

Florida State University
College of Criminology and Criminal Justice
CCJ 3011: Criminology
Time: Tuesday/Thursday from 11:35am-12:50pm
Location: Criminology Building, CRM 0409
Class Zoom: <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/91009912491>

Instructor: Megan Bears Augustyn, PhD
Office Hours: W 10:30-1:00pm or by appointment/zoom 😊
Office: CRM 0302B
Phone: 850-645-5074
Contact Information: Email: maugustyn@fsu.edu (please use CCJ 3011 as the subject line to increase probability that your email will be read with urgency and not overlooked). Please do not email me through Canvas because I do not trust those emails always go through in a timely manner.
Course Website: <https://canvas.fsu.edu/courses/244750>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the study of crime. It consists of two components: Defining Crime and Criminological Theory. First, we will take a historical look at crime and how it is defined. In doing so, we will review what we know about crime and victimization through various data sources. Then, we will attempt to explain crime and victimization using classical and contemporary theories of crime that have been developed to explain and predict criminal behavior. We will examine the propositions, assumptions, and empirical validity of these criminological theories, as well as the social context in which they were developed and the influence of each theory on policy development. In doing so, we will evaluate how well each theory can account for various correlates of crime as well as explain criminal behavior.

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Define crime and its historical origins
2. Identify the various sources of data used to understand crime and provide a critique of each source
3. Discuss the major correlates of crime
4. Discuss the correlates of victimization
5. Identify various criminological theories and their propositions
6. Apply criminological theories to the understanding of various crime types
7. Use criminological theories to explain correlates of crime

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Siegel, Larry J. (2011). *Criminology: Theories, Patterns, and Typologies* 13th Ed. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning. (ISBN 978-1-337-09184-8)

Your course text can be accessed through MindTap through Canvas. You can set up MindTap in Canvas using the following instructions: [MindTap in Canvas Resources with IA - Start Strong \(cengage.com\)](#)

COURSE WEBSITE (Canvas):

The syllabus, grades, and any information relevant to this course can be found on the course website: <https://canvas.fsu.edu/courses/250367>. Please check Canvas frequently (at least once before each class) to get relevant updates.

IN CLASS COURSE FORMAT

Reading Assignments: In the course schedule, you will see assigned readings for each class. This means that the material listed should be read *prior* to the date on the schedule so you are prepared for lecture, class discussion, and the class activity/possible pop quizzes (if given they will be counted towards participation).

Lecture: Class will be lecture, discussion, and activity format. Most lectures will reflect a section or chapter in your textbook. There will be some lecture material that is not covered in the text and some readings not covered in lecture. *You are responsible for all material covered in both the lecture and the textbook readings.*

Discussion: Each student will be required to participate in class discussions. Furthermore, students will be asked to stimulate discussion regarding the applicability of material covered at the local, national, and international level (provided).

Participation: Participation will be assessed through *attendance* in class as well as participation in class through class activities/pop quizzes. In order to get full participation points, it is necessary that you show up to class on time, remain for the entire class period, and complete the class activity/quiz. The failure to do so will result in a loss of class participation points for that day. Pop quizzes will only be given if it becomes evident that students are not coming to class prepared or willing to participate 😊

GRADING POLICY

Grades will be based on three exams, one written assignment, and participation.

Exams: There will be three non-cumulative exams. The date of each exam is indicated on the course schedule. The exams will each be worth 20% (Exam 1), 30% (Exam 2), and 20% (Exam 3) of your grade. Exams will include true/false, multiple choice, and short-answer questions. You will be advised of the exact format for each exam prior to the exam date. The exams will be based on class lecture, assigned readings, and discussion. *Exam scores will NOT be curved.*

Assignment: One assignment will be given in this class. The description of the assignment will be posted on Canvas under Assignments at least 3 weeks prior to the due date (due date is on the syllabus). In order to receive credit for the assignment, the assignment must be submitted through Canvas by the start of class (11:35am) on the due date. No late assignments will be accepted, NO EXCEPTIONS WHATSOEVER.

Participation:

You will only receive full participation points for the class if you show up to class on time and participate in discussion and/or complete all class activities that day. Our class is scheduled to meet 28 times during the semester. I will not evaluate you on participation on the first day of class or on exam days. Your participation grade will be based on 22 out of 24 classes. Therefore, you may miss up to two classes without being penalized in your participation grade. No make-up participation points will be given – *No Exceptions.*

GRADING SCHEME:

- EXAM #1 25%
- EXAM #2 25%
- EXAM #3 25%
- ASSIGNMENT 15%
- PARTICIPATION 10%

Extra Credit: Extra credit opportunities will be randomly given and there will be one extra-credit question on each exam.

Grade Distribution*

100-97	A+	79-77	C+
97-93	A	77-73	C
92-90	A-	72-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
87-83	B	67-63	D
82-80	B-	62-60	D-

Any grades below 60% will receive an F for the course.

*All grades will be rounded up to the next percentage point from the .5 mark (e.g. 86.5 will become an 87/B+)

Class Policies:

- **Attendance** – All students are expected to attend every class. Since exams cover reading, lectures, and homework, missing multiple classes will likely result in a reduced final grade. If you do miss a class, you should always copy notes from a classmate. Basic outlines of the class notes will be provided on Canvas prior to each lecture, but these will be largely incomplete. The instructor will not share her complete notes (but I will meet with you to discuss the material if you have any questions *and* you have already sought class notes from another student).
- **Make-up Policy** – Make-up exams will not be given except in cases of a documented medical problem/emergency, death in the family, or a religious holiday. Proper written documentation is required. In such cases, the student must contact the instructor before class. Failure to abide by these rules will result in a grade of zero.
- **Disability Support** – Any student with a documented disability (it must be documented by Office of Accessibility Services) must provide this documentation to the instructor. Out of fairness to all students, I will not accommodate students who do not provide me with written documentation. Students who are requesting to take their exams in an alternative location need to provide the instructor with a testing form for each exam that must be turned in no later than one week before each exam. Otherwise, the student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class.
- **Religious Observances** – If you are unable to take any exams or turn in any assignments due to a religious observance, you will need to discuss this with me at least one week prior to the due date/exam date.
- **Academic Integrity** – Students are expected to adhere to Florida State University’s Academic Honor Policy (<https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>). Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and any

violations will be reported to the FDA office by the instructor. If deemed severe enough, the student will then be referred to the Academic Honor Policy Committee at FSU. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication of information used in assignments, plagiarism, and knowingly facilitating the dishonesty of another student.

- **Classroom Code of Conduct** – Students are required to be courteous to one another and to the instructor. Any student who engages in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the classroom and will lose classroom participation points in addition to an additional point from one’s final grade. Being disruptive includes repeatedly coming late to class (in person or online), leaving the classroom during lecture without authorization (in person or online), making loud or distracting noises (in person or online), sleeping, speaking without being recognized, reading outside material, and talking on cell phones or text messaging.
- **Copyright** – The lectures I deliver in this class and the course materials I create and distribute are protected by federal copyright law. My lectures are delivered from written lectured notes in order to ensure my copyright protection. You are permitted to take notes from my lectures and to use course materials for this class. You may not record, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes for any commercial purpose without my written consent. Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials, possess commercial copies of my notes, or assist another person or entity in selling or distributing those materials will be reported to the university.
- **Inclement Weather Policy** – In the event of school cancellation due to inclement weather, the class will be rescheduled (potentially in a different format). I will announce the exact date/time/format as soon as possible through email. I will choose the best option that suits the majority’s schedule.

Schedule, Reading, and Assignment List*

Subject to change as necessary throughout course. Please check Canvas and FSU email addresses for updates. All changes will also be announced in class.

Class	Class Topics/Events	Assigned Reading
Tuesday 8.29.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Introduction 	
Thursday 8.31.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Criminology and how do we define crime? 	Siegel pp. 3-14
Tuesday 9.5.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between criminology, the law, and the criminal justice system 	Siegel pp. 14-23
Thursday 9.7.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources of crime data 	Siegel pp. 27-41
Tuesday 9.12.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime trends and correlates of crime 	Siegel pp. 41-62
Thursday 9.14.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of victimization Theories of victimization 	Siegel pp. 69-84
Tuesday 9.19.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch-up Review for Exam 1 	
Thursday 9.21.23	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-3) IN CLASS	
Tuesday 9.26.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is a theory? Classical School of Criminology: Deterrence Theory 	Siegel pp. 102-105; 120-125
Thursday 9.28.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical School of Criminology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rational Choice Theory Situational Crime Prevention 	Siegel pp. 105-120; 126-130
Tuesday 10.3.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trait Theories Biological Theories of Crime 	Siegel pp. 140-157
Thursday 10.5.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trait Theories Psychological Theories of Crime 	Siegel pp. 157-174
Tuesday 10.10.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch-Up Introduce Social Structure Theories 	Siegel pp. 188-196
Thursday 10.12.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Structure Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Disorganization Theory Modern Extensions of Social Disorganization Theory 	Siegel pp. 196-205

Tuesday 10.17.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Structure Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional Strain Theory 	Siegel pp. 205-214
Thursday 10.19.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Structure Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Strain Theory 	Siegel pp. 205-214
Tuesday 10.24.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Structure Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Deviance Theories 	Siegel pp. 214-223
Thursday 10.26.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Structure Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Deviance Theories 	Siegel pp. 214-223
Tuesday 10.31.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Process Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Social Process Theories - Differential Association Theory 	Siegel pp. 234-243
Thursday 11.2.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Process Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Learning Theory • Neutralization Theory 	Siegel pp. 243-249
Tuesday 11.7.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Process Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Control Theories 	Siegel pp. 249-253
Thursday 11.9.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch-up and Review for Exam 2 	
Tuesday 11.14.23	Exam 2 IN CANVAS posted at 11:35am and due by 1pm EST	
Thursday 11.16.23	NO CLASS- AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY METINGS IN PHILADELPHIA	
Tuesday 11.21.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom Class • Social Process Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Reaction Theories/Labeling Theory 	Siegel pp. 253-263
Thursday 11.23.23	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING	
Tuesday 11.28.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instrumental vs. Structural Theories of Crime • Feminist Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Patriarchal Theories - Power Control Theory 	Siegel pp. 272-280; 284-286; 288-291
Thursday 11.30.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment Due • Life Course and Developmental Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Concepts • Age-graded Theory of Informal Social Control 	Siegel pp. 306-317
Tuesday 12.5.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life Course and Developmental Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propensity and Latent Trait 	Siegel pp.318-333

	<p>Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trajectory Theories 	
Thursday 12.7.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss Assignment • Catch-up and Review for Exam 3 	
<p>Monday 12.11.23 – Final Exam Due in Canvas (Exam 3): posted at 10:00am and due by 12:30pm EST</p>		