CJ 202: Violence and Aggression | Syllabus | Fall 2023

## **Instructor Information and Availability**

**Instructor name**: Monica J. McKirdy, M.S.

**E-mail address:** mckirdm@linnbenton.edu

**Office hours: Mondays**, 8am to 10am. (Or email anytime!)

**Office number: IA 216**

## **Course Information**

Course name: Violence and Aggression

Section number: CJ202

CRN: 26129

Scheduled time/days: ONLINE for Fall 2023

Number of credits: 3

Classroom(s): Located in Moodle!

## **Course Materials**

**Required:**

• Alvarez, A., Bachman, R. (2021). *Violence: The Enduring Problem. Fourth Edition.* Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks California.

* An eBook version is available in the Moodle classroom. If you’d like to **opt out** of having a digital copy, click the opt-out link in Moodle. Note: You will be responsible for finding a physical copy of the book if you want one. The ISBN is below.
* ISBN: 978-1544355658

**Free copy of Microsoft 365 if you want it**:

<https://libhelp.linnbenton.edu/subjects/guide.php?subject=shd#tab-3>

## **Course Description**

This course explores and analyzes violence and aggression from biological, psychological and sociological perspectives. Includes topics such as homicide, suicide, rape, assault, mob violence, terrorism, violence within the family and related phenomenon, which are presented from a human relations perspective.

## **Course Communication**

You will be receiving an email from your instructor on Monday morning of each week. This email will outline what you can expect in the course that week. Emails may come to you from your instructor at other times during the week as well. **It is imperative that you check your LBCC email every day or you will miss important information.**

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion the student will be able to:

•Describe the psychological, physiological, and social causes of violence and aggression.

•Explain violence and aggression as a rational response.

•Articulate the societal costs of violence and aggression.

•Describe the major strategies for mitigating violence and aggression in schools, prisons, and the workplace.

•Describe the characteristics of the criminal mind and articulate criminal thinking errors.

# **Class Policies**

## **Behavior and Expectations**

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.linnbenton.edu/about-lbcc/administration/policies/student-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct.php), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

### **Guidelines for communication**

Send email correspondence to your instructor directly at [mckirdm@linnbenton.edu](mailto:mckirdm@linnbenton.edu). You may also use the chat feature built into Moodle, but a direct email will get you a faster response.

**Expect weekly emails each Monday morning** that introduce you to the week’s topic, give any disclaimers about what you are about to dive into, and provide optional links to recent crimes in the news.

## **Attendance**

You will need to login to the Moodle classroom several times per week. Plan on engaging in class activities on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week. There is also a simple paper due each Sunday night, but you may turn it in any day of the week.

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## **Assignments and Weekly Routine**

• There are ten online lessons in the Moodle classroom. There are questions embedded in the lessons, and **these assignments are worth 10 points each**. These are due each Tuesday night. (100 points total toward your grade.)

• **Weekly online discussion** posts are *required*. A discussion question will be provided. You must post one answer to the question that is at least 250 words and uses the week’s reading as a way to back up or support your answer. All references, whether the course text or otherwise, must be listed at the end of this post when used. This first post is due no later than Wednesday at Moodle midnight. **These original posts are worth 10 points.**

• **You also must respond to at least two of your classmates’ posts.** These responses do not need to have citations and just need to be a paragraph or so. Quality response posts are those that further the discussion by presenting opposite viewpoints, adding to the viewpoint presented, or asking thoughtful questions. Your response posts must be posted by Friday at Moodle midnight. These response posts are worth 5 points each. **Online discussion is worth a total of 200 points (20 total discussion points per week for 10 weeks).**

• **Weekly reflection assignments**: Each week (beginning in week 2) you will be *required* to write a short reflection paper on the material we have covered for the week. See below for details.

• **Final Project**: As a final assessment of your learning in CJ202, you will be required to demonstrate that you have met all of the [Student Learning Outcomes](#_9vijlq6qs35u) through successful completion of a final project, which I call **Unpacking Violence**. You may create a visual presentation, or you may write a paper if that is what you are most comfortable with. Instructions for this final project can be accessed at the top of the Moodle classroom, or [by following this link](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XglRAbng9ZzzfRFwgnb8BzMZCROEQCzs1Yea8Exp0-4/edit?usp=sharing).

**Reflection Papers**:

Each week (beginning in week 2), there will be a required documentary linked in Moodle that is somehow relatable to the topic covered in that week’s chapter and lesson. It is up to you to write a minimum of 500 words about your opinion of the case featured in the documentary and how it relates to the week’s topic. You **must** use information from the text when describing your thoughts in the paper. The purpose of this assignment is to get you thinking critically about the material and relating it to the real world. You **must** cite the textbook (and any other outside source) in APA style both in-text *and* at the end of your paper for full credit. Each reflection paper is worth 10 points for a total of 90 points. (1 per week for 9 weeks) **Your Reflection Paper is due by Sunday at Moodle midnight. *Late papers can only receive 60% at most.***

Reflection Papers will be graded with the following rubric:

1. 500 Word Minimum 2 points
2. Cite the textbook within the body of your paper 2 points
3. References listed at the end 2 points
4. Turned in on time 4 points

**\*\*Reflection Paper assignment submissions that are just a summary of the documentary will receive a ZERO (0) because that is *not* the assignment. What I need from you is a paper expressing your opinion of the case as well as how it relates to the reading for that week. A sample Reflection Paper is available in the Moodle classroom.**

**Grading Points Summary**:

Syllabus Quiz 10 points

Online Lesson (10) 100 points

Reflection Papers (9) 90 points

Discussion Forums (10) 200 points

Final Project 200 points

600 possible points

**Final Grades:**

Grades will be figured on a straight percentage based on the total number of points possible. I encourage you to check in with me about your progress throughout the term to maximize your success and minimize any surprises.

A= **89.0-100%**

B= 80-88.9%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F= 59% or below

# **College Policies**

## **LBCC Email and Course Communications**

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

**Disability and Access Statement**

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [**CFAR Website**](https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

## **Statement of Inclusion**

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

## **Title IX Reporting Policy**

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](https://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid073717?) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

**Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources:**

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a public safety app available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

# **Changes to the Syllabus**

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

**Class Calendar**

| **Week 1: Defining Violence** | Introduction to CJ 202  Chapter 1—Defining Violence | •Syllabus quiz due Friday by Moodle midnight  •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday |
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| **Week 2: Theories of Violence** | Chapter 2—Why Do We Do It?  Kip Kinkel | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight. |
| **Week 3: Homicide** | Chapter 3—Assault and Murder: A Continuum of Violence  Chapter 4—Serial, Mass, and Spree Killing  6 options in Moodle | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 4: Violence in the Home** | Chapter 5—Violence in the Home  Gypsy Blanchard | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 5: Rape and Sexual Assault** | Chapter 6—Rape and Sexual Assault  Karla Homolka and Paul Bernardo | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 6: Crime by Strangers** | Chapter 7—Stranger Crime and Street Violence  Chapter 8—Hate Crimes  White Right | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 7: Crowd Violence** | Chapter 9—Crowd Violence  Two options in Moodle | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 8: Terrorism** | Chapter 10—Terrorism  David Headley | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 9: Genocide** | Chapter 11—Genocide  Armenian Genocide | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 10: Bullying, and Violence Prevention** | Chapter 12—Toward Violence Prevention  American Tragedy | •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday  •Reflection Paper due Sunday by midnight |
| **Week 11: Let’s Unpack!** | Finals week | **“Unpacking Violence” final project due by Wednesday.** |