



CCJS 489H
DEPARTMENTAL HONORS THESIS
DEPT. OF CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
FALL 2017

Class Time: Wednesday 4:00-6:45pm
Location: Jimenez Building 0118
Professor: Dr. David Maimon
Office Hours: by appointment
Office Location: 2165B LeFrak Hall
Contact Information: Phone: 301-405-4716
E-mail: dmaimon@umd.edu

Course Synopsis

The primary goal of this course is for you to successfully complete and defend your honors thesis. This will require a large amount of independent work and self-direction. For that reason, the bulk of your reading will be self-selected.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Progress Reports (30 points)

- Report 1 (10 points)
- Report 2 (10 points)
- Report 3 (10 points)

Peer Feedback (10 points)

Thesis Defense (20 points)

Final Thesis Project (40 points)

1. **Progress reports:** Three progress reports should be submitted throughout the semester. The first report should include a clear statement of the problem you are addressing, outline the goals and objectives of your proposed research, and discuss the literature you will include in your

thesis to support your arguments (see first draft report rubric on elms). The first report is due on **September 20**. The second report should include a methodological overview of your proposed research (see second draft report rubric on elms) and is due on **October 4**. The third report should incorporate details regarding key persons that would be involved in the project, budget and budget justification, project timeline and biographical sketch of the Primary Investigator (see sample documents on elms). The third report is due on **October 18**.

2. Peer feedback: Upon completion of the first draft of your honors thesis, you should share your product with two other students by **November 1** in order to solicit their feedback on your proposed work. Each student should review two research proposals, and prepare a detailed document which:

- a. Summarizes the proposed project
- b. Provides an assessment of the proposal
- c. Details a list of suggestions for revision of the grant proposal

Your feedbacks should be submitted in two copies: one copy will be submitted to the person whom your work you reviewed, and the other copy will be submitted to the professor. This assignment is due on **November 8**.

3. Thesis Defense: At the end of the semester, you will defend your honors thesis. Specifically, you will complete a short presentation of your research proposal, during which you must answer questions from colleagues and faculty. Students will defend their honors thesis project on **November 29 between 4:00-6:45pm**.

4. Final Thesis: The end-product of this semester is your honors thesis. Your thesis should be structured as a grant proposal, and be ready for submission to one of the relevant funding agencies. The final draft of the honors thesis is due on **December 11 by 12:30pm**.

Grading Scale

Grades will be assigned following the University of Maryland standard grading scheme:

Percentage	Letter Grade	Qualitative Description
97-100	A+	Achievement that is <u>outstanding</u> relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
93-96	A	
90-92	A-	
87-89	B+	Achievement that is <u>significantly above</u> the level necessary to meet course requirements.
83-86	B	
80-82	B-	
77-79	C+	Achievement that is <u>in keeping</u> with the course requirements in every respect.
73-76	C	
70-72	C-	
67-69	D+	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
60-66	D	
0-59	F	Work that was either completed but not worthy of credit, or incomplete

Academic Misconduct

I take Academic misconduct seriously. Please do not engage in any form of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes (but is not limited to): cheating (use of unauthorized materials, assistance on individual assignments or exams, etc.), fabrication (the falsification of information in an academic exercise), plagiarism (the presentation of ideas or statements of another person as one's own), and facilitating academic misconduct (helping another student to do any of the above). Any suspected case of academic dishonesty will be referred to the University Honor Council. For additional information on academic dishonesty and the accompanying procedures and penalties, see the University's Honor Code at: <http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html>.

Make-ups and Late Assignments

ASSIGNMENTS: I ask that you *place assignments in my mailbox and do not submit them via e-mail*. Assignments that are not turned in to me before the due date are subject to a 10% reduction (e.g. -7.5 points for a 75 point assignment) per each day, unless you have a credible excuse, official documentation, and you contacted me BEFORE (when possible) the assignment was due.

NOTE : Keep all of your class materials until you have received your final grade. This includes any papers that have been graded and handed back. In addition, please keep an electronic or additional hard copy of your papers until the end of the semester.

Student Services

I am happy to discuss any issues or problems that you may have with this course during my office hours, or by appointment if needed. If you are experiencing special difficulties with this or other courses, especially in terms of writing or studying, I encourage you to take advantage of the services that The University of Maryland offers:

Writing Center

1205 Tawes Hall
College Park, MD 20742
(301) 405-3785
Email: writadmin@umd.edu
<http://www.english.umd.edu/writingcenter>

Counseling Center Learning Assistance

3125 South Campus Dining Hall
College Park, MD
(301) 314-7651
Email: LAS-cc@umd.edu
<http://www.umarc.miami.edu>

You can also learn more about policies and resources that apply to your experience in all UMD courses here: <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

Students with Disabilities

If you need accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you may contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. You may also contact the office of *Disability Support Service* at (301) 314-7682 in 4155 Susquehanna Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodation for your

documented disability (see also <http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/>). Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor, and seeking available assistance, in a timely manner.

Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change. Announcements will be made in class as to changes in this schedule.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENTS</u>
Aug 30	Structure of the course, grant proposal writing and expectations for the honors thesis
Sep 6	
Sep 13	
Sep 20	*Report 1 is due*
Sep 27	
Oct 4	*Report 2 is due*
Oct 11	
Oct 18	*Report 3 is due*
Oct 25	
Nov 1	*First Draft of Honor Thesis is Due (3 copies)*
Nov 8	*Peer reviews are due*
Nov 15	No Class ASC MEETINGS
Nov 22	Thanks Giving Break
Nov 29	*Honor Thesis Defense*
Dec 11	*Final Honors Thesis is due by 12:30pm*