

CCJ 231: Introduction to Criminology

CRN 6603
Spring 2016
Location: ONLINE

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Catalog Course Description:

Surveys descriptive, empirical, and theoretical issues in the study of crime and delinquency. Considers the roles of social, cultural, economic, political, psychological, chemical, biological, and ideological factors in the causes and treatment of criminal behaviors. Exposes students to the major theoretical perspectives in the field, as well as to the critiques and uses of these perspectives in the prevention of and response to crime. **Approved for University Studies (Explorations Strand F–Social Science). Course Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to differentiate between biological, sociological and psychological motivations for committing crimes and be able to explain how these motivations differ in their impact upon the individual and society.
2. Students will be able to explain how cultural norms and values dictate what constitutes a crime, how it is measured, and how this influences the entire CJS and its processes.
3. Students will be able to understand the significance of theory, policy, and research, and how these three are intimately interrelated.
4. Students will demonstrate effective application of criminological theories to behavior.

Required Texts:

- Hagan, F.E. (2013). *Introduction to criminology: Theories, methods, and criminal behavior* (8th ed.). Los Angeles, CA:Sage.

Online Course Organization:

As an online course, we do not meet in person. Although there is no formal attendance policy, I expect you to be present and log into Moodle every week (I can ‘see’ who logs on, how often, how long, and what links you’ve used). Our class week begins every TUESDAY and ends on the following MONDAY night. All assignments, discussions, and exams must be completed before the scheduled week ends. In other words, required work for the given week must be submitted (uploaded) on or before Mondays at 11:55 pm.

Please understand that online class work demands a lot of self-discipline on the part of each student. There is a considerable amount of reading and writing for this course. Procrastinators will be miserable, stressed, and somewhat resented by classmates if their work is sloppy or late.

Waiting until the day assignments are due to attempt to complete assessments or submit an assignment is not suggested; as late work will not be accepted, so stay on top of your work.

As an online course you are expected to be proficient with computers and have access to the appropriate technical support (internet/computer etc.) to complete the course requirements.

NO LATE WORK OR MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE PERMITTED, REGARDLESS OF EXPLANATION.

Assignments and Expectations: 400 total points

All assignments and exams are due by the identified due date. **NO LATE WORK OR MAKEUP EXAMS** will be permitted.

1) Discussion Forums (100 points)

There will be 10 discussion forum topics throughout the term, each worth 10 points. Forming opinions, vocalizing those opinions to your peers, and critically assessing other's opinions will enhance your understanding of the course material.

To earn discussion forum points, you will need to answer the question that is posted AND respond thoughtfully and critically to TWO of your classmate's discussion answers. You must post and respond during the assigned week. You will not earn points for post or responding to "old" discussion forums. Only discussion forum posts that are relevant to the course material will be considered participation. In order to participate, you must be prepared for class (i.e. have carefully read assigned class readings) and demonstrate that in your discussion forum post. *Please see Classroom Civility section for proper communications expectations.*

All assignments **MUST** be submitted/uploaded to Moodle by the designated due date. Reminder: the course week ends every Monday at 11:55 pm. Failure to submit your assignment by this deadline will result in **NO** credit.

2) Exams (300 points)

There will be 3 exams worth 100 points each during the term. The exams will cover information from the required textbook, required articles, and lectures. An optional fourth and final exam will be offered during finals week. This exam can take the place of a missed exam or can replace the student's lowest scored exam. This optional final exam will be cumulative. There are no make-up exams as the final exam will be required for any student who misses one of the previous three exams. All exams may feature multiple choice and/or short answer essays.

All exams will be due on the identified due date...again, **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE PERMITTED.**

- Exams are **NOT** open book and you may **NOT** utilize any outside resources while completing these examinations.
- Only **1 attempt** will be permitted.
- Each examination has a designated time limit that must be adhered to.
- Each examination must be submitted/completed by the identified due date by 11:55 pm.

Assignment	Points	% of Grade
Exam # 1	___/100	25%
Exam # 2	___/100	25%
Exam # 3	___/100	25%
Final (Optional)	___/(100)	(25%)
Chapter Forums (10 @ 10 pts.)	___/100	25%
Total	___/400	100%

Grade	Points Needed	% Range
A	372-400	93-100%
A-	360-371	90-92.99%
B+	348-359	87-89.99%
B	332-347	83-86.99%
B-	320-331	80-82.99%
C+	308-319	77-79.99%
C	292-307	73-76.99%
C-	280-291	70-72.99%
D+	268-279	67-69.99%
D	240-267	60-66.99%
F	0-239	0-59.99%

Classroom and Online Civility

This is a community of learning and I expect all students to be respectful of other opinions, courteous, and well behaved. We will discuss ideas and focus on these ideas, NOT the people who present the ideas. Overall, common human dignity and the golden rule are not just clichés; they are ways to live by. I expect them to be utilized in this class

Southern Oregon University Policy Statements:

SOU Cares

SOU has a wide range of resources to help you succeed. Our faculty, staff, and administration are dedicated to providing you with the best possible support. The SOU Cares Report allows us to connect you with staff members who can assist with concerns, including financial, health, mental health, wellbeing, legal concerns, family concerns, harassment, assault, study skills, time management, etc. You are also welcome to use the SOU Cares Report to share concerns about yourself, a friend, or a classmate at <http://www.sou.edu/ssi>. These concerns can include reports related to academic integrity, harassment, bias, or assault. Reports related to sexual misconduct or sexual assault can be made anonymously or confidentially. Student Support and Intervention provides recourse for students through the Student Code of Conduct, Title IX, Affirmative Action, and other applicable policies, regulations, and laws.

Academic Honesty Statement and Code of Student Conduct

Students are expected to maintain academic integrity and honesty in completion of all work for this class. According to SOU's Student Code of Conduct: "Acts of academic misconduct involve the use or attempted use of any method that enables a student to misrepresent the quality or integrity of his or her academic work and are prohibited".

Such acts include, but are not limited to: copying from the work of another, and/or allowing another student to copy from one's own work; unauthorized use of materials during exams; intentional or unintentional failure to acknowledge the ideas or words of another that have been taken from any published or unpublished source; placing one's name on papers, reports, or other documents that are the work of another individual; submission of work resulting from inappropriate collaboration or assistance; submission of the same paper or project for separate courses without prior authorization by faculty members; and/or knowingly aiding in or inciting the academic dishonesty of another.

Any incident of academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action(s) as outlined in SOU's Code of Student Conduct:

http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_500/oar_573/573_076.html

In case of loss, theft, destruction or dispute over authorship, always retain a copy of any work you produce and submit for grades. Retain all written work that has been graded and handed back to you.

Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating, plagiarism, or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses.

Plagiarism is defined as knowingly submitting the language, ideas, thoughts, or work of another author as one's original work, or allowing one's work to be used in this fashion.

Cheating is defined as:

1. Using unauthorized information during an examination verbally, visually, or by unauthorized notes, books, and other materials
2. Obtaining or providing information concerning all or part of an examination in advance of that examination
3. Taking an examination for another student, or arranging to have someone else take an examination for you
4. Altering or changing:
 - a. Test answers after that test has been submitted for grading
 - b. Grades after the grades have been awarded
 - c. Other academic records after those records have become official

If the Criminology & Criminal Justice Department has **any** reason to believe that you have engaged in cheating or plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty, legal action will be taken and this could result in a student receiving 0 points for that activity (i.e., a quiz, assignment, exam, paper, etc.).

Statement on Title IX and Mandatory Reporting

Federal law requires that employees of institutions of higher learning (faculty, staff and administrators) report to a Title IX officer any time they become aware that a student is a victim or perpetrator of gender-based bias, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking. Further, Oregon law requires a mandatory report to law enforcement of any physical or emotional abuse of a child or other protected person, including elders and people with disabilities, *or* when a child or other protected person is perceived to be in danger of physical or emotional abuse. If you are the victim of sexual or physical abuse and wish to make a confidential disclosure please use the confidential advising available at <http://www.sou.edu/ssi/confidential-advisors.html>, or use Southern Oregon University's Anonymous Harassment, Violence, and Interpersonal Misconduct Reporting Form https://jfe.qualtrics.com/form/SV_7R7CCBciGNL473L

SOU Academic Support/Disability Resources:

To support students with disabilities in acquiring accessible books and materials, and in planning their study and time management strategies, SOU requires all professors to include a statement on Academic Support and Disability Resources on course syllabi. It is the policy of Southern Oregon University that no otherwise qualified person shall, solely by reason of disability, be denied access to, participation in, or benefits of any service, program, or activity operated by the University. Qualified persons shall receive reasonable accommodation/modification needed to ensure equal access to employment, educational opportunities, programs, and activities in the most appropriate, integrated setting, except when such accommodation creates undue hardship on the part of the provider. These policies are in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other applicable federal and state regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability.

If you are in need of support because of a documented disability (whether it be learning, mobility, psychiatric, health-related, or sensory) you may be eligible for academic or other accommodations through Disability Resources. Call Academic Support Programs at **(541)552-6213** to schedule an appointment with Disability Resources. The Academic Support Programs office is located in the Stevenson Union, lower level. See the Disability Resources webpage at www.sou.edu/dr for more information. If you are already working with Disability Resources, make sure to request your accommodations through them for this course as quickly as possible so that you have the best possible access.

Course Outline

Please be advised that sometimes during the course of a term, syllabi are subjected to changes. If changes are required, you will be provided with an amended syllabus within 24 hours via email and/or Moodle announcements.

As a reminder: the class week begins every Tuesday morning and ends on the following Monday night.

Dates	Topic	Reading Assignment
Week 1: March 28 – April 4	Introduction	Chapter 1
	Research Methods in Criminology	Chapter 2
Week 2: April 5 – April 11	General Characteristics of Crime & Criminals	Chapter 3
	What is Victimology?	Chapter 4
Week 3: April 12 – April 18	EXAM #1 – Must be completed by Monday April 18 th by 11:55 PM	
Week 4: April 19 – April 25	Early & Classical Criminological Theories	Chapter 5
	Biological & Psychological Theories	Chapter 6
Week 5: April 26 – May 2	Sociological Mainstream Theories	Chapter 7
	Sociological Critical Theories & Integrated	Chapter 8
Week 6: May 3 – May 9	EXAM #2 – Must be completed by Monday May 9 th by 11:55 PM	
Week 7: May 10 – May 16	Violent Crime	Chapter 9
	Property Crime	Chapter 10
Week 8: May 17 – May 23	Political Crime & Terrorism	Chapter 12
	Organized Crime	Chapter 12
Week 9: May 24 – May 30	Public Order Crime	Chapter 14
	Epilogue	Chapter 16
Week 10: May 31 – June 6	EXAM #3 – Must be completed by Monday June 6 th by 11:55 PM	
Week 11: FINALS WEEK June 6 – June 10	Optional FINAL EXAM: Must be completed on or before Friday June 10th at 11:55 PM	