

**CCJ 3011 Criminology**  
College of Criminology and Criminal Justice  
Florida State University  
Spring Semester, 2022  
TuTh 9:45AM - 11:00AM, William Johnston Building 2004

**Professor:** Sylwia J. Piatkowska, Ph.D.

**Office:** Eppes Building, Room 315C

**E-mail:** spiatkowska@fsu.edu

**Office hours:** Thursdays, 11:30am-1:30pm

**TA:** Ms. Laisa Abreu

**TA's e-mail:** lfa19@my.fsu.edu

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

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This course will introduce you to the field of criminology, including its theories, basic assumptions, and definitions. We will begin with the discussion of basic assumptions and definitions of crime, and with issues related to crime measurement. We will then continue with the study of victims, victimization, and public order crime, including sex and substance abuse. We will next cover different theories of crime causation, including rational choice, trait, social structure, social process, social conflict, critical criminology, restorative justice, and developmental theories. We will conclude with a discussion of interpersonal violence, property crime, and political crime and terrorism. Being familiar with different types of crime and different theories will enable you to understand the field of criminology and gain ideas for moving forward in that field. Eventually, your critical thinking skills and the knowledge you gain in this class should be combined to help with your own evaluation of the social world.

By the end of this class, students should:

- 1) be familiar with basic assumptions and definitions of crime, and with issues related to crime measurement.
- 2) be familiar with the major theories of crime causation such as rational choice theory, trait theories; and social structure theories.
- 3) be familiar with different types of crime
- 4) be able to critically evaluate findings from studies that are reported by various sources.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

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Criminology: Theories, Patterns and Typologies, Author: Larry J. Siegel, Publisher: Cengage, Edition: 13th

### **SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**

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Additional readings will be available on Canvas.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

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### Exams

There are three in-class exams during the semester. The exams will not be cumulative. They will consist of multiple choice questions. You are required to take the exams at the time they are scheduled. No make-up exams will be given. Each of the exams draws heavily on lectures, assigned readings, and the textbook, so it will be to your advantage to attend class regularly and read the assigned readings. Scantron will be provided.

### Presentation

Each person is required to give one presentation during regular class meetings (Tuesday). This presentation will count for 15% of your grade. For your presentation, you are required to work in groups of 8 to provide information on the topic assigned during that week. As a team, you are asked to create PowerPoint, present a subject of your interest related to the week's topic, and pose six discussion questions to class at the end of class presentations. You are asked to present a PPT presentation on **any subject** of your interest as long as it is related to the class topic for a given week and is not discussed in your textbook. You are welcome to use videos, games, or any other type of activity to present your subject. You are asked to email your final presentation (with names included) to your teacher one day before the presentation. All PowerPoint presentations will be posted on Canvas after each class presentation. Each presentation should take about 25 minutes. Each week two groups will give their presentations on Tuesday.

### Class Participation

Participation in this class is defined by regular attendance and engagement in discussions and activities suggested during the class. You are expected to attend classes regularly and to actively participate with questions or comments during lectures. These discussions are also important for developing the critical thinking skills that are a crucial component of this class.

## DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS

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Assignment	Percent
Exam #1	25%
Exam #2	25%
Exam #3	25%
Presentation	15%
Participation	10%

Your grades will be weighted at the end of the class based on the distribution of points outlined above.

### EXAMPLE:

If you get 93/100 on your Exam #1, your score (93) will be multiplied by .25:  $93 * .25 = 23.25$

If you get 89/100 on your Exam #2, your score (89) will be multiplied by .25:  $89 * .25 = 22.25$

If you get 90/100 on your Exam #3, your score (85) will be multiplied by .25:  $85 * .25 = 21.25$

If you get 95/100 on your present., your score (95) will be multiplied by .15:  $95 * .15 = 14.25$

If you get 90/100 on your participation, your score (90) will be multiplied by .10:  $90 \times .10 = 9$   
The sum of these outcomes will constitute your final grade from this class.  
 $23.25 + 22.25 + 21.25 + 14.25 + 9 = 90.00$  (90.00 is your final grade from the class)

Letter grades will be determined in the following way:

A	94-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-93%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	0-59%

### **UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY**

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Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. Cell phones are not allowed.

### **ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY**

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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**

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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**

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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**

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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 and 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/>

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic and Assessment</b>	<b>Reading due</b>
Week 01/06	Syllabus	Syllabus
Week 01/11-01/13	Crime and Criminology; The Nature and Extent of Crime	Siegel Ch. 1 and Ch. 2
Week 01/18-01/20	Public Order Crime: Sex and Substance Abuse	Siegel Ch. 14
Week 01/25-01/27	Victims and Victimization	Siegel Ch. 3
Week 02/01-02/03	Exam Review (02/01) <b>Exam #1 (02/03)</b>	
Week 02/08-02/10	Rational Choice Theory	Siegel Ch. 4; Reitz. 2018. "American Exceptionalism in Crime and Punishment"
Week 02/15-02/17	Trait Theories	Siegel Ch. 5
Week 02/22-02/24	Social Structure Theories	Ch. 6
Week 03/01-03/03	Social Process Theories	Siegel Ch. 7
Week 03/08-03/10	Exam Review (03/08) <b>Exam #2 (03/10)</b>	
Week 03/15-03/17	<b>Spring Break. No Classes.</b>	
Week 03/22-03/24	Social Conflict, Critical Criminology, and Restorative Justice	Siegel Ch. 8; Zimring. 2020. "Police Killings as a Problem of Governance"
Week 03/29-03/31	Developmental Theories	Siegel Ch. 9
Week 04/05-04/07	Interpersonal Violence	Ch. 10
Week 04/12-04/14	Political Crime and Terrorism; Property Crime	Siegel Ch. 11 and Ch. 12
Week 04/19-04/21	Exam Review (04/21)	
26/04 (Tuesday) 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	<b>Final Exam</b>	