

Psychology and the Law

PSY 3710:002

Fall 2020

Meeting Times

Location: Health and Human Services Building 2302

Day/Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30PM – 3:50PM (see Hybrid Course Information below for details)

Instructor Information

Quincy C. Miller, M.A. (Quincy.Miller@rockets.utoledo.edu)

Office: University Hall 1900A (office hours will be held via Zoom)

Office Hours: T 10AM-1PM, W 1PM-4PM; or by appointment

Christina O. Perez, M.A. (Christina.Perez@rockets.utoledo.edu)

Office: University Hall 1880A (office hours will be held via Zoom)

Office Hours: M 9AM-11AM, TH 9AM-11AM; or by appointment

Teaching Assistants

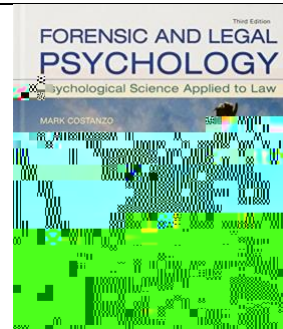
Natalie Heindl (Natalie.Heindl@rockets.utoledo.edu)

Ann Louise Sari (AnnLouise.Sari@rockets.utoledo.edu)

Required Textbook

Costanzo, M. & Krauss, D. (2018). Forensic and Legal Psychology: Psychological Science Applied to Law (3rd. Ed.). Worth Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-319-06031-2

Note: past editions of the book are fine



Hybrid Course Information

Due to social distancing restrictions, we will be implementing a flipped classroom model for this course. All lectures will be recorded and uploaded to Blackboard for students to watch from home. Students will be expected to read chapters, watch the lectures, and respond to attendance questions via Blackboard prior to attending class.

Furthermore, to allow for maximum social distancing within the room the course is held in, students will be randomly assigned to one of two attendance groups. **Students in Group A will attend class on Tuesdays, and students in Group B will attend class on Thursdays. You will receive an e-mail informing you which group you have been assigned to prior to the beginning of the semester.** Both groups will receive similar information in class, but this method will allow us all to maintain a safer distance while in class.

COVID-19 Implications

The health and safety of students, faculty, and staff of the department is our first priority. Masks save lives and it is the policy of the Department of Psychology that masks must be worn at all times in every face to face class taught by department faculty members as well as in meetings with faculty or when present in the main office or other department-controlled spaces. This is a zero-tolerance policy. All students must wear face coverings while on campus, except while eating, alone in an enclosed space, or outdoors practicing social distancing. **NO students will be permitted in class without a face covering. If a student does not wear a mask, they will be asked to put one on or leave the class.** If they refuse these requests, class will be immediately dismissed, and the student will be referred for disciplinary action under the student code of conduct. If you have a medical reason that prevents you from wearing a face covering due to a health condition deemed high-risk for COVID-19 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), you should submit a request for an accommodation through the Student Disability Services Office (SDS) by completing the [online application](#). Students will need to provide documentation that verifies their health condition or disability and supports the need for accommodations. If a student is already affiliated with SDS and would like to request additional accommodations due to the impact of COVID-19, they should contact their accessibility specialist to discuss their specific needs.

If a student forgets their mask when they arrive to campus, this student should visit the Student Affairs Office (Wolfe Hall room 1227; 419.530.1970) to obtain a mask before coming to class. The Student Government also has a limited quantity of extra masks. If the student is unable to obtain a mask on campus, the student should leave campus to get a mask before returning.

Students who are symptomatic/sick should **not** come to class and should contact the Main Campus Health Center at 419-530-3451. **Absences due to COVID-19 quarantine or isolation requirements are considered excused absences.** Students should notify their instructors, and these absences may not require written documentation. If a student tests positive for COVID-19, this student should contact the Office of Student Advocacy and Support (<https://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/student-advocacy/>).

Students should practice social distancing inside and outside the classroom; please follow signage and pay attention to the seating arrangements. Do not remove stickers or tape from seats and/or tables, this is there to provide guidance on

It is important that you remember this is a 3000 level course. You are expected to keep up with the readings and come to class fully prepared to discuss the relevant issues. The text will provide you with a broad theoretical background of the field while the articles will give you some real life examples of how psychology affects the real world. Classes will consist of lectures, videos, and discussions designed to expand on the material covered in the readings.

Communication with the Instructors

Summary of Course Requirements and Grading

	Possible Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Class Attendance on Blackboard (25)	50	8%
Exams (4)	200	30%
Writing Assignments (4)	400	62%

Tentative Class Schedule

Professor Miller: August 18 - October 8

Professor Perez: October 13 - November 24

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be announced via Blackboard. You are responsible for all class announcements.**

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	MATERIAL
1	Aug. 18	Introduction	
	Aug 20	Introduction	
2	Aug. 25	Psychology and the Law: A Cautious Alliance	Chapter 1
	Aug. 27	Jury Selection and Trial Procedure	Chapter 9
3	Sept. 1	Juries and Judges as Decision Makers	Chapter 12
	Sept. 3	Extralegal Factors in Jury Decision Making	
4	Sept. 8	Child Sexual Abuse & Memory	Chapter 6; Miller & London, 2020
	Sept. 10	Dr. Mark Howe Lecture	
5	Sept. 15	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 9, 12, 6)	
	Sept. 17	The Psychology of Forensic Identification	Chapter 4; Kassin, Dror, & Kukucka, 2013
6	Sept. 22		
	Sept. 24	Criminal Profiling and Psychological Autopsies	Chapter 5
7	Sept. 29	358W.63 74.025 O 437.14	

Writing Assignment Topics

Below are four high-profile legislative issues. You will analyze each of the issues in a 4-5 page typed paper following APA guidelines (see Class Assignments above for a breakdown of how papers will be graded).

In your paper, identify the scientific literature discussed in class that is relevant to the current issue. For each relevant legal topic, describe the argument that could be made for each side. Is there any scientific evidence to support one side or the other? To answer this, you will have to do some outside research. ***Thus, outside references and a citation page are necessary to receive full credit. To receive full points, you must address all questions listed in each prompt.***

When uploading each paper, please adhere to the following format: Upload as a **Microsoft Word** document
 assignment# Professor Miller was turning in the first writing
 assignment, she **All assignments that are not submitted using
 the specified format will have 5 points deducted from their grade.**

1. In September 2018, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford came forward with allegations of sexual misconduct against then Supreme Court Justice nominee Brett Kavanaugh. Dr. Blasey Ford alleged Mr. Kavanaugh sexually

years earlier *reliable*? What factors may have impacted the *reliability* of event during the time that has passed between the alleged event and the allegation (*hint: Miller & London, 2020*)? Please argue both sides of memory reliability using the scientific literature discussed in class. From Jeffrey Epstein to Harvey Weinstein, how may the wake of the *#MeToo* movement have impacted perceptions of cases of delayed reporting in which months, years, or decades have passed between the

(Due: Sept. 11)

2. Netflix account, borrow from a friend. Please ***DO NOT ask the instructors for a Netflix password***). What role does forensic science play in court adjudication and ultimate juror decision making? Are jurors persuaded by forensic science? Should they be? How could the *reliability* of forensic science be bolstered (i.e., improved)

