



Psychology 4850C
Psychology of Sexual Aggression and Homicide
Spring 2018
Mondays 3:00pm to 5:50pm
Room: D633

Instructor	Contact Info	Office Hours
Dr. Jennifer Arthur Psychology Department University of Lethbridge	Office: C878 (University Hall) Email: jennifer.arthur@uleth.ca Phone: (403) 380-1852	Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:05 – 4:20

Course Description

In this seminar we will explore the causes of sexual aggression and homicide. At one level we will examine 'ultimate causes', that is, those that deal with evolutionary forces. At another level we will examine 'proximate causes', that is, those that deal with developmental, social, and situational factors. Although this course is of intrinsic interest in its own right, it will also facilitate students' ability to use the scientific method to test different explanations of behaviour in both humans and other species.

Prerequisites and Recommended Background

Prerequisites are: Psychology 3850 (Psychology of Crime) AND two additional courses at the 3000 level. Students who do not have the required prerequisites may be deregistered from the course automatically. In **exceptional circumstances** a prerequisite waiver will be considered for a student who has adequate equivalent background. If you are considering requesting a waiver, you must contact me prior to the add/drop deadline. Submitting a request for a waiver does not guarantee that you will receive one; each case will be evaluated individually, and you will have to provide supporting documentation for prior courses not taken at the University of Lethbridge.

In addition to the required prerequisites it is highly recommended that students have also taken Psychology 2700 (Evolution and Behaviour) or its equivalent.

Text Books

Title: *The Causes of Rape: Understanding Individual Differences in Male Propensity for Sexual Aggression*

Required/Optional: Required

Authors: Lalumière, M. L., Harris, G. T., Quinsey, V. L., & Rice, M. E.

Publisher: American Psychological Association

Title: *Homicide*

Required/Optional: Required

Authors: Daly, M. & Wilson, M.

Publisher: Transaction Publishers

Title: *Killing the Competition: Economic Inequality and Homicide*

Required/Optional: Required

Authors: Daly, M.

Publisher: Transaction Publishers

Moodle

Details regarding the coverage of course material throughout the semester and for exams will be provided in class and/or posted in Moodle. Students are strongly encouraged to access Moodle several times per week as important materials, discussions, and announcements will be posted regularly throughout the semester.

Copyright, Moodle, and Intellectual Property

With the exception of information that is freely available on the Internet, all course materials should be treated as copyright-protected. You are free to make personal use of any materials posted within Moodle, and you are free to take your own notes in class (of course!). You are not permitted to distribute materials or information in any form to persons not registered in this course in this semester. Once information is in your hands, you are responsible for what you do with it; the Instructor will not be held accountable for students who choose to violate copyright law. Audio or video recording of lectures or any other in-class presentation or activity is strictly prohibited. Doing so is a serious offence as it violates intellectual property rights and the privacy of your classmates who have not consented to have their voice/questions recorded.

Grade Assessment

Your overall grade in the course will be determined by the following:

Participation	25%
Presentation 1	20%
Presentation 2	20%
Final Exam	30%

Participation and 1 Page Summaries

This course is structured similar to a graduate psychology seminar. Student attendance and participation is essential to successful completion of this course. Students will prepare for class discussions by reading the assigned papers and preparing a one-page (single spaced) summary that includes questions and comments for discussion. Your participation grade will be determined by both your verbal contributions to class discussion as well as your submitted summaries. Summaries are to be handed in via hardcopy to the instructor at the beginning of each class, email submissions will not be accepted.

Presentations

Either individually or in a team of two, students will prepare a 20-30 minute presentation of a chosen topic and will lead a subsequent class discussion. Students will be responsible for finding one brief published empirical paper in addition to assigned textbook readings for their presentations. Except for the textbook, the readings should be distributed to class members by email (preferably in PDF format), one week prior to the presentation date.

Final Exam

The final exam will be a take home exam and consist of essay questions. You may hand in your final exam anytime prior to 12:00pm on April 22, 2018. You must submit one paper copy to myself (in the drop box in the hallway by the department office C866). You MUST also submit one electronic copy through the assignment function in Moodle. The purpose of this exam is to integrate and think critically about what you have learned in this class.

Missed 1 Page Summaries, Presentation or Final Exam

If you are unable to complete a summary, presentation, or final exam during the designated period, please contact the course Instructor as soon as possible. Medical reasons must be supported by a physician's statement that academic performance would be seriously affected by the illness, along with the physician's name and contact information. Non-medical reasons must also be supported. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Instructor to make alternate arrangements. Unless a medical note, documentation of bereavement, or other acceptable documentation is presented, a grade of 0% will be assigned.

Students with Special Needs

If you have a documented condition that prevents you from fully participating in this course, including evaluation procedures, it is your responsibility to contact your Instructor regarding your individual situation. Please note that no accommodations will be given without official notification from the Accommodated Learning Centre (<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/accommodated-learning-centre/>).

Grade Ranges

Letter grades will be assigned to final course percentages according to the following scale:

Letter	GPA	Percent	Letter	GPA	Percent
A+	4.0	90 - 100%	C+	2.3	67 - 69.9%
A	4.0	85 - 89.9%	C	2.0	63 - 66.9%
A-	3.7	80 - 84.9%	C-	1.7	60 - 62.9%
B+	3.3	77 - 79.9%	D+	1.3	55 - 59.9%
B	3.0	73 - 76.9%	D	1.0	50 - 54.9%
B-	2.7	70 - 72.9%	F	0	0 - 49.9%

University, Classroom, and Teaching Policies and Procedures

- ❖ Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts. Given the nature of the course material, a diversity of viewpoints will inevitably exist in the classroom. Voicing well-reasoned disagreement with others' opinions is perfectly fine; being combative, intolerant, or disrespectful towards others is not (see the University Calendar Section 5.b.1). Open-mindedness is a prerequisite for learning.
- ❖ As per the University Calendar, Section 5.h.1.: "When a student disrupts instructional activities, the instructor may exclude the student immediately from instructional space and/or from future scheduled instructional meetings of that course pending further actions by the Dean."
- ❖ When students talk &/or giggle amongst themselves during lecture, it disrupts instructional activities and, consequently, your Instructor must respond according to the University Calendar regulation. To minimize other forms of disruption, turn off your cell phone or any other noise-emitting device prior to the beginning of class. Avoid engaging in off-task Internet use (e.g., Facebook, Google, Texting) during lectures as it distracts you and others around you.
- ❖ Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Academic Regulations and Policies contained within the University of Lethbridge Academic Calendar
<https://www.uleth.ca/ross/sites/ross/files/imported/academic-calendar/2016-17/part04.pdf>
- ❖ In all email messages addressed to the Instructor, include the course name and topic of your email in the Subject line. Address the recipient appropriately by name, and end the email by typing your full name. Adhering to this structure makes sending accurate replies and keeping track of correspondences much easier! Every effort will be made to respond to email inquiries in a timely manner during weekday 'working hours' (Monday morning through Friday afternoon). If you fail to structure your email correspondence by these guidelines, or if you email the Instructor with a

question that has been clearly answered on Moodle or in this course outline, do not expect a reply.

Tips for success in PSYC 4850

- ❖ Keep your chin up. Research tells us that texting while driving increases one's risk of car accident to a degree roughly equivalent to that of driving drunk. Instructors' experience tells us that texting during class increases students' risk of failing to a degree roughly equivalent to that of coming to class drunk.
- ❖ Understand that your instructor is your ally, not your adversary. As your Instructor, I want nothing more than for you to feel passionate about, engaged in, and enthralled by this course as much as I am. I want you to learn, understand, and apply the material, to succeed and earn high grades in the course. I can help you achieve this goal, but I cannot do it for you.
- ❖ Achieving success requires regular class attendance, showing up on time (i.e., before the lecture begins), staying until class has officially ended, paying full attention during lecture, participating in class activities, completing all assigned work, and checking Moodle frequently for resources.
- ❖ If in doubt, find out. If you are unclear about any of the material presented in class or posted as assigned readings in Moodle, or if you have a question that has not been answered in any of the valuable course resources that have been provided to help you, then ASK! Your Instructor is more than happy to address any pertinent questions you may have.

Psychology 4850-C
Spring 2018 Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan 8	Introduction	None
Jan 15	General Background Antisociality and Mating Effort	The Causes of Rape: Chapters 1-3 The Causes of Rape: Chapter 4
Jan 22	Sexual Interest in Rape Psychopathology	The Causes of Rape: Chapter 5 The Causes of Rape: Chapter 6
Jan 29	Contextual and Situational Factors Assessment and Treatment	The Causes of Rape: Chapter 7 The Causes of Rape: Chapters 8 & 9
Feb 5	Homicide and Human Nature Killing Kinfolk	Homicide: Chapter 1 Homicide: Chapter 2
Feb 12	Killing Children: I. Infanticide in the Ethnographic Record Killing Children II. Parental Homicide in the Modern West	Homicide: Chapter 3 Homicide: Chapter 4
Feb 19	No Class Reading week	
Feb 26	Parricide: Killing Parents Altercations and Honor	Homicide: Chapter 5 Homicide: Chapter 6
Mar 5	Why Men and Not Women The Logic of Same Sex Conflict	Homicide: Chapter 7 Homicide: Chapter 8
Mar 12	Till Death Us Do Part Retaliation and Revenge	Homicide: Chapter 9 Homicide: Chapter 10
Mar 19	Calling the Killers to Account & On Cultural Variation Why Homicide & Homicide and Economic Inequality	Homicide: Chapters 11 & 12 Killing the Competition: Chapters 1 & 2
Mar 26	Competition and Violence & Inequality or Just Poverty Jockeying for Position & Lags and Lifetimes	Killing the Competition: Chapters 3 & 4 Killing the Competition: Chapters 5 & 6
Apr 2	No Class Easter Monday	
Apr 9	The Arena of Competition & Culture of Violence Too Much Inequality & What Keeps Competitive Violence in Check	Killing the Competition: Chapters 7 & 8 Killing the Competition: Chapters 9 & 10
Apr 17-23	Final Exam Period	