

Wayland Mission Statement

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

Contact Information

Course: JUAD/PSYC 3325 VC01 – Forensic Psychology

Campus: WBUonline

Term/Session: Fall 2 2025

Instructor: Dr. Peter Bowen

Office Phone Number: 806-291-1179 or cell #: 806-494-2564 (before 10:00 pm, please)

WBU Email Address: pbowen@wbu.edu

Office Hours, Building, and Location: Gates Hall, Room 314, Plainview Campus

- Monday 11:00 – 12:00 and 2:00 – 4:00
- Tuesday 9:00 – 10:30 and 2:00 – 4:00
- Thursday 9:00 – 10:30 and 2:00 – 3:30
- Friday 11:00 – 12:00

Class Meeting Time and Location: Blackboard

Course Information

Catalog Description: A study of the impact of psychological influences on the development of criminal behavior; criminal profiling to identify targets of investigation; utilization of profiling by the court and correctional systems.

There is no prerequisite for this course.

Textbook Information

Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials:

Forensic and Legal Psychology: Psychological Science Applied to Law

Author(s): Costanzo, Mark / Krauss, Daniel

ISBN: 1-319-06031-5

ISBN-13: 9781319244880

Edition / Copyright: 4th 2021 - Current Edition

Publisher: MacMillan Higher Education

<<If using Wayland's Automatic eBook program, please include this statement; otherwise delete this paragraph.>> The textbook for this course is part of the **Wayland's Automatic eBook** program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore [Automatic eBook FAQ](#) page.

Course Outcome Competencies: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Roles and responsibilities of forensic psychologists
- Police selection, training and evaluation
- Police interrogations, and confessions
- Criminal profiling
- Alternative dispute resolution
- Insanity and in competency
- Battered women and rape trauma syndromes
- Discrimination

Attendance Requirements

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student "attendance" in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a "no-show" and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university's attendance policy.

University Policies

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity](#) , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:

- a. Generative AI tools permitted in specific context and with proper citations.
 - i. Students are allowed to use, reference, or incorporate generative AI tools into specific assignments for this course. When used, students must properly cite the generative AI tool in their submitted work.
 - ii. While there is no true substitute for direct help and instruction for your instructor, students may be allowed to use generative AI tools to provide further explanations of course content, readings, and other assignments. Any use of generative AI tools to help further explain or translate to content must be properly referenced and cited.
 - iii. Specific parameters for generative AI usage are provided by the instructor.
 - iv. Any use of generative AI tools outside of the approved instructor parameters will be considered a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Disability Statement: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, hammerr@wbu.edu or call (806) 292-9150.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

All assignments may be found in folders set up for each week of the course. The weekly schedule is outlined in the 'Schedule' section below. All assignments for the week must be completed by 11:59 pm (Central time zone) on Sunday night. Some assignments may be available early if you want to work ahead. Discussions will need to be completed during the week assigned. Students who have circumstances which prevent them from participating or completing an assignment on time must communicate with me in order to find reasonable accommodations to complete the required course work.

Weekly Reading Quizzes: You will have quizzes each week, one covering each chapter in the text (see schedule below). The quizzes are open book and untimed and they may be retaken once. These quizzes will be very important to prepare you for the exams. The quiz grades will total 250 points (20%) of your final grade.

Midterm and final exams: You will take a midterm (chapters 1 – 9) and a final exam (chapters 10 – 17). These will be timed and you will only have one chance to take them. The quizzes will be very helpful in preparing for the exams. Questions will be objective (multiple choice, etc.) like the quizzes. The two exams will total 500 points (40%) of the final grade.

Weekly discussion board and/or other assignment: Each week will have a discussion board and/or another assignment to complete. Your work is not to be simply copied from another source (see academic dishonest policy). I take plagiarism seriously! Your work should be thoughtful and thorough, demonstrating your understanding of the material. Responses to other students on discussion board should be substantive and make a contribution to the course. They should also be respectful to all other people. Discussion topics will generally require an initial post by Thursday night. The average of these assignments will be 20% of the final grade.

Project: Use the “Arson Trial Case” document provided on in the project assignment on Blackboard to complete this assignment. Imagine that you are a forensic expert preparing to give testimony for this case. Write a report covering each of the following:

1. List and briefly describe THREE areas (for example, jury selection) to which a forensic psychologist could be asked to contribute to this case.
2. For EACH of the three areas above, list and briefly explain three concepts from the text that would apply to that area in this case.
3. Choose ONE of the areas above as the area that you have been contracted to testify. Use this area of the case for the next two items.
4. Describe ‘your’ credentials: Describe the credentials of a person who would be well-qualified to be an expert in this area in your case. Be sure to briefly explain/justify your expertise for this case.
5. Write a report further explaining some points that the psychologist might make in testimony about this case. You can use the three concepts above (in part 2), but may add others. Explain how these concepts would help the psychologist make recommendation in this case. What are some specific recommendation/statements that a psychologist could make? Be sure to cite sources to support your points. You may cite the textbook, but should also cite at least two outside sources.

Total paper should be 6 – 8 pages, including references. **Due Week 7.** Grade on this project is 250 points (20%) of final grade.

Grading overview:

Weekly Quizzes	250 points
Exams	500 points
Discussion/Assigns	250 points
Project	250 points
Total	1250 points

A = 1125+ points

B = 1000 – 1124 points

C = 875 – 999 points

D = 750 – 874 points

F = Below 750 points

The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student's control. A grade of "incomplete" is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion. If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

Student Grade Appeals: Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

Tentative Schedule

Module/Week	Topic	Due Date
One	Ch 1 Psychology and Law: A Cautious Alliance Ch 2 Interrogations and Confessions	Oct 19
Two	Ch 3 Lie Detection Ch 4 DNA, Fingerprints, and other Physical Trace Evidence Ch 5 Criminal Profiling	Oct 26
Three	Ch 6 Child Sexual Abuse: Interviewing Children and Assessing the Recovered Memories of Adults Ch 7 Eyewitness Identification and Testimony	Nov 2
Four	Ch 8 Competency to Stand Trial Ch 9 Jury Selection and Trial Procedure	Nov 9
Five	** Exam #1 Ch 10 The Insanity Defense	Nov 16
Six	Ch 11 Battered Woman Syndrome, Rape Trauma Syndrome, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Ch 12 Juries and Judges as Decision Makers Ch 13 Child Custody Disputes	Nov 23
Thanksgiving Week Holiday		
Seven	Ch 14 Workplace Law: Harassment, Discrimination, and Fairness Ch 15 Predicting Violent Behavior: The Psychology of Risk Assessment ** Project Due	Dec 7

Eight	Ch 16 Corrections: Sentencing, Imprisonment, and Alternatives Ch 17 The Death Penalty ** Exam #2	Dec 13
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Additional Information

Important Dates:

- Deadline for Application for Graduation for the December posting date: October 17
- Last day to drop without record: October 20
- Last day to drop with "W": November 14
- Thanksgiving week holiday/no class assignments: Nov 24 - 28
- Last day to drop with WP/WF: December 5
- Last day of course: December 13