

Psychology 3710- Psychology and Law
2:00-3:15pm on Mondays and Wednesdays in Gillham Hall 5300
Spring 2012

Professor:

Dr. Kami London, PhD

Email: kamala.london@utoledo.edu
Office hours: M 12:30-1:30 (or make an
appt. The best way to do that is to email
me.)

Text: Greene, E., & Heilbrun, K. (2011). *Wrightsmen's psychology and the legal system* (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Other required readings for the class will be posted online. Readings will be announced in class. Guest speakers will be announced.

Course Description: The interface between psychological principles and our legal system will be explored. Topics include but are not limited to:

- a. Theories of criminal behavior
- b. Eyewitness identification and accuracy
- c. Competency to stand trial
- d. The insanity defense
- e. Analysis of victims and perpetrators

It is important that you remember that this is a 3000 level course. It is expected that you

Assignments have specific due dates that are listed on the class schedule. You will be docked 10% for every day that they are late. Because you have been told about these assignments in advance there will be no exceptions to this rule. If you will be attending a University sponsored event on the due date of an assignment, you will be expected to turn the assignment in early.

I expect that you will consult outside sources when you write your papers. It is VERY important that you cite things that are not in the text of your course.

limited to quotations. Make it clear which paper you have gotten the information from and if you do quote something give the page number. If you get information from your text book please cite the text of your course.

The following grading criteria will be used for the class assignments (worth 50 points each)

- ◆ Overall comprehension of articles and clarity of personal ideas, opinions, and thoughts (30 points)

Summary of Course Requirements and Grading:

	<u>Points</u>	<u>Percentage of grade</u>
Exams	300	75
Class Assignments	100	25
TOTAL	400	100%

Letter Grades

A	93+% > 370 points	C	73-76%	290-305
A-	90-92% 358-369	C-	70-72%	278-289

B	83-86% 330-345	D	63-66%	250-265
B-	80-82% 318-329	D-	60-62%	238-249
C+	77-79% 306-317	F	< 60%	<237

IMPORTANT GRADING POLICY- If you are on the borderline between two grades, do not ask me to bump your grade. After the entire class is done (including the final) I may

changes in the law.

Below are four legislative issues that have made news. Analyze one of the issues in a 4-5 page typed paper.

In your paper, identify which legal dilemmas are relevant to the current issue. For each relevant legal dilemma, 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'll

Beyond all reason. Case study of Bobby Thompson, a 10-year old murderer

John Wayne Gacy Case study of a serial killer

Writing Assignment #4: Death Penalty Issues