
Concluding Remarks

CRJ 523
Network Criminology

Reminders...

- ❖ Final Paper is due **5/4** by 1pm, submitted in .docx format.
- ❖ Complete the course evals!
- ❖ End of course meet up **5/4** @ 3pm.

A few things...

- ❖ You have done sooooo much this semester:
- ❖ You read nearly 1,500 pages of material!



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- ❖ You have done sooooo much this semester:
 - ❖ You read nearly 1,500 pages of material!
 - ❖ That is more than the entire Lord of the Rings Trilogy!



A few things...

- ❖ You have done sooooo much this semester:
 - ❖ You read nearly 1,500 pages of material!
 - ❖ And the Oryx and Crake Trilogy!



A few things...

- ❖ You have done sooooo much this semester:
 - ❖ You have read the **foundational** work on nearly every key concept in *network science*.
 - ❖ homophily, embeddedness, social capital, multiplicity, contagion / diffusion, status / hierarchy, vulnerability, interventions...

A few things...

- ❖ You have done sooooo much this semester:
 - ❖ *And you have read the most recent work on the application of network science to *criminology*:*
 - ❖ Peer influence, co-offending, gangs, neighborhood ecology, criminal opportunity...

A few things...



GOOD
for **YOU**

Taking Stock

Looking back...

- ❖ This course started with trying to develop an argument:
 - ❖ We should take a “Network Turn” in CCJ.
 - ❖ *Why?*
 - ❖ *How?*

Why “network” criminology?

- ❖ **Measurement as a paradox**
 - ❖ Research requires *conceptualization* and *operationalization*.
 - ❖ Criminology struggles with this...
 - ❖ Paradigms produce particular *methodological* approaches.
 - ❖ In criminology, the survey...

Network criminology needs a “problem”

- ❖ I asked you to think about the following question throughout the semester:
 - ❖ *What is the paradox that is problematic for existing theories in criminology that a network approach can address?*
 - ❖ This is the *why*...

The “How” of Network Criminology

- ❖ What about the *how*?
 - ❖ My goal this semester has been to give you the tools to do the “how” in addition to asking “why”
- ❖ Thinking about criminology and criminal justice as problems to be understood through the lens of network mechanisms.

Network Theories and Theories of Networks*

NETWORK THEORIES ("networks as <i>cause</i> ")		THEORIES OF NETWORKS ("networks as <i>effects</i> ")	
		<i>Explanatory Goal</i>	
<i>Explanatory Model</i>	Social Capital/ Performance ("what are the benefits?")	Homogeneity ("why are nodes similar?")	Network Structure ("why is the network this way?")
Network Flow (ties as pipes)	<u>Capitalization</u> Definition: Acquisition to resources through ties and this influences human capital which contributes to performance. Examples: Access to unique information via bridging ties. Information control benefits of structural holes. Solving problems through access to diverse knowledge.	<u>Contagion</u> Definition: Nodes become similar through a process of "infection" where various "bits" are passed from one node to the other. Examples: Diffusion of innovations. Peer influence. Disease transmission.	Examples: Homophilous Selection ("why do people with the same attitudes cluster together? They sort into these groups")
	<u>Cooperation</u> Definition: Networks provide benefits that can coordinate multiple nodes in order to bring all their resources to bear on a problem. Examples: Unionization. Collective efficacy in neighborhoods.	<u>Convergence</u> Definition: Nodes adapt to their environments, and as a result nodes with similar structural environments will demonstrate similarities. Examples: Administrative assistants have higher levels of communication in organizations.	

*Adapted From Borgatti and Halgin (2011) and adams (2020).

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Network Coordination (ties as bonds or "prisms")	<u>Cooperation</u> Definition: Networks provide benefits that can coordinate multiple nodes in order to bring all their resources to bear on a problem. Examples: Unionization. Collective efficacy in neighborhoods.	<u>Convergence</u> Definition: Nodes adapt to their environments, and as a result nodes with similar structural environments will demonstrate similarities. Examples: Administrative assistants have higher levels of communication in organizations.	Examples: Homophilous Selection ("why do people with the same attitudes cluster together? They sort into these groups")

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What have we learned?

- ❖ Existing criminological constructs can be “elaborated” through a network perspective
 - ❖ *Embeddedness and Social Control*
 - ❖ *Contagion, Multiplexity, and Social Learning*

What have we learned?

- ❖ Or, to help us better understand old problems.
 - ❖ *Spatial Diffusion vs. Relational Diffusion*
 - ❖ The limits of physical adjacency and the promise of network adjacency
 - ❖ *Relational Inequality and Resources*
 - ❖ Understand *how* inequality happens through resources and social relationships

What have we learned?

- ❖ Or, that criminological problems are not unique
- ❖ Access to information vs. protection of information

My hope...

- ❖ You will your research from a **relational** perspective.
 - ❖ Questions to ask:
 - ❖ What is the IV? What is the DV?
 - ❖ What is the causal mechanism?
 - ❖ Are these “network configurations”?

The end...?

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Nope!

- ❖ Statistical Analysis of Network Data (CRJ 605) in Spring 23
 - ❖ [https://jacobtnyoung.github.io/
SAND/](https://jacobtnyoung.github.io/SAND/)
- ❖ R Workshop in August
- ❖ Social Networks crash course in August



Have a great summer!

