

Introduction to Criminology

Sociology 2761-002

Spring 2009

Blair 1103, TR 2:00-3:15

Instructor: Katherine Bass

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Required Text

Adler, Freda, Gerhard O.W. Mueller, and William S. Laufer. 2007. *Criminology and the Criminal Justice System*, 6th ed. Boston: McGraw Hill Higher Education.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of the field of Criminology. This class will be divided into four sections: 1) defining and measuring crime, 2) explaining crime, 3) the prevalence of crime, and 4) the criminal justice system.

Course Objectives

I have five major goals for students in this course:

1. To be able to explain the complexities of defining and measuring crime.
2. To understand the relationship between crime and inequality.
3. To analyze and critique the major criminological theories.
4. To be able place criminological theories in a social and historical context.
5. To understand the principles of policing and corrections.

Course Requirements

Students can earn up to 300 points in this class. The point distribution is:

3 Term Exams (@ 50 pts each) 150

1 Cumulative Final Exam (100 points) 100

2 Writing Assignments/Discussion leading (@ 25 points each) 50

Term Exams: There will be three term exams in this course for 50 points each. Exams will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Students are expected to take the exams on the date scheduled. If you know you cannot take the exam on the scheduled date because of a University conflict, you are expected to contact me to make up the exam BEFORE the scheduled exam date. If you miss an exam due to emergency (extreme illness, death in the family, etc.) you have one week to retake it.

Final Exam: The final exam is cumulative and will be worth 100 points. The final will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false and short answer questions.

Writing Assignment/Discussion Leading: Each student will be expected to complete a writing assignment and lead discussion in a small group on two occasions. Groups will be assigned at the end of the first week of classes. Each group will decide who will lead discussion on which days. On the day you lead discussion for your group you are expected to:

- 1) Download the appropriate assignment from the course WebCT page
- 2) Complete the writing assignment for that day
- 3) Write two open-ended discussion questions related to the assignment for your group to discuss.

- 4) Bring two copies of your writing assignment to class – one to turn in and one to use for your presentation.
- 5) Present your assignment to the group and facilitate a discussion on the topic.

Writing assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day you lead discussion (If you are late for class, your paper will be graded as a late paper). Writing assignments and discussion questions should be typed in one document approximately 2 to 3 pages in length. All writing assignments must be typed, double spaced, using 12 point Times New Roman font, and one inch margins. Make sure you ALWAYS cite your sources, including your course textbook (see citation examples under “Course Documents” on WebCT). You must PROOFREAD your paper for grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors. I recommend you have someone else look over your paper or utilize EIU’s writing center (3110 Coleman Hall).

Late papers will be accepted up to 1 week after the due date, but they will be graded at *HALF CREDIT*.

***If you are not the discussion leader for your group, you do not have to complete the writing assignment for that day. However, you are expected to participate in the small group discussion. Attendance/participation will be weighted more heavily on group discussion days.

Attendance/Class Participation: This course is designed for discussion and participation from the students. Attendance and class participation are necessary to succeed in this course.

Extra Credit: There will be no extra credit assignments in this course. Grades are non-negotiable.

Grading Scale

90-100%	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Classroom Guidelines

This course will be largely based on lecture and classroom discussions. In order to create a respectful and open learning environment, I ask that you:

- Come to class **on time** with reading and writing assignments completed.
- Engage in the ideas presented by thinking about them and participating in class discussions.
- Be present and attentive in the class and undistracted by other materials, students, or technology (including cell phones, text messages, iPods, laptops, etc.) Turn cell phones to silent/vibrate when you enter the classroom.
- Be respectful of others’ viewpoints. I encourage you to express your views in class, but always do so in a professional manner.
- Communicate any needs or concerns to me in a timely manner.

Academic Integrity

All University policies concerning plagiarism and cheating will be upheld in this course. Academic dishonesty will result in one or more of the following consequences: failure on the exam or writing assignment, failure in the course, and/or expulsion from the University.

Disabilities Statement

Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) if they wish to discuss any necessary academic accommodations.

Medical Emergency Statement

For medical emergencies, go to the nearest phone and call 911. All faculty offices have telephones and during normal business hours (8-12 and 1-4:30), the Sociology Office (Blair 3170) is open. Be sure to state the floor and room number of the emergency to the 911 operator. If possible, someone should go to the central entrance of Blair Hall to direct EMS personnel to the medical emergency scene. If the medical emergency is on the second or third floor, someone else should hold the elevator on the first floor for EMS use.

Tornado Statement

In case of a tornado warning, proceed to the center of the hallway on the first floor, near the posted severe weather signs. Under no circumstances should you attempt to leave the building.

Building Fire Statement

In case of fire, activate the fire alarm and exit the building. When a fire alarm sounds, everyone must exit the building and cannot re-enter the building until allowed by the building coordinator or fire department official. Fire alarms are located at the north and south ends of the corridors just inside the fire doors. The closes exits for all classrooms in Blair are on the north and south ends of the building. Under no circumstance should the elevator be used. Group assembly areas for all classes in Blair are either on the patio area between Blair and Old Main or on the southeast corner of the North Quad. As you exit the building, continue moving well away from the exits so that you do not impede the egress of other students of the work of fire officials. Move a safe distance away from the building.

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topic.....	Assignment
January 13	Introduction.....	
January 15	Defining Criminology.....	Chapter 1
January 20	Measuring Crime.....	Chapter 2
January 22	Measuring Crime.....	Assignment 1 Due
January 27	Development of Criminology	Chapter 3
January 29	Development of Criminology	Assignment 2 Due
February 3	Inequality and Crime.....	Lecture
February 5	Inequality and Crime, Review for Exam.....	Lecture
February 10	Exam 1	Bring #2 Pencil
February 12	Strain and Cultural Deviance	Chapter 5
February 17	Subculture Theories.....	Chapter 6
February 19	Subculture Theories.....	Assignment 3 Due

Date	Topic.....	Assignment
February 24.....	Control Theories	Chapter 7
February 26.....	Control Theories	Assignment 4 Due
March 3	Labeling and Conflict Theories.....	Chapter 8
March 5	Labeling and Conflict Theories.....	Assignment 5 Due
March 10	Environmental Theories, Review for Exam	Chapter 9
March 12.....	Exam 2	Bring #2 Pencil
March 16-20.....	No Class	Spring Break
March 24, 26.....	Violent Crime	Chapter 10
March 31	Property Crime	Assignment 6 Due, Ch 11
April 2	No Class	MSS Conference
April 7	White Collar Crime.....	Chapter 12
April 9	White Collar & Public Order Crimes	Assignment 7 Due, Ch 13
April 14.....	Public Order Crimes	Chapter 13
April 16	Exam 3	Bring #2 Pencil
April 21	Policing.....	Chapter 16
April 23	Policing.....	Assignment 8 Due
April 28.....	Corrections	Chapter 18
April 30.....	Review for Final	
Wednesday, May 6 – 2:45-4:45	Final Exam.....	Bring #2 Pencil