

Psychology and Law--PSY 2302-01

Spring 2013

Dr. Kim MacLin

Class Time: First Tuesday and Thursday, and Thursdays thereafter 2-3:15

OnLine Time: On your own

Class Location: Sabin 23

Me:

You can go here if you care to learn anything about me or my qualifications:

www.psychologicalscience.com/kim_maclin .

My office is in Baker Hall room 348.

The best way to reach me is through email: kim.maclin@uni.edu. I don't recommend leaving me a voicemail.

My office hours are Thursdays from 1230-2, and by appointment (email for appointment).

Course Description:

Through a series of lectures, readings, films, activities and discussions this course is designed to provide you with the theoretical and research tools necessary for the understanding and analysis of the discipline of psychology and law.

Hybrid Class Format:

This is a hybrid class that mixes traditional classroom learning with individualized online/out of class learning. It follows an autonomous learner approach. The class will consist of a little more than half of the semester devoted to in class meetings, and a little under half in online and out of class activities. Note that reading and preparing are not included in the allocated hours. As with any class, these activities are expected of you above and beyond the required meeting times. Reliable access to the internet is required.

Class Participation:

Regular attendance is expected during in-class meetings and attendance in the form of meeting online schedules. In order for all of us to get the most out of each in-class meeting, it is important that we all do the readings and activities prior to class. Signs of good participation include: Attendance, punctuality, eagerness to participate, showing respect to others' contributions, facilitating discussion, paying careful attention to lectures and presentations, and offering constructive feedback, questions, and comments.

Required Materials:

- Forensic and Legal Psychology by Costanzo and Krauss
- Minds on Trial by Ewing & McCann
- 1 book of your choice for your book report: Lush Life, The Other Wes Moore, Picking Cotton, Orange is the New Black, Echo From Dealy Plaza, No Higher Calling, No Greater Responsibility
- Access to these movies: Courage Under Fire, Silence of the Lambs, Primal Fear, 12 Angry Men, Shawshank Redemption, The Hurricane (purchase, rental, Netflix, etc).

Movies:

There are several ways for you to access the movies needed for this course.

- 1) Purchase them used from Amazon.com (each movie we will be watching is available used on Amazon (at low cost)
- 2) Access the movies through Netflix (www.netflix.com). There is a monthly fee.
- 3) Rely on local video stores, RedBox, and libraries. This is probably the least desirable option as only one or two copies will be available at each location with no guarantee that they will be available to you when you need it.
- 4) I have a copy of each movie we will see. If you really get stuck for a particular movie, you can check it out from me (of course, first come, first serve).
- 5) Movies will be shown in class on the Tuesday before the assignment is due.

The overall cost for purchasing or renting these movies (in whichever way you choose to do it) is far less than the average textbook needed for a course, plus, you might actually enjoy having these around. You are certainly welcome to watch movies with groups and/or otherwise find creative ways to share the cost with your fellow classmates. It is not acceptable that you rely on memory (if you have seen a particular movie before) or rely on synopses or summaries of the movie available online. These will be considered cheating behaviors.

Blogging:

You will blog at <http://www.psychologicalscience.com/psylaw>

Grading your Blogging:

Blogs are due at 11am on Tuesday or Thursday (see course calendar). There is NO late work accepted. Comments to Chapter Readings or other activities are worth 10 points; Comments to Movies are worth 20 points.

10/20: Answered all questions, gave in depth summary with examples, provided terms, and wowed us with your writing and intellectual prowess!

9/18+: Answered all questions, gave in depth summary w/examples, provided terms

8/16+: Answered most of the questions, provided summary, gave terms

7/14+: Gave summary, not as much detail

6/12+: did not provide enough information, or inaccurate information.

5/10+ and below: probably too brief, or inaccurate.

0: not turned in; or late

Book Analysis:

You are required to write a book analysis for this course. The book analysis is worth 100 points, and about 2000 words long. You will be submitting your book analysis to www.turnitin.com where I will verify that your work has not been plagiarized. You will also turn in an identical hard copy to me on the day that it is due. There are important guidelines for writing the book report on the blog site under the course resources tab. Given that you choose your own deadline, no late book reports are accepted. You may change your book report deadline with 2 weeks notice.

MOT Essay:

Read one Minds on Trial chapter that is not assigned in the course. Next, do some internet searching on your own on the person portrayed in the chapter (newspaper stories, legal documents, etc). Next, write your essay. You should summarize the case (citing the chapter and your internet sources), but spend most of your essay on whatever psychological factors you believe are most relevant to the case (you may need to cite your textbook, and/or an intro to psych textbook to define various psychological terms). Clearly link the psychology to the case/person. You should include a cover page and a reference page. The body of your paper (not including the cover and reference pages) should be 3-5 pages. It is worth 25points

Grades:

No plusses or minuses; no curve. You get the grade according to the points you earn. 89.5% is an A, etc.

Regular blogs-22 @ 10 pts each = 220 pts

1 book analysis @ 100 pts each =100 pts

MOT essay 1 @ 25 points = 25 pts

Movie blogs-6 @ 20 pts each = 120 pts

Final-1 @ 100 pts=100 pts

Attendance points, 5 pts (when taken)

TOTAL = 565 Points + attendance

Cheating & Plagiarism: DON'T CHEAT! Cheating is any sort of activity that results in you turning in work where you are not the SOLE contributor and developer of the ideas. Writing blog posts or homework assignments based on summaries of articles or movies (instead of actually reading chapters and viewing the movies) is cheating. Copying and pasting ANY content from other people's blog posts (from this semester or others) IS cheating. You are bound to the University's [ethics policies](#). I will be using Turnitin.com to screen book reports.

If you have a disability that could affect your performance in this class: UNI is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. It is the responsibility of students to contact the Office of Disability Services (213 Student Services Center-273-2676) to arrange for documentation and accommodation.

If you have University sponsored obligations that require you to miss class: It is your responsibility to contact me during the first week of class to let me know of your obligations throughout the semester. As soon as you receive your paperwork detailing out the days you will miss class, please provide me with a copy for my files. It is STILL your responsibility, however, to remind me by email at least a day before you are going to miss a class due to your approved obligations, so that we can arrange for any work you might miss. It is your responsibility to ensure that you get makeup assignments from me immediately upon your return. You will need to get class notes from a fellow student.

Student Services: I encourage you to utilize the Academic Learning Center's assistance with writing, math, science, reading, and learning strategies. There is no charge for currently-enrolled UNI students. UNI's Academic Learning Center is located in 007/008 ITTC. Visit the website at <http://www.uni.edu/unialc/> or phone 319-273-2361 for more information.