

Criminology (CJSA 1325)



Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: None

Course Description

Current theories and empirical research pertaining to crime and criminal behavior and its causes, methods of prevention, system of punishment and rehabilitation

Required Textbook and Materials

1. Criminology by Larry J. Siegel (10th Edition)
 - a. ISBN number is 13: 978-0-49539102-9

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the various theories of causation of criminal behavior. (SCANS C5, F1, F10,)
2. Identify and appraise the avenues of prevention (SCANS C5, C6, C7, F1, F8, F11)
3. Outline the various research methods used in criminological research (SCANS C5, C6, C7, C8, C15, F1, F8)
4. Identify the categories and sources of criminological data utilized in interpreting crime trends.

SCANS Skills and Competencies

Beginning in the late 1980's, the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) conducted extensive research and interviews with business owners, union leaders, supervisors, and laborers in a wide variety of work settings to determine what knowledge workers needed in order to perform well on a job. In 1991 the Commission announced its findings in *What Work Requires in Schools*. In its research, the Commission determined that "workplace know-how" consists of two elements: foundation skills and workplace competencies.

Course Outline

- I. Syllabus
 - A. Introduction of Faculty and students
 - B. Instructor Resume
 - C. Comments
- II. Chapter 1 Crime and Criminology
 - A. A Brief History
 - B. The View of Crime
 - C. Ethical Issues in Criminology

Approved 11/2010

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Course Syllabi

- III. Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime
 - A. Sources of Crime Data
 - B. Crime Victim Surveys
 - C. Crime Patterns
- IV. Chapter 3: Victims and Victimization
 - A. Problems of Crime Victims
 - B. Nature and Theories of Victimization
 - C. Caring for the Victim
- V. Chapter 4 Rational Choice Theory
 - A. Development and Concepts of Rational Choice
 - B. Crime Rational?
 - C. Eliminating Crime
- VI. Chapter 5 Trait Theories
 - A. Modern Trait Theories
 - B. Biosocial Theories
 - C. Psychological Trait Theories
- VII. Chapter 6 Social Structure Theories
 - A. Strain Theories
 - B. Cultural Deviance
 - C. Public Policy Implications
- VIII. Chapter 7 Social Process Theories
 - A. Socialization and Crime
 - B. Social Learning Theory
 - C. Social Control Theory
 - D. Social Reaction Theory
- IX. Chapter 8 Social Conflict, Critical Criminology and Restorative Justice
 - A. Marxist Thought
 - B. Creating a Critical Criminology
 - C. Emerging Forms of Critical Criminology
 - D. Critical Theory and Public Policy
- X. Chapter 9 Developmental Theories
 - A. Life Course Fundamentals
 - B. Life Course Concepts
 - C. Theories of the Criminal Life Course
- XI. Chapter 10 Interpersonal Violence
 - A. The Causes of Crime
 - B. Forcible Rape
 - C. Murder and Homicide
 - D. Assault and Battery
 - E. Robbery
 - F. Emerging Forms of Interpersonal Violence
- XII. Chapter 11: Political Crime and Terrorism
 - A. Political Crime
 - B. Types of Political Crime
 - C. A Brief History of Terrorism
 - D. Contemporary Forms of Terrorism

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- E. How are Terrorist Groups Organized?
- F. What Motivates the Terrorist?
- G. Response to Terrorism
- XIII. Chapter 12: Property Crime
 - A. History of Theft(s)
 - B. Burglary
 - C. Arson
- XIV. Chapter 13: Enterprise Crime: White Collar and Organized Crime
 - A. Components of White Collar Crime
 - B. Causes of White Collar Crime
 - C. Organized Crime
- XV. Chapter 14: Public Order Crime
 - A. Law and Morality
 - B. Sexually Related Offenses
 - C. Substance Abuse
- XVI. Chapter 15: Cyber Crime
 - A. Computer Fraud
 - B. Cyber Terrorism
- XVII. Chapter 16: Criminal Justice: Process and Perspectives
 - A. Origins of the CJ System
 - B. Justice Model
 - C. Due Process Model
- XVIII. Chapter 17: Police and the Courts
 - A. Law Enforcement Agencies
 - B. Preventing Crime
 - C. Investigating Crime
 - D. Changing the Police Role
 - E. The Criminal Trial
- XIX. Chapter 18: Punishment and Correction
 - A. A Brief History of Punishment
 - B. The Goals of Punishment
 - C. The Death Penalty
 - D. Correcting Criminal Offenders
 - E. Probation
 - F. Jails
 - G. Prisons
 - H. Parole

Grade Scale

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|----------|---|
| 90 – 100 | A |
| 80 – 89 | B |
| 70 – 79 | C |
| 60 – 69 | D |
| 0 – 59 | F |

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Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

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| 1. 3 Unit Tests | 75% |
| 2. Comprehensive Final Exam | 15% |
| 3. Course Project | 10% |

Course Requirements

1. Satisfactory preparation and presentation of report as assigned by instructor.
2. Students complete assigned chapter readings and participate in class discussion.
3. Students will complete three unit tests and a comprehensive final exam.

Course Policies

1. Proper classroom decorum must be maintained at all times.
2. No DISRUPTIONS will be tolerated and in this classroom, we will respect one another's right to learn.
3. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
4. Cell phones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
5. Do not bring children to class.
6. Do not walk out of class early without talking to me before the class begins.
7. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL BE DEALT WITH MOST STRICTLY! - An automatic F for the semester, plus a report will be filed.
8. On exam day, all desks MUST be clear except for exam materials. All purses, backpacks, notebooks, etc. should be stored under the desks - including CELL PHONES.
9. No late assignments will be accepted.
10. Makeup exams will not be given, unless arranged for in advance. If you miss an exam (including the final) for any reason, without making arrangements with me prior to the exam, you will receive a zero on that exam.
11. Exams (including the final) will begin on time. If you are more than 5 minutes late for the exam, you will not be allowed to take it.
12. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
13. Attendance is expected and required.
14. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

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Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building.

Course Schedule

| Week of | Topic | Reference |
|----------------|--|--|
| Week 1 | Course Introduction Chapter 1 : Crime and Criminology | pp. 2-27 |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime pp.28-63 | |
| Week 3 | Chapter 3: Victims and Victimization | pp. 64-89 |
| Week 4 | Chapter 4: Rational Choice Theory Exam I Review (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4) | pp. 90-119 |
| Week 5 | Chapter 5: Trait Theories EXAM I | pp.120- 159 |
| Week 6 | Chapter 6: Social Structure Theories | pp. 160-195 |
| Week 7 | Chapter 7: Social Process Theories | pp. 160-195 |
| Week 8 | Chapter 8: Social Conflict, Critical Criminology, and Restorative Justice Exam 2 Review | pp. 228- 253 |
| Week 9 | Chapter 9: Developmental Theories: Life Course and Latent Trait EXAM 2 (Chapters 5,6,7,8) | pp.254- 283 |
| Week 10 | Chapter 10: Interpersonal Violence | pp. 284-317 |
| Week 11 | Chapter 11: Political Crime and Terrorism | pp. 318-343 |
| Week 12 | Chapter 12: Property Crime Chapter 13: Enterprise Crime: White Collar Crime and Organized Crime Chapter 14 : Public Order Crime Exam 3 Review | pp. 344- 369 pp. 370-399 pp. 400-437 |
| Week 13 | Chapter 15: Cyber Crime EXAM 3 (Chapters 9,10,11,12) | |
| Week 14 | Chapter 16: Criminal Justice: Process and Perspectives Chapter 17. Police and the Courts: Investigation, Arrest and Adjudication | pp. 464- 483 pp. 484-523 |
| Week 15 | Chapter 18: Punishment and Correction | pp.524-557 |
| Week 16 | Final Exam (Chapters 13-18) | |