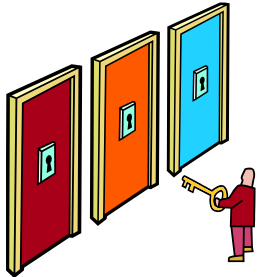


SYLLABUS**JUST A251 Crime and Delinquency (81817 601)****Fall 2009, 1:00-2:15 p.m. T/R****ESH 202****PROFESSOR:** Marny Rivera, Ph.D.**OFFICE:** LIB 213**PHONE:** 786-1126**E-MAIL:** afmsr1@uaa.alaska.edu**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The study of deviant behavior and theories of crime causation and their relationship to society, law and law enforcement is the focus of this course. This is a required course for Justice majors. (3 credits)

In this course, we will survey the descriptive, empirical, and theoretical issues in the study of crime and delinquency. We will also consider the roles of social, cultural, economic, political, psychological, chemical, biological, and ideological factors in treating behaviors as criminal as well as in causing criminal behavior. Students will be exposed to the major theoretical perspectives in the field, as well as to the critiques and uses of these perspectives in the prevention and response to crime.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Define terms central to the measurement of crime, criminology theory and victimology
2. Summarize crime trends and describe how various factors are suspected to influence crime rates including the economy, the number of at-risk youth in the population, criminal justice policies, social indicators and other factors
3. Explain how characteristics including ecology, firearms, gender, social class and race are associated crime and victimization rates and patterns
4. Differentiate between the core causes of crime presented in each of the major perspectives (choice, trait (biology and psychology), social structure, social process and social conflict)
5. Categorize individual theories into their respective branches and branches into their appropriate perspectives
6. Evaluate the validity of explanations for crime based on personal examples and available data



These course objectives will be met through traditional lectures, in-class discussion, homework assignments and student preparation for exams.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Siegel, L.J. (2005). *Criminology: The core* (2nd ed.). Belmont: Wadsworth.



ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) cheating on exams, homework (including working with other students on independent assignments) or quizzes, turning in papers that have not been written by the student claiming to have written them; plagiarizing the work of others and submitting the same paper twice in different (or the same) courses. Any evidence of academic dishonesty will result in zero points (grade of F) on the exam or assignment it was detected.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

If you are in need of academic support because of a documented disability (whether it be psychiatric, learning, mobility, health-related or sensory) you may be eligible for academic accommodations through Disability Support Services. Contact DSS at 786-4530, aydss@uaa.alaska.edu or Rasmuson Hall 105 for more information.

Your professor for this particular class considers herself an advocate for students and is more than willing to help students in need. However, students are encouraged to meet with the professor as early as possible in order to make arrangements for any necessary and/or helpful accommodations. Professors are not required to make retroactive accommodations, so please make arrangements in advance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Students can accumulate points in the following ways:



Exams:

Exam 1: 100 points
Exam 2: 100 points
Exam 3: 100 points

300 points

Homework Assignments:

Profile Card: 10 points
Study Focus Sheets:
(3 X 15 points) 45 points
Article reviews 50 points

105 points

Preparation & Participation 45 points

Total Possible: 450 points



Final grades will be assigned using the following point system:

A = 89.5-100%
B = 79.5-89.49%
C = 69.5-79.49%
D = 59.5-69.49%
F = Below 59.5%

Preparation & Participation:

This class will frequently include class discussions and all students are encouraged to participate in them. Attendance is an essential element of this course and will also be counted as part of your preparation and participation points. Attendance is strongly encouraged by university policy as well as your professor.

- The importance of attendance is based on the notion that learning occurs in the

classroom via the presentation of new material. If you are not in class you miss out on valuable learning opportunities, regardless of the reason for your absence. As such there are **no excused absences** in this course.

- Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Arrive on time to avoid being considered absent.
- Your percentage of classes attended will be based on the number of classes you attended out of the total possible minus one. In other words, students can miss one class without it affecting their Preparation & Participation grade.
- It is in your best interest to avoid being absent unless an unavoidable emergency arises.

Exams:

There will be 3 exams in this course that will be closed-book and taken in class. Each exam will be comprised of roughly 60 multiple choice questions. Please bring a pencil on exam days as your answers will be recorded on a Scantron exam form. You are highly encouraged to read your text, review class notes and power point outlines many times, review handouts many times and carefully review the material in the exam study focus sheets. In addition, because many of the exam questions test your critical thinking skills (identification, analysis and evaluation), many of the answers will be based on information from the text and/or class notes, but will require your application of knowledge to answer the question. There will be no makeup exams and no late exams without prior approval by your professor. If your professor agrees to allow you to take a late exam, it will be taken during finals week.

Assignments:

Profile Card: The purpose of this assignment is to profile yourself so that your professor can get to know you better. Please submit a 5X8 inch index card with the following items at the beginning of class by Thursday 9/03 for an easy 10 points:

- Your full name (first and last) and a nickname if you use it over your given name
- A picture or copy of one (feel free to photocopy your student ID picture if you don't have any other pictures of yourself that you are willing to part with)
- A few pieces of information about yourself that would differentiate you from other students in the class: where you are from, your career aspirations, favorite movie/musician/author, brothers/sisters, pets, tattoos, or anything else about yourself that you are interested in sharing

No points will be offered unless the profile card is submitted in complete form (including photo and signature page)

Study Focus Sheets: You are assigned to complete three study focus sheets which is one for each exam. Print the focus sheets from the Blackboard site and hand write information that is listed on the study focus sheet (please do not use your own notebook paper instead). Paper copies of hand written assignments are to be submitted at the beginning of class on exam days (see the schedule). This is an independent assignment that students should NOT work together to complete.

Article Reviews: You will complete two journal article review assignments. Unless otherwise indicated by your professor, Article 1 will be provided for you. You will be responsible for locating a scholarly peer reviewed journal article for the Article 2 review. A document summarizing the requirements for this assignment has been posted to the Blackboard site.

Reading, Assignment and Exam Schedule

Day	Date	Week	Topic/Activity	Reading Associated with Lecture	Assignments/Deadlines
Tues	8/25	1	Introductions		Log onto Blackboard site
Thurs	8/27	1	Crime and Criminology	Begin Chapter 1	
Tues	9/01	2		Chapter 1	
Thurs	9/03	2	Crime and Criminology	Finish Chapter 1	Profile Card Due
Tues	9/08	3			Labor Day Holiday
Thurs	9/10	3	Nature & Extent of Crime	Begin Chapter 2	
Tues	9/15	4	Nature & Extent of Crime	Chapter 2	
Thurs	9/17	4	Nature & Extent of Crime	Finish Chapter 2	
Tues	9/22	5	Victims & Victimization	Begin Chapter 3	
Thurs	9/24	5		Finish Chapter 3	
Tues	9/29	6	Exam Review		
Thurs	10/01	6	Exam 1		Study Focus Sheet Exam 1 Due
Tues	10/06	7	Choice Theory	Begin Chapter 4	
Thurs	10/08	7	Choice Theory	Chapter 4	
Tues	10/13	8	Choice Theory	Finish Chapter 4	Article Review 1 Due
Thurs	10/15	8	Trait Theory	Begin Chapter 5	
Tues	10/20	9	Trait Theory	Chapter 5	
Thurs	10/22	9	Trait Theory	Finish Chapter 5	
Tues	10/27	10	Exam Review		
Thurs	10/29	10	Exam 2		Study Focus Sheet Exam 2 Due
Tues	11/03	11	Social Structure	Begin Chapter 6	

			Theories		
Thurs	11/05	11	Social Structure Theories	Chapter 6	
Tues	11/10	12	Social Structure Theories	Finish Chapter 6	
Thurs	11/12	12	Social Process Theories	Begin Chapter 7	
Tues	11/17	13	Social Process Theories	Chapter 7	Article Review 2 Due
Thurs	11/19	13	Social Process Theories	Finish Chapter 7	
Tues	11/24	14	Social Conflict Theory	Begin Chapter 8	
Thurs	11/26	14			Thanksgiving Holiday
Tues	12/01	15	Social Conflict Theory	Finish Chapter 8	
Thurs	12/03	15	Exam Review		
Tues	12/08	Finals	Final Exam	1:00 – 3:45 p.m.	Study Focus Sheet Exam 3 Due

*Your professor reserves the right to make changes to this schedule as needed and will inform you as quickly as possible of any changes

Late Work: No late work will be accepted in this class. Under special circumstances and based on an agreement between an individual student and your professor, any late work that is accepted will receive a 20% reduction in earned credit for the first day it is late and a 10% reduction in earned credit for each subsequent late day (including weekends). Arrange to submit all work on time to avoid a late work point reduction.

CELL PHONES: NO CELL PHONES may be used in class. This means they should not ring and no text messaging or accessing caller ID or other information is allowed during class time. If I see or hear your cell phone during class time you will lose 5 points for each instance and will be asked to offset the class interruption you generated. If I see or hear your cell phone during a quiz or an exam I will assume you are using it for academically dishonest purposes, will confiscate your phone and will give you a zero on the quiz or exam. Please alert me to any emergencies that require you to have your cell phone on vibrate.

EMAIL: When emailing your professor, include our course number in the subject line of your email along with the topic of your question (i.e. JUST 251, missing grade). Include your first and last name in the body of the email. Absolutely no emailed assignments will be considered for grading. Please use email appropriately. For most class issues including questions about assignments, your performance in class or feedback and direction on assignments, please arrange to meet with me in my office during office hours rather than send emails. Failing to follow this policy may result in my failure to reply to your email or it may get classified as "spam" and deleted.