.umd.edu/couserelatedpolicies) for various University of Maryland course related policies. If you have any questions, please let me know.