

Criminology

920:222:02
Mon. & Wed. 3:20pm-4:40pm
Business School Building-5117
Spring 2018

Instructor: Monique Porow, Ph.D.

Office: 016 Davison Hall

Office Hours: Monday 5:00pm-6:00pm (Business School Building)
and by appointment (016 Davison Hall)

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Sakai Site: **CRIMINOLOGY 02 Sp18**

Readings:

There are no required textbooks for this course.

For each topic covered, I will post your reading(s) on Sakai. They can be found under the resources tab. It is your responsibility to do the assigned reading(s) and come prepared to discuss them in class. You are responsible for all of the readings posted in Sakai.

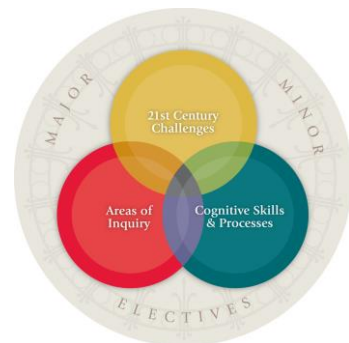
Course Description:

This is an introductory course in criminology. We will explore the nature of crime and criminal behavior from a sociological perspective. A sociological approach seeks to bring some rationality to the study of crime by applying scientific methods to the assignment of causes, motives, and/or reasons to behavior. Our analysis will also include an investigation of the major components of the criminal justice system and the complex interorganizational relationships that exist between those principle components.

Course Objectives:

Class will be structured around active student participation rather than instructor lectures. Recognizing that different students learn best in different ways, a mixed method approach will be utilized. This will include a combination of readings, reading responses, films, discussion, and in-class activities to explore the material. We will explore various topics throughout the semester, and I will facilitate the process of each student:

- understanding various motives, causes, reasons, and correlates of crime.
- analyzing the process of law making, law breaking, and social reaction to the law being broken.
- evaluating major theoretical models within the field of criminology.
- demonstrating the abilities of focused, scientific thinking, and written expression for the study of crime.



The following category of the curriculum is satisfied by this course:

--Social and Historical Analysis

Course Requirements & Grading Policy:

Midterm exam-30%	A: 91%-100%
Final exam-30%	B+: 85%-90.99%
Reading responses-20%	B: 80%-84.99%
In-class activities-10%	C+: 75%-79.99%
Participation-10%	C: 70%-74.99%
-----	D: 60%-69.99%
Total- 100%	F: 0%-59.99%

Midterm exam (30%)-This closed-book exam will be worth 30% of your grade. The exam will cover all of the material from assigned readings, lectures, films, and classroom discussions given prior to the exam.

In-class activities (10%)- This will include assignments given during class that will require students to demonstrate an understanding of the readings. These assignments will attempt to assess whether students grasp basic concepts from the readings as well as the lectures. These activities will often take place in groups.

Reading responses (20%)- Students are expected to write a 300-500 word response for every assigned reading. Each reading response should be posted in the "assignments" section of Sakai by 12:00pm on the due date indicated for that assignment. Detailed information regarding these submissions can be found in the resources section of the course Sakai site.

Final exam (30%)-This closed-book exam will be worth 30% of your grade. The exam will cover all of the material from assigned readings, lectures, films and classroom discussions after the midterm. **This exam is not cumulative.**

Participation (10%)-Class is structured around active student participation, therefore students need to engage the material during classroom discussion throughout the semester.

Sakai: It is your responsibility to check Sakai for the readings and grades. Student reading responses should be submitted in the assignment section of Sakai. In the event that I need to send an announcement to the entire class, I will use Sakai to send that message.

Class notes: Students are expected to take notes in class and are not permitted to take pictures of the lecture slides, nor record lectures without the professor's express consent. In the event that a student misses class for any reason, they should obtain the lecture notes from a classmate. I will not provide lecture notes to students who are unable to attend class.

Missed assignments: Make-up exams and make-up assignments will only be given in the case of officially excused absences and documented emergencies. This means that in order to make up an assignment or an exam, **documentation will be required**. Furthermore, any student who does not take either exam will automatically fail the course.

In-class activities cannot be completed once they have been missed, even if the student attended a portion of the class during which the activity was assigned. In the event that a student has an officially excused absence or a documented emergency, the zero for their missed in-class activity will be dropped.

Email: Students may email me with questions and/or concerns during the semester. However, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether I have already provided the desired information in class, on the syllabus, or on Sakai. In other words, before emailing me, students should make sure that they can't answer their own question with information that I have already made available.

Every email should have "920:222:02" or "Criminology" in the subject line, and include an appropriate greeting and signature in the email. Emails that are not formatted accordingly will not receive a response. Students can expect a response between 24-48 hours.

Discussion Etiquette: It is important that students feel comfortable expressing their thoughts about the topics that are discussed in class. These topics can be controversial at times, and many students often have strong feelings with which other students may not agree. Respect for fellow classmates is a requirement, and students are expected to be courteous at all times. To ensure that every student has the best experience possible, listen objectively, and respond respectfully. The opportunity to share diverse perspectives enhances the learning environment!

Demeanor: Fortunately, most students understand what they are here for and how to conduct themselves in a college-level class. Unfortunately, some don't. When I close the door to begin class, I expect that private conversations will end and I will have each student's attention for the duration of the class. Among the things that should not occur during class: sleeping, private conversations, or generally disruptive behavior. This includes the use of cell phones or laptops to make or receive calls or text messages, as well as to surf the Internet. **These behaviors will have an impact on a student's participation grade, even if that student contributes to classroom discussion.**

Academic Integrity: For whatever reason, the academic integrity of a student can occasionally come into question. In order to prevent this from occurring, please adhere to the University's policy on plagiarism. Cheating and plagiarizing on assignments forces me to take necessary steps to report this behavior to the Dean of Students. This is something I sincerely do not want to do, but will do if necessary. Here is a link to the university's current policy on academic integrity:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf

Extra credit assignments will not be given to poorly performing students.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!! If you are having a problem, please come talk to me. Don't wait until it is too late for me to help you. I can be reached via email or during my office hours. Whether your problem is pertaining to my class, or another issue, I am sincerely more than happy to help you in any way that I can. Teaching is more than a job for me, however, once you have failed every assignment it is too late for an "intervention."

Understanding Criminology

Week 1-Introduction

Wed. 1/17-Syllabus review & course overview

Week 2

Mon. 1/22-What is criminology?

Wed. 1/24- The Media and crime

Week 3

Mon. 1/29-Crime measurement & patterning

Crime Typologies

Wed. 1/31-Violent crime

Week 4

Mon. 2/5-Violent crime cont.

Wed. 2/7-Violent crime cont.

Week 5

Mon. 2/12-Political crime

Wed. 2/14-Political crime cont.

Week 6

Mon. 2/19-Economic & financial crimes

Wed. 2/21-Economic & financial crimes cont.

Crime Causation

Week 7

Mon. 2/26-Theoretical overview

Wed. 2/28-Classical theory

Week 8

Mon. 3/5-Midterm

Wed. 3/7-Biological and psychological explanations of criminal behavior.

Week 9-SPRING BREAK

Mon. 3/12-**NO CLASS**

Wed. 3/14-**NO CLASS**

Week 10

Mon. 3/19-Social process theory

Wed. 3/21-Social process theory cont.

Week 11

Mon. 3/26-Social structure theory

Wed. 3/28-Social structure theory cont.

Critical Criminology

Week 12

Mon. 4/2-Critical perspectives-overview

Wed. 4/4-Labeling theory

Week 13

Mon. 4/9-Critical perspectives on law enforcement

Wed. 4/11-Critical perspectives on the courts, prosecution, and punishment

Week 14

Mon. 4/16-Critical perspectives on the courts, prosecution, and punishment cont.

Wed. 4/18-Critical perspectives on the courts, prosecution, and punishment cont.

Week 15

Mon. 4/23-The death penalty

Wed. 4/25-Critical perspectives on corrections & restorative justice

Week 16

Mon. 4/30-Crime reduction

Wed. 5/9-Final Exam- Business School Building rm. 5117 12:00pm-2:00pm

I look forward to a great semester!!!