

## Jus 200: Homicide & Serial Killers

Fall, 2009

SLN 79860

T-Th 3:00-4:15 PS H-151

**Dr. John M. Johnson**  
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Office Hours T-Th 10:40-12:00  
Tues 4:30-5:00  
(Other times by appointment)

**About the Course:** This special topics class is about the scholarship, research, and rational analysis of killing people, focusing on mass, spree and serial killers. U.S. culture produces more mass, spree and serial killers than any other, and we will examine some of the causes and underpinnings of this. The course includes a survey of the major theories and understandings of mass, spree and serial killers. This course includes many videos which present detailed examinations of specific cases, and during the course you will see and learn about most of the most notorious cases. In addition, major aspects of homicide investigation and criminal profiling will be presented. Other topics to be included; the insanity defense, the death penalty, mass media and cinematic representations of serial killers, and comparisons with other countries.

**Required Text:** Eric W. Hickey, Serial Murderers and Their Victims 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2010).

**Course Requirements:** Class attendance is very important for this course, because the cognitive/emotional process of absorbing the video presentation is arguably as important as the information which is transferred. Please arrive in class on time, as late arrivals disturb other students. Please turn off all cell phones and beepers. The course requirements are:

Midterm Exam #1 (Thursday, Sept. 24)	100 points
Midterm Exam #2 (Thursday, Oct. 29)	100 points
Third Exam (see Final Exam Schedule)	100 points
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	300 points

