

Recent Announcements

PSY 368: Forensic Psychology (2025 Spring C)



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PSY 368: Forensic Psychology

Basic Information

Course Description: This course covers the clinical practice of forensic psychology, which includes the assessment and treatment of people who interact with the legal system. It focuses on the ways in which psychologists do clinical work (assessment and treatment) to help courts make informed decisions about cases.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: PSY 101; PSY 290 or minimum 45 hours OR Visiting University Student

Instructor: Melanie Fessinger, Ph.D., M.L.S.

Contact Info: melanie.fessinger@asu.edu (<mailto:melanie.fessinger@asu.edu>)

Student Hours: Thursdays from 12pm - 1pm or by appointment. (Office: FAB S301E)

Course Information

Learning Objectives:

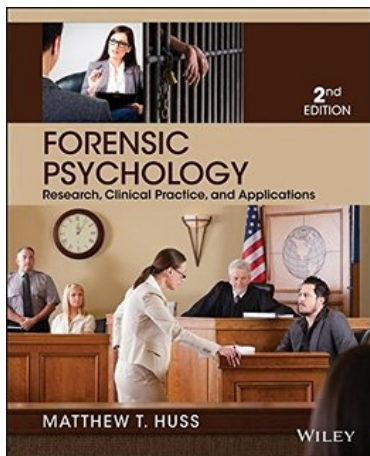
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an ability to think critically and analyze the issues presented in forensic psychology.
2. Identify and discuss landmark cases that demonstrate the practical role of forensic psychology.
3. Explain the unique challenges that forensic psychologists face clinically, legally, and ethically.

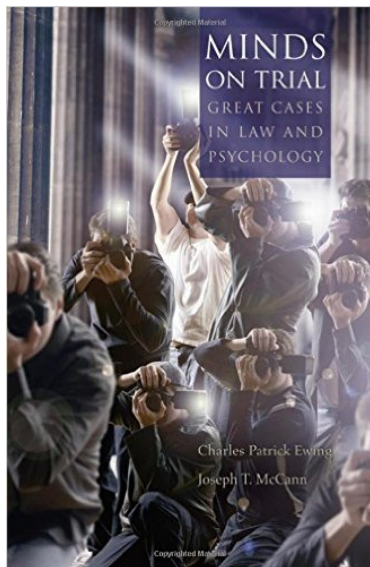
4. Analyze how the law can be therapeutic or anti-therapeutic for the people most directly affected by it.
5. Apply the concepts learned in the course to current real-life cases.
6. Discover how to become a forensic psychologist and identify various careers in forensic psychology.

Required Textbooks:

Huss, M. (2013). *Forensic Psychology* (2nd Ed). Wiley. ISBN: 978-1118554135



Ewing, C.P. & McCann, J.T. (2006). *Minds on Trial: Great Cases in Law and Psychology*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0-19-518176-x. Note: ASU has unlimited access to this book. This means that you can access it online (free of charge!) through the [library \(https://lib.asu.edu/\)](https://lib.asu.edu/).



Course Access

Your ASU courses can be accessed by both [my.asu.edu \(http://my.asu.edu\)](http://my.asu.edu) and [myasucourses.asu.edu \(http://myasucourses.asu.edu\)](http://myasucourses.asu.edu); bookmark both in the event that one site is down.

Computer Requirements

This course requires a computer with internet access and the following technologies:

- Web browsers (**Chrome** → (<https://www.google.com/chrome>), **Mozilla Firefox** → (<http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>), or **Safari** → (<http://www.apple.com/safari/>).
- **Adobe Acrobat Reader** → (<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>).(free)
- Webcam, microphone, headset/earbuds, and speaker
- Microsoft Office (**Microsoft 365 is free** (<https://myapps.asu.edu/app/microsoft-office-2016-home-usage>) for all currently-enrolled ASU students)
- Reliable broadband internet connection (DSL or cable) to stream videos.

Note: A smartphone, iPad, Chromebook, etc. will not be sufficient for completing your work in ASU Online courses. While you will be able to access course content with mobile devices, you must use a computer for all assignments, quizzes, and virtual labs.

Help

For technical support, use the Help icon in the black global navigation menu in your Canvas course or call the ASU Help Desk at +1-(855) 278-5080. Representatives are available to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Grading Information

Grading Breakdown

Your grade will be determined based on the following grading schema:

Grade	Percentage
A+	97-100%
A	<97-94%
A-	<94-90%
B+	<90-87%
B	<87-84%
B-	<84-80%
C+	<80-77%
C	<77-74%
C-	<74-70%
D+	<70-67%

D	<67-64%
D-	<64-60%
E	<60%

Grading Specifics

Your final grade for this course will be calculated out of a total possible 500 points. There will be seven activities which are each worth 25 points (40% of final grade) four exams which are each worth 60 points (48% of final grade), and one final activity that is worth 60 points (12% of final grade). The breakdown of points is provided below. Dates for each quiz and assignment due date are provided in the course schedule. Activities are due at the start of class (10:30am) on the date listed. The final activity is due on the day of the scheduled final.

Assignment	Points Possible
Quiz 1	60
Quiz 2	60
Quiz 3	60
Quiz 4	60
Activity 1	25
Activity 2	25
Activity 3	25
Activity 4	25
Activity 5	25
Activity 6	25
Activity 7	25
Activity 8	25
Final Activity	60
Total	500

Activities

To help you learn to understand how psychologists help inform legal decisions, you will be reading the assigned readings from the textbook, casebook, and other supplementary materials. You will sometimes be asked to complete short writing assignments based on the readings or lectures as "homework" that are called "activities." You will complete 8 of these activities. Each of these activities will be worth 25 points. Make sure to cite your sources, including the textbook and casebook, in your activities where appropriate. Activities should follow APA format to the extent possible.

Quizzes

Any of the material covered in class lectures, class activities, and assigned readings will be fair game for the quizzes. There will be 30 multiple choice questions on each quiz. Each quiz will be worth 60 points. I will provide you with a study guide for each quiz. There will be no cumulative final.

Final Activity

You will complete a final activity that will incorporate different elements of what you learned throughout this course. More information about the final activity will be provided in class. It will be worth 60 points and will be due on the day of the scheduled final. The final activity should follow APA format to the extent possible.

Submitting Assignments

All activities, unless otherwise announced, must be submitted to the designated area of Canvas. Do not submit an assignment via email. Activities are due at the start of class (10:30am) on the date posted in the course schedule. Assignment due dates follow Arizona Standard time. Click the following link to access the **Time Converter** [\(http://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/\)](http://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/) to ensure you account for the difference in Time Zones. Note: Arizona does not observe daylight savings time.

Grading Procedure

Grades reflect your performance on assignments and adherence to deadlines. Grades on assignments will usually be available within 72 hours of the due date in the gradebook. There is no word minimum, but I expect you to provide a concise, accurate, and sophisticated analysis in your responses. You will also lose points if you do not provide meaningful and/or complete responses in your assignments.

Late or Missed Assignments

If an assignment is late, you will lose 10% of the points per day that the assignment is late up to a maximum of 50% (i.e., on the sixth day you can still earn up to 50%). The late penalty begins accruing immediately after the deadline. Please note that this late penalty does not include quizzes. All quizzes must be submitted on time. Students must arrive on time on quiz days. Students who arrive late on quiz days may not be allowed to take the quiz. When possible, notify the instructor before an assignment is due if an urgent situation arises and you are unable to submit the assignment on time. Follow the appropriate University policies to request an **accommodation for religious practices**

(<http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd304-04.html>) or to accommodate a missed assignment due to University-sanctioned activities (<http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd304-02.html>)

Course Schedule

Week	Days	Dates	Topics	Readings	Course Activity
1	Tuesday	January 14	Introduction		
	Thursday	January 16	Forensic Psychology Basics	Huss Chapter 1 <i>Minds</i> Preface & Intro	
2	Tuesday	January 21	Forensic Psychology Applications	Huss Chapter 2 -	Activity #1 Due
	Thursday	January 23	Expert Witnesses	Huss Chapter 3 <i>Minds</i> Chapters 7 & 12	
3	Tuesday	January 28	Competency to Stand Trial	Huss Chapter 8 -	Activity #2 Due
	Thursday	January 30	Competency to Stand Trial & Review	<i>Minds</i> Chapters 15 & 16 -	
4	Tuesday	February 4	Quiz 1		
	Thursday	February 6	Insanity Defense	Huss Chapter 9 -	

5	Tuesday	February 11	Insanity Defense	<i>Minds</i> Chapters 8 & 19 -	
	Thursday	February 13	Psychopathy	Huss Chapter 4 -	Activity #3 Due
6	Tuesday	February 18	Psychopathy	Hare Chapters Keihl Article	
	Thursday	February 20	Class Cancelled	- -	
7	Tuesday	February 25	Criminal Mind <i>Guest Speaker: Cortney Simmons</i>	- -	Activity #4 Due
	Thursday	February 27	Violence Risk Assessment	Huss Chapter 5 -	
8	Tuesday	March 4	Violence Risk Assessment & Review	<i>Minds</i> Chapters 5 & 17 -	
	Thursday	March 6	Quiz 2	- -	
9	Tuesday	March 11	Spring Break	- -	
	Thursday	March 13	Spring Break	- -	
10	Tuesday	March 18	Juvenile Delinquency	Huss Chapter 11	

			<i>Guest Speaker: Imani Randolph</i>	-	
	Thursday	March 20	Juvenile Delinquency	In Re Gault Roper v. Simmons	
11	Tuesday	March 25	Children in the Legal System <i>Guest Speaker: Ella Merriwether</i>	<i>Minds</i> Chapter 13 -	Activity #5 Due
	Thursday	March 27	Child Custody	Huss Chapter 12 -	
12	Tuesday	April 1	Civil Commitment	Huss Chapter 7 -	Activity #6 Due
	Thursday	April 3	Civil Commitment & Review	Birnbaum Articles -	
13	Tuesday	April 8	Quiz 3		
	Thursday	April 10	Sexual Offenders	Huss Chapter 6 -	Activity #7 Due
14	Tuesday	April 15	Sexual Offenders	Grudzinskas & Henry Article	
	Thursday	April 17	Domestic Violence	Huss Chapter 10 -	Activity #8 Due
15	Tuesday	April 22	Civil Issues	Huss Chapter 13 -	

	Thursday	April 24	Careers & Review	Careers in Forensic Psych	
16	Tuesday	April 29	Quiz 4	- -	Activity EC Due
	Thursday	May 1	Final Activity Working Session	- -	
Final Activity Due on Day of Scheduled Final					

Student Success

Success Basics

To be successful in this course, you should:

- attend lectures
- check the course Canvas page regularly
- read announcements
- read and respond to course email messages as needed
- complete assignments by the due dates specified
- communicate regularly with your instructor and peers
- create a study and/or assignment schedule to stay on track
- access **ASU Online Student Resources** (<http://goto.asuonline.asu.edu/success/online-resources.html>)

Research indicates that people learn material better and retain it longer when they actively participate in the learning process, so I encourage you to do just that. You will not learn as much in your classes passively listening and mindlessly reading the text or memorizing definitions. I strongly encourage you to talk about what you are learning with others, write about it, relate it to past experiences, and apply it to your daily life. To encourage this kind of learning, we will be asking questions, engaging in written conversations, watching videos clips of clients showing the symptoms of the disorders we learn about and discussing the legal and ethical issues involved in these cases, and reading voraciously. Please note that classes will not always closely follow the books. Although we will discuss some of the concepts covered in the book, much of the materials are intended to get you more involved with the material and

to give you additional information. Thus, we'll do a variety of things: lectures, discussions and activities, case studies, exercises and demonstrations, brief writing assignments, and videos among other things.

Attendance

I expect students to attend lectures and to learn the material presented in class. I also expect students to arrive on time and to remain throughout the entire class period.

Digital Literacy

Below are some of the skills you'll need to utilize to be successful in this course:

- Using Canvas LMS - For additional help on this, visit the [Canvas Resources for Students \(https://lms.asu.edu/resources-students\)](https://lms.asu.edu/resources-students) or the [Student Canvas GuideLinks to an external site. \(https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student). Be sure to bookmark these resources for future reference!
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting word files
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading and installing software
- Using presentation and graphics programs

The ASU Library has a number of tutorials available to support students in expanding their digital literacy skills: [ASU Library tutorials \(https://lib.asu.edu/tutorials\)](https://lib.asu.edu/tutorials)

Class Communication

Posting a Question in Canvas

Prior to posting a question or comment, check the syllabus, announcements, and existing posts to ensure it's not redundant. It is inappropriate to post answers to any type of assignment/quiz/exam in the Community Forum for any purpose, regardless of the accuracy of those answers. Email any questions of a personal nature--such as a grade inquiry--to your instructor or assigned course assistant. You can expect a response within 72 hours. You are encouraged to respond to the questions of your classmates if you happen to know the answer to a question. The following discussion forums are available for posting questions.

- Community Forum
 - This course uses a discussion topic called "Community Forum" for general questions and comments about the course. You are encouraged to respond to the questions of your classmates.
- Email
 - Send questions of a personal nature--such as a grade inquiry or an excused late assignment--directly by email to the instructor or course assistant. ASU email is an official means of communication among students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to read and act upon

email in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly.

- Submission Comments
 - These comments are for giving information about your submission to provide information for the instructor or course assistant who grades your submission. It is not a good place for asking questions and getting answers. If you have a question about the assignment, the grade you achieved, or the feedback provided by the grader, please use the ASU email or the Canvas messaging system to contact the grader.

Communication Expectations

Learning takes place best when a safe environment is established. Students enrolled in this course have a responsibility to support an environment that nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engaged, honest discussions. Doing so will effectively contribute to our own and others intellectual and personal growth and development. We welcome disagreements in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse, but please remember to be respectful of others' viewpoints, whether you agree with them or not. The following are some guidelines to consider when engaging in online discussion and discourse:

- Be kind and polite: Be mindful of your tone and do not make fun of another person for any reason.
- Be respectful: Being part of an academic community means being exposed to diverse perspectives and viewpoints. Be respectful in all situations and in your comments to other students.
- Be wary of sarcasm: Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between when someone is being sarcastic and when someone is genuinely being rude.
- Avoid stereotyping: Just because someone holds view X, and some people you know of who hold view X also hold view Y, doesn't mean that holding view X means holding view Y.
- Use proper grammar and spelling: Typos and basic spelling mistakes will happen, but if it's detracting from your message, it can be difficult to figure out what you mean.

Policies, Procedures, and Other Information

ASU Academic Policies and Procedures

View the [ASU Academic Policies and Procedures \(https://catalog.asu.edu/acad_pol_procedures\)](https://catalog.asu.edu/acad_pol_procedures)

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ASU Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, laboratory work, academic transactions, and records. Students in this class must adhere to [ASU's academic integrity policy \(https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity/policy\)](https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity/policy). Students are responsible for reviewing this policy and understanding each of the areas in which academic dishonesty can occur. All academic integrity violations will be reported to the New College Academic Integrity Office (AIO). The possible

sanctions include but are not limited to appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification, and dismissal. The AIO maintains records of all violations and has access to academic integrity violations committed in all other ASU college/schools.

Generative AI is not permitted

The use of AI tools and techniques is not permitted in this course. Use of generative AI in this course is considered a violation of **ASU's Academic Integrity Policy (<https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity>)** and will result in appropriate sanctions, which include a zero on the assignment, reporting to the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Academic Integrity Officer (AIO), and further as specified by the AIO.

Inclusive Environment

Throughout this course, you may be presented with ideas or perspectives that you are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with. We encourage you to critically examine these ideas and take risks by offering your own experiences and perspectives through civil discourse. In return, I will work to foster and create an environment where you feel supported in taking these risks. When possible, human biases were addressed in the design of this course. If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion, please reach out to me with suggestions on how I can further improve this course for you or for others.

ASU Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to follow the **ASU Student Code of Conduct (<https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/srr/codeofconduct>)**, especially when communicating with peers, staff, and instructors. Violations of the student code of conduct may result in withdrawal from the class.

Assessments

Please be aware that student scores on exams or other graded work may be used to assess program goals of degrees offered by the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics.

Attendance and Absence Policies

In addition to the instructor's general policy on absences and missed work, excused absences and conditions for making up work include **Accommodation of Religious Practices (<https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd304-04.html>)** and Missed Classes Due to University-Sanctioned Activities (ACD 304-02). Students must notify their instructors of these absences as early as possible in the semester.

Community of Care Guidelines

ASU's response to COVID-19 for preserving and protecting every community member's health will continue to be dynamically adjusted to keep our community healthy and well. Please consult the [ASU Coronavirus website \(https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus\)](https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus) and [Coronavirus FAQ \(https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus/faqs\)](https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus/faqs) for up-to-date information on status, current risk, and appropriate response.

Copyright Infringement

All course content and materials are copyrighted materials. Students may not share outside the class, upload to online websites not approved by the instructor, sell, or distribute course content or notes taken during the conduct of the course [see [Academic Affairs Manual policy 304–06: Commercial Note Taking Services \(https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd304-06.html\)](https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd304-06.html) and [Student Code of Conduct policy 5-308 F.14 Prohibited Conduct \(https://public.azregents.edu/Policy%20Manual/5-308-Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf\)](https://public.azregents.edu/Policy%20Manual/5-308-Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf) (page 10) for more information]. This includes lectures, recorded lectures, and lectures administered and recorded using Zoom. Students must refrain from uploading to any course shell, discussion board, or website used by the course instructor or other course forum material that is not the student's original work unless the students first comply with all applicable copyright laws. Faculty members reserve the right to delete materials on the grounds of suspected copyright infringement.

Course/Instructor Evaluation

The course/instructor evaluation for this course will typically be conducted online 7-10 days before the last official day of classes of each semester or summer session. Your response(s) to the course/instructor is anonymous and will not be returned to your instructor until after grades have been submitted. The use of a course/instructor evaluation is an important process that allows our college to (1) help faculty improve their instruction, (2) help administrators evaluate instructional quality, (3) ensure high standards of teaching, and (4) ultimately improve instruction and student learning over time. Completing the evaluation is not required for you to pass this class and will not affect your grade, but your cooperation and participation in this process are critical. About two weeks before the class finishes, watch for an e-mail with "NCIAS Course/Instructor Evaluation" in the subject heading. The e-mail will be sent to your official ASU e-mail address.

Emergencies/Campus Power Outages

In the event of a campus power outage or other event affecting the ability of the University to deliver classes, any decision to cancel classes will be announced using the ASU emergency notification system. For this reason, it is imperative that students register with ASU's emergency notification system [LiveSafe \(https://cfo.asu.edu/emergency-alert\)](https://cfo.asu.edu/emergency-alert). In cases where a limited number of buildings are affected, students should check the University website and/or call the School office at (602) 543-9840.

Emergency Evacuations

In the event that an evacuation occurs during the lab period, do the following:

- If time permits, secure your station (i.e., turn off the hotplate and remove the reaction from the heat source) and take your personal items.
- Walk to the designated exit and down the stairwell. There will be a practice drill during the first lab session, so make sure you know which exit to use.
- Do not use the elevators. If you are unable to walk down the stairs and require special assistance, please inform your instructor.
- Gather outside at the designated area where your instructor will take roll and account for all personnel.
- Wait for notification that it is safe to re-enter the building; if the fire alarm turns off, that does not mean it is safe to re-enter. You must wait for the "ALL CLEAR," from the fire department or appropriate ASU personnel.

It is important that any individuals who need assistance with stairs and/ or are unable to take the stairs, are identified right away, so please walk the students through the evacuation route for your lab section(s). In the event of an emergency evacuation, proceed to the designated area. The designated areas for the CLCC building are Fletcher Lawn (primary), and the breezeway between FAB and UCB (secondary). Students who cannot physically walk down the stairs will have to wait in the designated "Area of Refuge." **You will need to alert emergency personnel of the person(s) and their location."**

Final Exam Make Up Policy

ASU's **Final Exam Schedule** (<https://students.asu.edu/final-exam-schedule>) will be strictly followed. Exceptions to the schedule and requests for make-up examinations can be granted only by the Associate Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics for one of the following reasons: 1) religious conflict; 2) the student has more than three exams scheduled on the same day; 3) two finals are scheduled to occur at the same time. Make-up exams will NOT be given for any of the following reasons: non-refundable airline tickets, vacation plans, work schedules, weddings, family reunions, or other such activities. Students should consult the final exam schedule before making end-of-semester travel plans.

If there is a last-minute personal or medical emergency, the student may receive a grade of Incomplete and make up the final within one calendar month. The student must provide written documentation and be passing the class at the time to receive an incomplete. A signed **Request for Grade of Incomplete** (<https://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request>) must be submitted by the student and approved by the student's instructor and the Associate Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics.

Incomplete

A grade of incomplete will be awarded only if a documented emergency or illness prevents a student doing acceptable work from completing a small percentage of the course requirements at the end of the semester. The guidelines in the current general ASU catalog regarding a grade of incomplete will be strictly followed. A signed **[Request for Grade of Incomplete](https://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request)** (<https://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request>) must be submitted by the student and approved by the student's instructor and the Associate Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics. **A grade of incomplete will NOT be awarded unless there is documented evidence of extreme personal or immediate family hardship.** Changes in work hours or other similar personal problems will not be approved as reasons for awarding incompletes. The Associate Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics must approve any incomplete grade requests.

Grade Grievances

Any student seeking to appeal a grade must follow the following steps. This process does not address academic integrity allegations or faculty misconduct. Student grade appeals must be processed in the regular semester immediately following the issuance of the grade in dispute (by commencement for Fall or Spring semesters), regardless of whether the student is enrolled at the University. There are two stages to the grievance process: the informal process and the formal process. Each process contains a series of steps that must be followed in order. The informal process, outlined below and facilitated by the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics, must be followed prior to escalation to the formal process:

1. A one-on-one meeting must be scheduled with the instructor. During this meeting, a student must state the reason for questioning that the grade was not given properly/in good faith. The instructor must review the matter, explain the grading procedure, and explain how the grade was determined. The student and the instructor must work toward resolution, and grade grievances should ideally be resolved at this level.
2. If the issue is unresolved, the student can appeal to the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics Associate Director, Stephanie Madon, PhD (madon@asu.edu (<mailto:madon@asu.edu>)). The student must provide a written rationale and evidence that the grade was not given appropriately as well as a summary of the instructor's response/the meeting with the instructor.
3. If the SIF Grievances policy does not resolve the issue, the student can appeal to the Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics.
4. If the issue is not resolved at the level of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics, the student can confer with the Dean's Representative in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (Executive Director of Academic Services and Strategic Initiatives) who will review the case and explain the formal process to the student.

Policy Against Threatening Behavior

In the classroom and out, students are required to conduct themselves in a manner that promotes an environment that is safe and conducive to learning and conducting other university-related business. All

incidents and allegations of violent or threatening conduct by an ASU student will be reported to the ASU Police Department (ASU PD) and the Office of the Dean of Students. Such incidents will be dealt with in accordance with the policies and procedures described in **[Section 104-02 of the Student Services Manual \(https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/ssm/ssm104-02.html\)](https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/ssm/ssm104-02.html)**.

Potentially Offensive Content

If you find any of the content in your class offensive, please bring your concerns to the instructor immediately. If raising the issue with the instructor is problematic, these concerns should be brought to the attention of the Director and Associate Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics.

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

[Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services \(SAILS\)](https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility)

[\(https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility\)](https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility) provide information and services to students with any documented disability who are attending ASU. Individualized program strategies and recommendations are available for each student as well as current information regarding community resources. Students also may have access to specialized equipment and supportive services and should contact the instructor for accommodations necessary for course completion.

Respectful Communications

As a beacon for critical thought and the advancement of knowledge, ASU values dissenting opinions. Acknowledging that someone else's opinion matters as much as our own is the first step to creating a respectful dialogue. However, we must also distinguish between opinion, fact, and policy. Valuing and respecting those opinions that are different from our own does not mandate acquiescence or violation of policy. We expect all written, e-mail, verbal, and otherwise communications to be conducted with a respectful tone and tenor, and in compliance with established protocols and the **[ASU Code of Conduct \(https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/srr/codeofconduct\)](https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/srr/codeofconduct)**.

Title IX

It is a federal law that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the University. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at **[ASU's website for Sexual Violence Awareness, Prevention, and Response \(https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs\)](https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs)**. As mandated reporters, faculty are obligated to report any information of which they become aware regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. **[ASU Counseling Services](#)**

<https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling> are available if you wish to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately.

Withdrawals

Specifically, students should be aware that non-attendance will **NOT** automatically result in being dropped from the course. Therefore, if a student does not attend class during the first week or for any extended period of time during the semester, they should not presume that they are no longer registered. **It is the student's responsibility to be aware of their registration status. Any withdrawal transaction must be completed by the deadline date in accordance to the appropriate session at the registrar's office. If not, you will still be officially enrolled and receive a grade based on your completed work.** For additional information about ASU's withdrawal policy and the possible consequences of withdrawing from a class, contact **Registration Services** (<https://students.asu.edu/registration>) or your academic counselor.

Syllabus Disclaimer

The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Remember to check your ASU email and the course site often.

Session C Calendar Reminders

Event	Date
Classes Begin	January 13, 2025
Last Date to Register or add a Class	January 19, 2025
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Observed - Classes excused/University Closed	January 20, 2025
Last Date to Drop a Class	January 26, 2025
Spring Break- Classes excused/University Open	March 9-16, 2025

Event	Date
Course Withdrawal Deadline	April 6, 2025
Complete Session Withdrawal Deadline/Last Day of Classes* https://registrar.asu.edu/drop-add#comp%20wd:~:text=How%20to%20completely%20withdraw%20from%20classes	May 2, 2025
Final Exams	May 5- May 10, 2025

[ASU's Full Academic Calendar \(https://registrar.asu.edu/academic-calendar#spring2024\)](https://registrar.asu.edu/academic-calendar#spring2024)

*As part of a complete session withdrawal, a student must withdraw from all classes in that session. Beginning the first day of classes, undergraduate students are required to work with a Student Retention Coordinator to facilitate the withdrawal process. Please refer to the **[ASU Registrar's webpage How to Drop, Add, and Withdrawal \(https://students.asu.edu/drop-add#comp%20wd\)](https://students.asu.edu/drop-add#comp%20wd)**.