

Sociology 492/571: Race, Crime, and Community
Spring 2013
Monday 4:10-6:50pm

Professor: Lauren Krivo
Office: 106 Davison (Douglass Campus)
Office Hours: Monday 1:00 - 3:00pm or by appointment

Course Description:

Inequality across racial and ethnic groups in the conditions and experiences they have within their local communities is a fundamental component of the United States. This course will introduce students to current theoretical perspectives and empirical research that seek to understand the patterns, sources, and consequences of this inequality. Extraordinary ethnoracial gaps in crime are one significant outgrowth of the segregated and inequitable social organization that permeates U.S. society. Thus, research that explores the interconnections of race, community, and crime will be a major focus of the course. To address these issues, we will discuss theories and research that seek to answer questions such as: Why is residential segregation so high, especially for African Americans? What consequences does residential segregation have for African Americans, Whites, Latinos, and other groups? How do highly segregated and racially inequitable local communities affect crime and other outcomes? What social and cultural processes account for overall, ethnoracial, and economic inequalities in crime across neighborhoods? How is immigration changing the picture and challenging our theories? And how is social control being used in urban communities?

Learning Goals:

- Acquire broad understanding of the theoretical and empirical approaches taken to account for the connections between race, ethnicity, and residential environments
- Learn about the current state of knowledge on ethnoracial inequality in the patterns, sources, and consequences of the racialized residential landscape of the United States
- Understand the conceptual and empirical connections of crime and social control with residential inequality
- Critically analyze the conceptual and empirical underpinning of research on race, communities, and crime
- Identify significant new research questions related to the study of neighborhood inequality

Several methods will be used in this class to measure achievement of these objectives:

- Participating in in-depth weekly discussions of assigned readings
- Leading the discussion for a seminar
- Writing synthetical critical reports on assigned readings
- Writing a final research paper or research proposal

Readings:

The following four books have been ordered through Rutgers Barnes and Noble's Bookstore (all are available in paperback editions):

Massey, Douglas S. and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Peterson, Ruth D. and Lauren J. Krivo. 2010. *Divergent Social Worlds: Neighborhood Crime and the Racial-Spatial Divide*. New York: Russell Sage.

Sharkey, Patrick. 2013. *Stuck in Place: Urban Neighborhoods and the End of Progress toward Racial Equality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Beckett, Katherine and Steve Herbert. 2010. *Banished: The New Social Control in Urban America*. New York: Oxford University Press.

All other readings are available on the class sakai webpage.

Requirements:

The set requirements for the class and the weights attached to them are as follows:

4 written critical essays (9% each)	36%
leading one class discussion	9%
class participation	15%
final paper (including class presentation)	40%

1. Students must write critical essays on 4 of the assigned reading topics. These are intended to help you consider all of the material in a useful critical manner, and also provide a well thought out basis for class discussion. Each essay is worth 9% of your grade, for a total of 36% across all four essays.
2. Each student is required to lead class discussion one week. You should think about having the class address the following kinds of issues: key points of argument and/or findings, assumptions of the work, logical strengths (weaknesses) of the arguments, strength of evidence (including research design and measurement if it is empirical work), and implications for future research. Bear in mind that these are relevant types of issues for us to pursue during class, but they do not exhaust all possibilities since the nature of the readings are highly varied. Leading a class discussion is worth 9% of your course grade.
3. The success of the class depends upon the active participation of all students. Thus, you should come prepared to be involved in class discussion every week. Class participation is worth 15% of your course grade.

4. A final written paper is required of all students and is worth 35% of your course grade. Each student will choose a topic that *must be approved by me by the 3rd week of the semester*. You may choose from the following three types of papers:

- a critical review and evaluation of the literature;
- a research proposal; or
- a paper that includes empirical analysis.

Each student will make a 15 minute presentation of his or her paper to the class. The presentation is worth 5% of your course grade. This presentation will follow the format of a professional presentation at a sociology conference. We will discuss specifics aspects of a good presentation in class.

Academic Misconduct:

Academic honesty is a subject that I take very seriously. I encourage all students to familiarize themselves with the Rutgers University policies and procedures on academic honesty, available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers>. All violations of academic integrity, for example, copying or plagiarizing others' work for your written assignments, will be referred to the appropriate authorities and sanctioned accordingly.

Students With Disabilities:

In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact me at the beginning of the semester. Students with disabilities must be registered with Office of Student Disability Services and must provide verification of their eligibility for such accommodations.

COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1: January 28 - Residential Segregation: Patterns and Causes

Massey, Douglas S. and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-114.

Charles, Camille Zubrinsky. 2003. "The Dynamics of Racial Residential Segregation." *Annual Review of Sociology* 29:167-207.

Logan, John R. and Brian J. Stults. 2011. "The Persistence of Segregation in the Metropolis: New Findings from the 2010 Census." Census Brief prepared for Project US2010. Available at: <http://www.s4.brown.edu/us2010/Data/Report/report2.pdf>.

WEEK 2: February 4 - Residential Segregation: Recent Research on Patterns and Causes

Parsisi, Domenico, Daniel T. Lichter, and Michael C. Taquino. 2011. "Multi-Scale Residential Segregation: Black Exceptionalism and America's Changing Color Line." *Social Forces* 89:829-852.

Krysan, Maria, Reynolds Farley, and Mick P. Couper. 2008. "In the Eye of the Beholder: Racial Beliefs and Residential Segregation." *Du Bois Review* 5:5-26.

Roscigno, Vincent J., Diana L. Karafin, and Griff Tester. 2009. "The Complexities and Processes of Racial Housing Discrimination." *Social Problems* 56:49-69.

WEEK 3: February 11 - Residential Segregation: Consequences

Massey, Douglas S. and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Chapters 5-8, pp. 115-236.

Quillian, Lincoln. 2012. "Segregation and Poverty Concentration: The Role of Three Segregations." *American Sociological Review* 77:354-379.

WEEK 4: February 18 - Consequences of Urban Poverty Concentration

Wilson, William Julius. 1996. *When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Chapters 1-3, pp. 3-86.

Small, Mario Luis, Erin M. Jacobs, and Rebekah Peoples Massengill. 2008. "Why Organizational Ties Matter for Neighborhood Effects: Resource Access through Childcare Centers." *Social Forces* 87:387-1697-414.

WEEK 5: February 25 - Segregation, Racial Structure, and Crime

Peterson, Ruth D. and Lauren J. Krivo. 2010. *Divergent Social Worlds: Neighborhood Crime and the Racial-Spatial Divide*. New York: Russell Sage.

WEEK 6: March 4 - Racial Inequality Across Generations: Places and Families

Sharkey, Patrick. 2013. *Stuck in Place: Urban Neighborhoods and the End of Progress Toward Racial Equality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

WEEK 7: March 11 - Social Disorganization Theory and Collective Efficacy

Bursik, Robert J., Jr. and Harold G. Grasmick. 1993. "The Criminal Behavior of Neighborhood Residents." Chapter 2 (pp. 24-59) of *Neighborhoods and Crime: The Dimensions of Effective Community Control*. New York: Lexington Books.

Bellair, Paul E. and Christopher R. Browning. 2010. "Contemporary Social Disorganization Research: An Assessment and Further Test of the Systemic Model of Neighborhood Crime." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 47:496-521.

Pattillo, Mary. 1998. "Sweet Mothers and Gangbangers: Managing Crime in a Black Middle-Class Neighborhood." *Social Forces* 76:747-774.

Sampson, Robert J. 2012. "The Theory of Collective Efficacy." Chapter 7 (pp. 149-178) of *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

SPRING BREAK: March 18 (no class)

WEEK 8: March 23 - individual meetings with Professor Krivo to discuss your projects

WEEK 9: April 1 - Culture: Code of the Street and Legal Cynicism

Anderson, Elijah. 1994. "The Code of the Streets." *The Atlantic Monthly* 273(5):80-94.

Matsueda, Ross L., Kevin Drakulich, and Charis E. Kubrin. 2009. "Race and Neighborhood Codes of Violence." Pp. 334-356 in *The Many Colors of Crime: Inequalities of Race, Ethnicity and Crime in America*, edited by Ruth D. Peterson, Lauren J. Krivo, and John Hagan. New York: New York University Press.

Carr, Patrick J., Laura Napolitano, and Jessica Keating. 2007. "We Never Call the Cops and Here Is Why: A Qualitative Examination of Legal Cynicism in Three Philadelphia Neighborhoods." *Criminology* 45:445-480.

Kirk, David S. and Mauri Matsuda. 2011. "Legal Cynicism, Collective Efficacy, and the Ecology of Arrest." *Criminology* 49:443-472.

WEEK 10: April 8 - Gender and Violence in the City

Rios, Victor M. 2011. "Dreams Deferred" and "Proving Manhood: Masculinity as a Rehabilitative Tool." Chapters 1 (pp. 3-23) and 6 (pp. 124-141) of *Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys*. New York: New York University Press.

Miller, Jody. 2008. "Perspectives on Gender and Urban Violence" and "Gender 'n the Hood: Neighborhood Violence against Women and Girls." Chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1-66) of *Getting Played: African American Girls, Urban Inequality, and Gendered Violence*. New York: New York University Press.

WEEK 11: April 15 - Disorder, Institutions, and Crime

Sampson, Robert J. 2012. "'Broken Windows' and the Meaning of Disorder." Chapter 6 (pp. 121-148) of *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Kubrin, Charis D., Gregory D. Squires, Steven M. Graves, and Graham C. Ousey. 2011. "Does Fringe Banking Exacerbate Neighborhood Crime Rates? Investigating the Social Ecology of Payday Lending." *Criminology and Public Policy* 10:437-466.

Vélez, María B., Christopher Lyons and Blake Boursaw. 2012. "Assessing the Relationship between Mortgage Lending and Crime: An Analysis of Seattle Neighborhoods (1981-2007)." *Criminology* 50:1025-1056.

WEEK 12: April 22 - Disorder and Social Control

Beckett, Katherine and Steve Herbert. 2010. *Banished: The New Social Control in Urban America*. New York: Oxford University Press.

WEEK 13: April 29 - Immigration and Crime in Communities

Sampson, Robert J. 2008. "Rethinking Crime and Immigration." *Contexts* 7:28-33.

Desmond, Scott A. and Charis E. Kubrin. 2009. "The Power of Place: Immigrant Communities and Adolescent Violence." *Sociological Quarterly* 50:581-607.

Kubrin, Charis E. and Hiromi Ishizawa. 2012. "Why Some Immigrant Neighborhoods are Safer than Others: Divergent Findings from Los Angeles and Chicago." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 641:148-173.

Davies, Garth and Jeffrey Fagan. 2012. "Crime and Enforcement in Immigrant Neighborhoods: Evidence from New York City." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 641:99-124.

WEEK 14: May 6 - Presentation Day 1

Presentation Day 2: DATE & TIME TO BE ARRANGED (May 7 or May 8)

FINAL PAPER DUE - TUESDAY MAY 14 (BY 5:00 PM)