

## SOCIOLOGY 2336 - Criminology



**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None

**Course Description:** This course surveys various theories of crime, with emphasis on understanding the social causes of criminal behavior. The techniques for measuring crime as a social phenomenon and the characteristics of criminals are examined. This course addresses crime types (such as consensual or white collar crimes), the criminal justice system, and other responses to crime.

### Required Textbook and Materials

1. *Criminology by Frank Schmalleger. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Published by Pearson. 2018*
  - a. ISBN number is 13 978 013 4548647
2. Materials for taking notes at each class meeting.

### Course Objectives

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

1. Define key concepts associated with criminology.
2. Identify major criminological theories.
3. Describe the major categories of crime.
4. Explain the various methodological approaches used to research crime and criminal behavior.
5. Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the criminal justice system.

## Course Outline

- A. Welcome to the Class.
  - 1. Introduction of faculty and students
  - 2. Instructor background and qualifications
  - 3. Course Requirements
  
- B. Chapter 1 - What is Criminology?
  - 1. What is Crime?
  - 2. What is Criminology?
  - 3. The Case of Ross Ulbricht: A New Face of Crime
  
- C. Chapter 2 - Classical and Neoclassical Criminology
  - 1. Punishment as a Deterrent
  - 2. Just Desserts
  - 3. The roots of classical criminology
  - 4. Neoclassical Criminology
  - 5. The Rational Choice Theory
  - 6. The Death Penalty
  - 7. The Case of Gary Stephen Krist
  
- D. Chapter 3 - Early Biological Perspectives on Criminal Behavior
  - 1. Traditional Biological Theories of crime
  - 2. Sociobiology
  - 3. The Case of Richard Speck – “Born to Raise Hell”
  
- E. Chapter 4 - Biosocial and Other Contemporary Perspectives
  - 1. The Dysfunctional Brain
  - 2. Genetics and Crime
  - 3. Body Chemistry and Criminality
  - 4. The Case of Jodi Arias
  
- F. Chapter 5 - Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behavior
  - 1. Guns and Mental Disorder
  - 2. Personality Disturbances
  - 3. The Criminal Mindset
  - 4. Behavior Theory
  - 5. The Case of Andrea Yates
  
- G. Chapter 6 - Social Structure
  - 1. Major Principles of Sociological Theories
  - 2. Social Structure Theories
  - 3. Strain Theory
  - 4. Culture Conflict Theory
  - 5. Case of Sanyika Shakur, aka Monster Kody Scott

- H. Chapter 7 - Social Process and Social Development
  - 1. Labelling a killer.
  - 2. Social Learning Theories
  - 3. The Case of Seung Hui Cho
  
- I. Chapter 8 - Social Conflict
  - 1. A History of Social Conflict Theory
  - 2. Modern Radical-Critical and Marxist Criminology
  - 3. The Case of Theodore John "Ted" Kaczynski (Unabomber)
  
- J. Chapter 9 - Criminal Victimization
  - 1. Hidden Victims
  - 2. Victimization by the Numbers
  - 3. Victimology
  - 4. Victims' Rights
  - 5. Restorative Justice
  - 6. The Case of Omar Mateen, American Monster
  
- K. Chapter 10 - Crimes against Persons
  - 1. Violent Crimes
  - 2. Homicide
  - 3. Serial Murder
  - 4. Mass Murder
  - 5. Rape
  - 6. Child Sexual Abuse
  - 7. Workplace Violence
  - 8. Intimate Partner Violence
  - 9. Hate Crimes
  - 10. Stalking
  - 11. The Case of Dennis Rader (The BTK Killer)
  
- L. Chapter 11 - Crimes Against Property
  - 1. Burglary
  - 2. Theft / Identity Theft
  - 3. Motor Vehicle Theft
  - 4. Arson
  - 5. Workers in Stolen Property
  - 6. The Case of Colton Harris-Moore (The Barefoot Bandit)
  
- M. Chapter 12 - White Collar and Organized Crime
  - 1. White Collar Crime
  - 2. Organized Crime
  - 3. Other Organized Crime Groups
  - 4. The Case of Bernie Madoff
  
- N. Chapter 13 - Drug and Sex Crimes
  - 1. The History of Drug Abuse in the U.S.
  - 2. Types of Illegal Drugs
  - 3. Drug Trafficking
  - 4. Prostitution
  - 5. The Case of Heidi Fleiss

P. Chapter 14 - Technology and Crime

1. Cybercrime
2. A Profile of Cybercriminals
3. DNA Technology
4. The Case of Kevin Mitnick

O. Chapter 15 - Globalization and Terrorism

1. Transnational Criminal Enterprises
2. Human Trafficking
3. Terrorism
4. The War on Terrorism
5. The Case of the Tsarnaev Brothers

**GRADE SCALE**

<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>80 - 89</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>70 - 79</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>60 - 69</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>59 - 0</b>	<b>F</b>

**COURSE EVALUATION**

<b>3 UNIT TESTS</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>CLASS ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>COURSE PROJECT</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>PARTICIPATION</b>	<b>5%</b>



**SOCI 2336 – CRIMINOLOGY**  
**Fall 2022**  
*Course Addendum*

**Instructor Contact Information**

<b>Instructor</b>	Major Dennis White (ret.) M.S.
<b>Email</b>	d.white@lit.edu
<b>Office Phone</b>	409-880-1713
<b>Office Location</b>	Technology Center (TC) – Room 214

**NOTE:**

**OFFICE HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND BY  
APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**Office Hours:**

Mon: 10:00am – 12:00pm and 3:30pm – 5:30pm  
Tues: 7:30am – 8:00am and 2:00pm – 2:30pm  
Wed: 9:00am – 12:00pm  
Thurs: 7:30am – 8:00am and 2:00pm – 2:30pm  
Fri: 9:00am - 10:00am

## **Required Textbook and Materials**

1. CRIMINOLOGY by Frank Schmalleger, 4<sup>th</sup> edition (Pearson Publishing)
  - a. ISBN number is 13: 978 0 13 454864 7
2. Class or on line materials for taking notes
3. Access to the Internet, media/video files via YouTube, etc.
4. The ability to open and utilize Blackboard to complete course assignments and take all Course exams

## **Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Three Unit Tests  | 20% |
| 2. Class Assignments | 25% |
| 3. Course Project    | 25% |
| 4. Final Exam        | 20% |
| 5. Participation     | 5%  |
| 6. Attendance        | 5%  |

## **Course Requirements**

1. As all class information is provided online, students will need access to internet and to a computer.
2. Exams – Exams will cover various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of criminology. All Exams will be taken online through Blackboard.
3. Research Paper – Students will conduct research on a specified topic relative to criminology. The research paper will be submitted online through Blackboard.
4. Class Assignments – Students will utilize their critical thinking skills to discuss issues currently trending in the field of Criminology. All Class Assignments will be submitted on Blackboard.
5. Participation/Attendance – Participation is assessed through completing required assignments, projects, and research documents through work assigned on Blackboard. Activities may consist of class assignments and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, failure to submit six assignments, due to unexcused absences, will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.

## **Core Objectives**

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

1. Define the key concepts associated with criminology.
2. Identify major criminological theories.
3. Describe the major categories of crime.

4. Explain the various methodological approaches used to research crime and criminal behavior.
5. Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the criminal justice system.

### **Starfish**

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty member's record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.



**Schedule (subject to change with or without notice)**

**NOTE: CLASS IS CONDUCTED ONLINE. THERE ARE NO FACE-TO-FACE SESSIONS.**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reference</b>
1	Course introduction and policies What is Criminology?	Orientation
2	What is Criminology? (Continued)	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 1
3	Classical and Neoclassical Criminology	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 2
4	Early Biological Perspectives on Criminal Behavior	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 3
5	Biosocial and Other Contemporary Perspectives EXAM 1 – Online Blackboard	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 4
6	Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behavior	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 5
7	Social Structure	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 6
8	Social Process and Social Development	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 7
9	Social Conflict EXAM 2 – Online Blackboard	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 8
10	Criminal Victimization	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 9
11	Crimes against Persons ALL PROJECTS DUE:	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 10
12	Crimes against Property	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 11
13	White-Collar and Organized Crime EXAM 3 – Online Blackboard	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 12

14	Drug and Sex Crimes	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 13
15	Technology and Crime	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 14
16	Globalization and Terrorism FINAL EXAM	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 15
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam</b> <i>Online Blackboard</i>	