

CCJ 3011: Criminology

Mondays & Wednesdays

Time: 3:05 - 4:20 pm

Building: SAN 108

Instructor: Dr. Erin Castro

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Office: Eppes Hall, Suite 303A

Office Hours: Mondays 2:00-3:00pm

Tuesdays 2:00-4:00pm

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Office: Eppes Hall, Suite 303

Office Hours: TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of criminology and contemporary issues related to crime. A broad overview of the history and current status of crime in the United States will provide context for students to learn the underlying assumptions, operational definitions, and causal processes described by the macro and micro level theories of crime discussed in this course. These theoretical frameworks will then provide the foundation from which students will become familiar with research related to topics on intimate partner violence, white collar crime, terrorism, property crime, and cybercrime. The purpose of this course will be to provide each student with a well-rounded understanding of the study of crime, the theories used to understand it, and the contemporary issues facing the criminal justice system today.

REQUIRED TEXT

Required: Siegel, Larry. (2018). *Criminology: Theories, Patterns, and Typologies*. (13th Eds.). Cengage Publishing. ISBN: 9781337091848

Optional: Gehring, Krista S., & Bastisa, Michael, R. (2016-2019). *CrimComics*. (Series 1-7). Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0190207140

GRADE COMPOSITION

Assignment	Ea. Pts	Pts	%
Exams	100 (x3)	300	60%
Theory Outline	100 (x1)	100	20%
Paper	100 (x1)	100	20%
Extra Credit	Up to 3%	15	3%
Total		500	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	470+	C+	385-799.9
A-	450-469.9	C	370-384.9
B+	435-449.9	C-	350-369.9
B	420-434.9	D	300-349.9
B-	400-419.9	F	299.9-

ATTENDANCE POLICY

There is no explicit attendance policy for this course.

THEORY OUTLINE ASSIGNMENT

To assist in the absorption of course material, students will be asked to complete a study guide. This worksheet is designed to organize each theory based on topic area and the five components of theory. This assignment is due **October 20th, 2021**, via Canvas at **11:59pm**.

PAPER

To enhance learning and absorption of class material, students must complete ONE writing assignment (worth 100 points, 20% of overall grade). The paper must be 6-8 pages in length (excluding title and reference pages), use 12-point Times New Roman font, be double spaced, use 1-inch margins, and be submitted through Canvas as a Microsoft Word document (.doc, .docx). Brief directions and prompts are below:

1. Policy Through Perspective – **DUE November 17th, 2021 at 5:00pm**
 - “Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice” – Anton Chekhov.
 - Racial tensions in the United States is an ever present issue that plagues our criminal justice system. With nearly 1 in 3 Black males predicted to experience incarceration at some point during their lifetimes and questions regarding racial profiling and police brutality; criminologists are being tapped to explain how and why Blacks represent over 50% of those incarcerated and why Hispanic incarceration rates are rising.
 - For this paper I would like for you:
 - Pick a criminological theory that you think best explains how and why race does/not matter when it comes to crime and the justice system.
 - Briefly describe theoretical assumptions, concepts and propositions. (20 points)
 - Does the theory directly address race, if yes how? If not, in what way can it be used to address the race-crime correlation? (20 points)
 - Does the theory assume individual context for propensity for criminal offending? If so, how does that explain racial differences. (20 points)
 - Does the theory address social structural contexts that lead to the racial gap in the justice system (i.e. institutional and structural racism)? If so, how. (20 points)
 - Compared to other theories, what reason to you have to believe that this theory on race-crime connection best explains this relationship? (i.e. what are the flaws in other theories or strength in this theory that others do not have) (20 points)
 - You must use empirical research findings to support the idea that this theory can help explain the racial divide and to support your personal views. You must have a minimum of FOUR peer-reviewed sources. (5 points)
 - Proper spelling, grammar, and APA formatting will also be assessed. (5 points)

EXTRA CREDIT

There will be 15 possible points of extra credit to be earned by students. Extra credit is earned by redoing exam essay answers. Student’s must provide a copy of their original exam answer and points awarded. Then they must provide a redone answer. The TA will award back points for improved answers. Students have ONE week after receiving their exams back to complete this extra credit assignment and may only earn back 15 points over the entirety of the semester (not per extra credit submission). The purpose of this extra credit assignment is to focus on learning and allowing students to improve upon their knowledge of course material.

EXAMS

Exams will be used to assess student knowledge of course material. These exams will be comprised of 40 multiple choice questions (worth 2 points each) and 2 long essay questions (worth 10 points each) and will be worth 100 points each (60% of overall grade). There will be four exams administered through the semester, however, only the top 3 scores will count toward a student's final grade. The first three exams are not additive and only cover course material from the previous exam forward. The fourth and final exam is cumulative and will test student retention of knowledge from the entire course.

- *Exam Day Protocol:* On the day of the exam students must bring a pencil and FSU ID card (students without a proper ID will not be allowed to turn in their exam and will receive a zero). Headphones, smart watches, phones, and any other electronic device are not permissible during the exam.
 - **In rare occasions where students must take exam virtually, they will be administered via Canvas and Honorlock. These students are responsible for making sure their devices meet the qualifications for Honorlock.*
- *Make-up Policy:* Since only three of four exam grades are counted toward a student's final grade there will be **no opportunities for make-up examinations**. The only exceptions to this policy is if (1) you have to miss two or more scheduled exams, (2) excuse for missing exam is due to involvement in (a) FSU Athletics, (b) ROTC, (c) emergency. FSU Athletes and ROTC members must notify instructor of any double conflict at least one week prior to the scheduled exam so that other arrangements may be made. In cases of emergency the student must provide a doctor's note detailing the medical emergency. Make-up exams will be in essay format and students will be asked to provide a long essay answer to five of six questions asked.

COVID EXPECTATIONS

- **We expect everyone to wear a face covering or mask at all times when inside any FSU facility, even if you are vaccinated.** This includes all of our students, faculty, staff, vendors and visitors. Recent studies and guidance from the CDC state that both unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals can transmit the current COVID-19 variant to unvaccinated persons. We expect you to help mitigate the spread by wearing a mask.
- **We expect everyone to be vaccinated against COVID-19, even if you've had COVID-19 in the past.** If possible, aim to be fully vaccinated, but if unable, strive to have at least one shot of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine no later than August 22. Please visit vaccine.fsu.edu for walk-in clinic dates and hours at the Tucker Center in Tallahassee or vaccines.gov to locate a COVID-19 vaccine provider near you.
- **We expect you to stay home when sick, self-quarantine and get tested for COVID-19 no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms begin.** You can test for no cost at the Tucker Center. Schedule your test at uhs.fsu.edu/coronavirus/testing.
- **And finally, we expect you to continue to practice good hygiene habits such as washing your hands frequently.**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>)

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

To receive academic accommodations, a student:

1. must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS);
2. must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and,
3. should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the

Office of Accessibility Services
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
oas@fsu.edu
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program
University Center A,
Rm. 4100
(850) 644-7161
Available 24/7/365
Office Hours: M-F 8-5
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling & Psychological
Services
Askew Student Life Center,
2nd floor
942 Learning Way
(850) 644-8255
<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services
Health and Wellness Center
(850) 644-6230
<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>

RECORDING CLASS LECTURES (FALL 2021)

Students are permitted to make recordings of class lectures for a class in which the student is enrolled for personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as an educational presentation delivered by the instructor as part of a university course intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab or recitation sessions; student presentations (whether individually or part of a group); class discussions (except when incidental to the lecture); clinical practical and presentations involving patient histories and other protected health information; academic exercises involving student participation; test or examination administrations; field trips; and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and recordings may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of **FSU's Student Code of Conduct** and will possibly have *legal consequences*. Students who record class lectures are asked to do so in ways that do not make others feel reluctant to ask questions, explore new ideas, or otherwise participate in class. Students must monitor their recording so that they do not include participation by other students without permission. Students with disabilities will continue to have appropriate accommodations for recordings as established by the Office of Accessibility Services.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Aug. 23 Aug. 25	Syllabus Day/Introduction Criminology	Chapter 1
2	Aug. 30 Sep. 1	Nature & Extent of Crime Crime Victimization	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
3	Sep. 6 Sep. 8	LABOR DAY – NO CLASS NO CLASS	
4	Sep. 13 Sep. 15	Rational Choice & Deterrence Theories Routine Activities	Chapter 4 Chapter 4
5	Sep. 20 Sep. 22	Biosocial Theories Psychological Theories	Chapter 5 Chapter 5
6	Sep. 27 Sep. 29	Exam 1 Social Disorganization Theory	Chapter 6
7	Oct. 4 Oct. 6	Structural Strain & Cultural Deviance Social Bond Theory & General Theory of Crime	Chapter 6 Chapter 7 & 9
8	Oct. 11 Oct. 13	General Strain Social Learning	Chapter 7 Chapter 7
9	Oct. 18 Oct. 20	Critical Theories Life Course & Developmental	Chapter 8 Chapter 9 & Outline DUE
10	Oct. 25 Oct. 27	Exam 2 Property Crime	Chapter 12
11	Nov. 1 Nov. 3	Substance Use Sex Crimes	Chapter 14 Chapter 14
12	Nov. 8 Nov. 10	Interpersonal Violence White & Green Collar Crimes	Chapter 10 Chapter 13
13	Nov. 15 Nov. 17	NO CLASS NO CLASS	Paper DUE
14	Nov. 22 Nov. 24	Hate and Terrorism THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS	Chapter 11
15	Nov. 29 Dec. 1	Cybercrime Exam 3	Chapter 15
16	Dec. 6 Dec. 9	Exam 4 – THURSDAY – 3:00-5:00 PM	