CRM 3306/3306A

Crime Analysis

Cal Poly Pomona Department of Sociology

Spring 2026

Professor: J.N. Redman, PhD
Email:
Class Location:
Class Times:
Office Hours:

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to crime analysis and crime mapping and examines the types of techniques used to study crime patterns and problems in law enforcement today. It covers the theory, data collection methods, and statistics used, as well as the history of and career opportunities for crime analysis.

Prerequisites and necessary skills

- CRM2201, SOC2201, SOC/CRM2205
- Necessary skills: Simple algebra and basic statistics obtained in STA1200 or SOC/CRM2205; fluency in reading university-level textbooks and materials; willingness to talk to others in class

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to help you understand the techniques of crime analysis and crime mapping and how they are practiced in everyday policing. We will focus on discussing issues in crime analysis and crime mapping, critiquing current practices, and learning about the technology used. The course will cover the following topics: Introduction to Crime Analysis and Crime Mapping, Environmental Criminology, Data Technology, Specific Techniques and Examples Used in Tactical, Strategic, and Administrative Crime Analysis.

NB: This course is adapted from a syllabus originally developed by Dr. Gabriele Plickert.

Required course materials

- Rachel L. Boba (2006). *Crime Analysis and Crime Mapping*. 4th edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications [NOTE: Other years and editions should be fine, but feel free to double-check with me in class]
- Additional required readings available on Canvas
- Computer mouse & updated Excel version with map function

You also need reliable access to a computer and the internet to get assigned readings and activities from Canvas and other websites, and to turn in assignments.

Course Requirements

All course requirements (e.g., activities, exercises) are available on Canvas, and all assignments must be submitted there. Further directions are provided on the Canvas course site and the chapter sections.

If you have technological difficulties that obstruct your completion of the coursework, you must do the following:

- Notify me right away via email in order to document the issue
- Contact the University's IT https://www.cpp.edu/it/help/ for assistance in resolving the issue
- I will only permit the make-up of coursework (without penalty) due to technological issues *if* students email me prior to the deadline of the tasks.

Privacy and security for our class

I will post instructional activity videos on Cal Poly Pomona's secure video streaming server and provide the links on Canvas, accessible only to members of this class. Please do not screen-capture or share recordings of class activities outside of our class.

For more information about privacy and security policies for Canvas and the university:

- Canvas (Instructure) privacy policies
- Online privacy notice
- University Library privacy policy

What you can expect from me

I am truly glad that you are here. Cal Poly Pomona students are some of the finest in the land, and it's an honor to work with you. I will do my best to make this course an excellent learning experience – well-organized, interesting, relevant, with meaningful assignments and the support you need to succeed. I will offer opportunities for you to give me feedback, and I will take suggestions to improve the learning environment. I will do my best to grade your work fairly and in a timely fashion.

I know that many Cal Poly Pomona students aare first-generation students, parents, have other family responsibilities, have other family responsibilities, and may even experience food and housing insecurity. Most of all, I know that everyone has a big, rich life outside of this class that may include any number of challenges and draw on many different kinds of strengths. I want to work with you to help you succeed.

Please talk to me, since only you can properly communicate your situation. **See pg. 6 of this syllabus for a list of helpful campus resources.**

What *you* can give the class

I really appreciate it when students pay attention to class happenings, are willing to try new things, ask questions, make mistakes, and put in the time to do good work. I also appreciate students who treat each other and me with courtesy, respect, and kindness.

Since we are learning a professional skill, this class is an opportunity to practice "professionalism," in addition to learning about crime analysis. Since many of the activities in this class are somewhat self-paced, you will need to exercise lots of personal initiative – a great skill for your future. Being professional includes thinking carefully, doing work that's well beyond the minimum of quality, being respectful and courteous to others, and meeting obligations without fuss. For this class specifically, professionalism means:

- Doing the work – The activities in this class are carefully selected to help you learn. If you don't understand why we're doing something, it's your professional responsibility to ask politely for explanations. (It's my professional responsibility to have a good one!)
- Being present – Attend synchronous meetings and activities. Be on time, prepared, and tuned in the whole time. Pay attention, listen to others, and be ready to talk. Do the prep work for classes and activities, and actively contribute to group activities so your partner is not stuck with all the work.
- Professional interactions – In class discussions, lab activities, and on Canvas, speak and write respectfully and politely, seeking to understand rather than to "win." Disagreement or challenging of ideas in a courteous and supportive way is encouraged. Disrespectful speech or behavior, especially regarding race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, age, etc., is not acceptable.

Course Assignments and Grading

Assignment	Percent	Points
Quizzes (4*20)	20%	80
Activities (9*20)	45%	180
Final Project	25%	100
Attendance (12*3)	9%	36
Misc	1%	4
Total	**100**	**400**

Quizzes:

Four times throughout the semester, once after each unit, you will take a short multiple-choice examination (20 questions) based on material from the textbook chapters. These will be administered through canvas but most likely in person (details or changes pending).

Activities:

Most of the work in this class will be in the form of activities. There will be 9 activities over the course of the semester. In these, you will learn how to conduct basic crime analysis using Excel and basic mapping tools. You will also learn and practice some fundamental ideas involved in crime analysis. We will complete an activity every week we do not have a quiz. I will walk you through the activity and you will be responsible for submitting the completed activity by the end of the following week's class. I will lead you through some of these activities, while others will be more or less self-directed. They are designed so that you should be able to complete most of them in class. This means that most weeks, you will not need to complete any assignments outside of class except for reading.

Attendance:

Attendance is vital, especially in a class that meets once a week. You are paying for this class in one way or another, so get your money's worth. Show up! Attendance is mandatory, and I will take it every week. However, I know you have lives outside of class, people get sick, cars break down, etc. For this reason, you are permitted to miss up to three classes with no questions asked. In such instances, please reach out to me, and I am happy to share a recorded version of the lecture and lab for that week so that you do not fall behind. If you need to miss more than three classes for any reason, you MUST reach out to me so that we can make a plan to ensure you do not get behind.

Course Policies and Important Notes:

NOTE: You will earn the same grade for lab as for lecture. So, if you earn an "A", it will count as *two* "A's" on your transcript. **BUT the same is true of an "F."**

I am aware that many of you need this class to graduate, and for this reason, I have designed it to be relatively straightforward and—dare I say—easy. Try to see the double grade as an opportunity rather than a risk.

However, I know that accidents happen, not everyone is a strong test taker, and lives get in the way. So, please take advantage of the following policies.

1) You are permitted to bring one page of handwritten or printed notes, front and back, with you to all quizzes for reference.
2) You will be permitted to re-take multiple-choice quizzes one additional time in order to improve your grade.
3) You are permitted to resubmit ANY lab or homework for regrading based on my comments.
4) You can and SHOULD ask for help with all activities. That is why we complete them in class.

Attendance, Make-Up, and Late Work Policies

Treat this class as a serious professional obligation. If you would not miss your job or turn in a late job project for a given reason, please don't do it in this course. I absolutely do accept late work for **reasonable reasons**. So, please reach out with any question right away! I am very lenient and understanding of students' circumstances, but please do not take advantage of my trust. I will work with you, but I can't do that if you don't let me know what is going on.

For serious situations, we'll make alternative arrangements on a case-by-case basis. Serious situations include things like major family obligations, religious or cultural observances, pre-arranged professional activities, and illnesses or emergencies.

Please let me know if circumstances arise that make it difficult for you to meet class obligations. I will make every effort to work with you within university policy guidelines. Don't expect to fly under the radar. I will reach out to you if you stop showing up or turning things in.

Academic Offenses

Academic dishonesty, i.e. cheating and plagiarism, is unethical and unprofessional. Being academically dishonest is like winning a game by tampering with the ball – you won, but not really. To put it another way, a boss will fire you immediately for lying, and academic dishonesty is lying.

Paying someone to do an assignment for you, purchasing a paper that someone else wrote, pretending you did work that you didn't do, using AI to author or completely re-write an assignment, or anything along those lines, is cheating. Period. I highly encourage you to work through exercises and activities yourself. Plagiarism is copying someone else's work. Learn more at Student Conduct Resources. In this class, academic dishonesty will result in **at least a failing grade** for the assignment, with more severe penalties possible in consultation with Student Conduct. I do not like having to 'tattle' on students to the university; please don't make me do so.

Cheating and plagiarism put all students at risk: If many students cheat, then a grade or a degree from Cal Poly Pomona loses its value entirely. I understand that pressure can be severe for students, and when pressure is high, it's tempting to take shortcuts. Please don't make cheating one of those shortcuts. **Seriously… Just *talk to me*. Together, we can easily figure out how to help you succeed for real.**

Class Code of Conduct

Students have the right to express themselves and participate freely in class. However, it is expected totheir peers and the professor with courtesy and respect. Offensive or inappropriate language is not to be used in any form of communication, e.g., emails, discussion posts, or submitted assignments. Students are allowed to disagree with each other or the professor but must do so in a civil manner.

The discussion area of this course is reserved for postings related to the course. Postings of a personal or nonacademic nature are not permitted and may be removed (or not graded) by the professor should they appear. Grades and personal issues will be handled privately via email or Zoom between the student and the professor.

University Student Support

You're paying for many campus resources through your fees. Use them! Here are a few:

- Broncos Care Basic Needs for students experiencing food or housing insecurity
- Dean of Students, includes Cultural Centers, Dreamers Resource Center, Women's Resource Center, clubs, etc.
- IT Resources for students
- Learning Resource Center for tutoring in many courses
- Library Resource Guides
- LinkedIn Learning, a very broad educational platform
- Student Health and Wellbeing – Many student services including Counseling, the Disability Resource Center, Health Services, the Integrated Care Network, Survivor Advocacy Services, and the Bronco Wellness Center
- Student Success Central – Many resources including those related to COVID19.
- Veterans Resource Center

Please let me know if you need help. This is a big campus with a lot is resources available to you. Everyone wants to see you succeed, especially now as we're recovering from an extremely stressful time during the pandemic and a lot of things are still fluid.

Title IX

The University is committed to creating and sustaining a positive learning and working environment, free from discrimination, including sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. All forms of such behaviors are not tolerated and are prohibited both by law and university policy. The University will respond promptly to reports of such behavior and will take appropriate action to prevent, correct, and when necessary, discipline behavior that violates University policy. If you experience sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, you are encouraged to seek immediate assistance from police, a confidential sexual assault counselor or advocate, and healthcare provider for your physical safety, emotional support, and medical care. I encourage you to please review the University's TIX website for additional information: http://www.cpp.edu/~title-ix/ index.shtml.

University policy requires me, as a faculty member, to report any of the above behaviors that are disclosed to me (i.e. I am a "mandated reporter"), to the University Title IX Coordinator so that the University may take immediate action to prevent, correct, and/or discipline as appropriate. Given this, please know that if I feel that you are beginning to share information with me concerning sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, I may gently interrupt you to advise you of this and to allow you an opportunity to decide whether you would like to continue to disclose this information to me or whether you would prefer a confidential resource. I

care for your physical and emotional health and safety and will do my best to assist you with resources and support, which may include interim accommodations.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

I am both professionally and personally committed to providing a welcoming and inclusive learning environment for *all* of the students who take my courses. These commitments mean that I will *always* strive not only to include, but to support and uplift the perspectives of students whose viewpoints and backgrounds are different from my own. I came to these commitments through an interest in feminist and critical theory and standpoint epistemology. So, while the material for this course may seem dry and technical, I am aware that no "official" knowledge (especially crime statistics!) is ***ever*** separate from structures of power and privilege. It is my hope that even a subject like crime analysis can empower students to gain a critical viewpoint on "authoritative knowledge" and give them a voice and a planform to make their perspectives known and effect positive change in the world.

Tentative Course Schedule

*** All readings and assignments are subject to change****

Date	Unit	Chapter	Lecture Topic	Activity Assigned	Activity Due
January 26	Part I: Foundations of Crime Analysis	Chapter 1	Crime Analysis as a Profession	Descriptive Statistics	Read Syllabus
February 2		Chapter 2	Theoretical Foundations	Pivot Tables	Descriptive Statistics
February 9		Chapter 3	Evidence-Based Policing	Quiz 1	Pivot Tables
February 16	Part II: Crime Analysis, Data, and Products	Chapter 4	Crime Analysis Process and Types	Crime Analysis Resume	Quiz 1
February 23		Chapter 5	Crime Analysis Data and Technology	Crime Opportunities	Crime Analysis Resume
March 2		Chapter 6	Geographic Data and Crime Mapping	Quiz 2	Crime Opportunities
March 9	Part III: Tactical Crime Analysis	Chapter 8	Calls-for-Service Data and Repeat Incident Analysis	Crime Mapping Points	Quiz 2
March 16		Chapter 9	Crime Data and Pattern Analysis	Creating a Database	Crime Mapping Points
March 23		Chapter 10	Persons and Property Crime Patterns	Crime Mapping Density	Creating a Database
March 30	Spring Break	SB	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
April 6		Chapters 7 *and* 11	Crime Analysis Products: Bulletins,	Quiz 3	Crime Mapping Density

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			Response, and Evaluation		
April 13	Part IV: Strategic Crime Analysis	Chapter 12	Statistics and Trends	Death Penalty, Rates, and States	Quiz 3
April 20		Chapter 13	Long-Term Problem Analysis, Part I	Crosstabs and Percent Change	Death Penalty, Rates, and States
April 27		Chapter 14	Long-Term Problem Analysis, Part II	Final Project	Crosstabs and Percent Change
May 4		Chapter 15	Evaluation of Long-Term Problems and Crime Reduction Goals.	Quiz 4	Final Project Draft
May 11	Presentations	Presentations	Final 3:00-6:50pm	Presentations	Quiz 4