THE CRIMINAL MIND
PSYC 4393-NB-ST (2702) AND MLPSY 6393-NB-LEC (2704)
7:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. Thursdays
University of St. Thomas – Jerabek 201
Spring 2017

Instructor: Stephen P. McCary, Ph.D., J.D.
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Email: pablomac@sbcglobal.net
Office hours: 5:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Thursdays at O’Rourke Psych. Dept. &
9:45 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. Thursdays at Jerabek 201 and as arranged with me

THE CRIMINAL MIND AND ITS NATURE THROUGH
CRIMINAL PROFILING. CreateSpace (Kimmers Publishing)
ISBN 9781530291335

CRIMINAL PSYCHOPATHIC BRAIN: NEUROLOGICAL
IMAGING AND THE MANIFESTATION OF EVIL. New York,
N.Y.: Pegasus Books LLC ISBN 9781605986951

Samenow, S.E. (2014). INSIDE THE CRIMINAL MIND. New York:
Broadway Books ISBN 9780804139908

Course Description: In this course we will consider the psychosocial, personality,
environmental, and neurobiological factors that appear to contribute to the development
of the criminal mind. We will consider how evil, spiritual darkness, errors in thinking,
corruption, and callousness are illustrated by psychopaths and/or severely mentally
disturbed individuals.

Course Objectives: The primary objectives of this course are for students to: 1.) gain
an understanding of what constitutes having “a criminal mind”; 2.) gain an appreciation
of how criminal psychopaths differ from non-criminal psychopaths and from normal
individuals; 3.) consider what assessment strategies can be employed to help determine
whether one has “a criminal mind”; and 4.) consider what treatment options may exist to
treat “the criminal mind”. Undergraduate student class presentations with research
supporting the presentations) and class participation will be required.

Course Requirements: You will have four major grades (each comprising one-fourth of
your grade) that will be used to calculate your overall course grade: 1.) Quiz #1; 2.)
Quiz #2; 3.) Class Presentations, Class Notes, Regular Attendance, Class Participation
and/or Term Papers; and 4.) The Final Exam. Please note that only graduate students
are required to do term papers. Term papers are due on or before the last class date (i.e., May
4, 2017). Quiz #1, Quiz #2, and The Final Exam may include short-answer questions,
matching items, multiple choice questions, fill-in-the-blank items, true-false items, essays, and/or case/vignette materials. Quiz #1 and Quiz #2 will require more memorization or specific recall of the course material, while your Final Exam will require a more conceptual and global understanding of what you have learned in the course. Quiz #1 is tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2017. Quiz #2 is tentatively scheduled for April 6, 2017. The Final Exam is scheduled for May 11, 2017. Please remember to clearly print your names on your quiz or exam booklets. Please bring six to eight stapled sheets or two Blue Books and clearly print your name on the top of or in an appropriate place on the stapled sheets/Blue Books.

Class presentations and/or term papers are to address topics or issues that are relevant to the described content of this course. Class presentations should be about 20 to 30 minutes in length. Class presentations can be done by yourself or possibly with one or two other classmates. Term papers are to be done alone and without the help of other classmates or inappropriate outside sources. Again, only graduate students are going to be doing term papers. For class presentations, you are to type two to four page outlines (with an additional page for references) that you copy and give to each of your classmates and to me. Please use complete sentences in writing your outlines and cover at least the major points or ideas that you are talking about in your class presentations. Please remember to put your names on your outlines and your term papers.

Graduate student term papers should be 7 to 10 pages in length and typed double-spaced. You should have an additional page with references (i.e., a bibliography with seven or more individual references). You should follow the M.L.A. style (or A.P.A. style or, if you receive my permission, some other appropriate research style). Again, please turn in your term paper on or before May 4, 2017. Also, keep a copy of your term paper and/or class presentation outline(s) for your records. I will not be returning the original copies of your term papers and/or class presentation outlines to you.

Please let me know (i.e., via a written/typed description in a paragraph) what you want to do for Class Presentations by February 9, 2017. I will begin assigning project presentation dates by February 16, 2017. Project presentations likely will begin by March 23, 2017. Please try not to delay doing your presentations until the very end of the semester since time requirements may require that you be one of the early presenters.

**Alternative or Additional Class Participation Possibility:** Since some students do not like to make oral contributions to class discussions, there is something else you can do. A journal or a notebook can be made that includes information that is presented via my lectures/presentations, via major points made in your textbooks, and/or via class discussions. These written or typed journals or notebooks are to be handed into me on May 4, 2017. Please let me know by February 9, 2017 if you are choosing to do this. Keep a copy of these journals or notebooks for your records. I will not be returning the original copies of the journals or notebooks to you.

**Reading Schedule and Class Time:** Reading material from your texts will be assigned in class. Also, you are expected to read the class presentation outlines that your fellow
students will give to you. Attending and staying for the entire class sessions are very important. Most of what you need to focus on and to know will be covered in the class sessions. If you cannot attend a class, be sure to arrange to get notes and/or class presentation outlines from a classmate. If you need to miss more than two class sessions (e.g., due to illness or an emergency), then please contact me.

**Grading:** The following grading scale applies: 93-100 = A; 90-92 = A-; 87-89 = B+; 83-86 = B; 80-82 = B-. 77-79 = C+; 73-76 = C; 70-72 = C-. 67-69 = D+; 63-66 = D; 60-62 = D-. Below 60 = F. If life circumstances do not allow you to complete the course, then go through the formal University of St. Thomas procedures to officially drop the course. Otherwise, you probably will receive an “F” for the course.

**Special Accommodations:** Any student with a documented disability requiring accommodations in this course can contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at: 713-525-6953 or 3162. Also, please contact me before or after class if you require special accommodations.

**Other matters:** If any changes occur in this assignment sheet or concerning any matters relevant to this course, you will be told in class. You are responsible for knowing about any changes that occur. Please bring your texts to every class session. Please bring pens, #2 pencils, and paper when you come to every class meeting and each quiz/exam date. Please bring stapled sheets of paper or two Blue Books for the two exams. S. McCary----(713) 639-0465; Email: pablomac@sbcglobal.net