

**Eastern Illinois University**  
**CRM/SOC 2761-001**  
**Introduction to Criminology**  
Spring 2024 (3 credits)  
Meeting Times: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM  
Location: 3103 Blair  
1/8/2024 – 4/26/2024

**Instructor:** Mari Kita  
E-mail: [mkita@eiu.edu](mailto:mkita@eiu.edu)  
Office: 3149 Blair  
Office Hours: MWF 2:00 – 4:00 PM or by appointment

**Course Description:**

This course examines the nature, extent, and cause of crime in the United States by exploring a broad range of issues related to criminology. Topics focused on within the course include the historical foundations of crime, the theoretical explanations of crime, how we measure criminal acts, the development of criminal careers, the various typologies of offenses, and a critical analysis of public policies concerning crime control in society. The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to the scientific analysis of crime and criminality.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

At the end of the semester students are expected to have a foundation of academic knowledge and skills necessary to continue their studies in the program. More specifically, students should be able to:

1. Understand what criminology is and the significance of studying crime.
2. Understand the definitions of crime, measurements of crime, and types of offenses.
3. Understand the major criminological explanations of crime and their policy implications.
4. Apply the criminological theories to real-life examples and provide theoretical explanations.

**Textbook:**

Siegal, Larry J. 2018. Criminology: The Core. 7th Ed. Boston, MA: Cengage.

Additional readings will be provided on D2L

**Attendance Policy:**

There will be NO attendance taken for this class. However, be sure to understand that attending class regularly is imperative to doing well in this course. Students are also expected to complete weekly online quizzes to make sure that they are keeping up with their reading.

**Examinations and Assignments:**

**Exams:** There will be three exams, two mid-terms and one final, which will consist of multiple-choice questions. Tests will be closed-book and will not be cumulative as they

will cover each sections of the course that they follow. DO NOT SCHEDULE trips, flights, interviews, medical appointments, or any other events on exam dates as no make-up exams will be given. However, under extraordinary circumstances (death in the family, serious illness, etc.)

**Reaction Papers:** Students will write two short reaction papers throughout the semester on assigned readings that are not included in the textbook. You will be given questions to critically analyze each topic. The paper should be 3-4 pages in length and more detailed instructions will be available later in the semester.

**Online Quizzes:** There will be 10 multiple-choice questions available for each chapter on D2L. These quizzes are to enhance students' understanding of the chapters as well as to prepare them for the exams. Students are allowed for an unlimited number of attempts **before the due date** and the highest score will be kept in the grade book. Online quizzes can be found on D2L under Quizzes.

#### **Course Communication:**

You can reach me via Panthermail or D2L. Make sure that all emails are professional and include specific information about your request for assistance (see tips here: <http://college.usatoday.com/2012/03/15/five-things-to-remember-when-e-mailing-a-professor/>). If you are using Panthermail to communicate with me, please include the course and section number in the subject line of the email (e.g. SOC/CRM 4790-001). Provide some context for your email. I have many students and multiple classes, so be as specific as possible. If an emergency arises and you do not have access to email, please call the sociology office and leave a message. If I need to contact you regarding the course, I will use your EIU email (Panthermail) account. Please make sure to check that account regularly. I strive to answer all emails within 24 hours during the business week. If you have a question about an assignment, I strongly encourage you to email me at least 24 hours in advance of the due date during the week.

#### **Grade Postings/Concerns:**

All grades will be posted on D2L. If a student has a concern about a grade or feels that there is a discrepancy between the posted grade and the grade awarded, the instructor must be contacted via email within one week of when the grade was posted. Grade concerns will not be considered after one week has passed.

#### **Assignment Submission and Late Papers:**

All assignments completed outside of class must be submitted in Microsoft Word documents via D2L. Microsoft Word is the only acceptable format for submitting assignments (not Microsoft Works, Pages, or PDFs). If assignments are not submitted in Microsoft Word, they will be considered late. Do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments as this is when problems are most likely to occur. Back up your work and have a "Plan B" if your computer malfunctions. Computer labs are located throughout campus if you need Microsoft Word or have issues with your personal computer. If you were impacted by any health-, work-, or family-related issues, please be responsible and let me know as soon as you can. I will be willing to make accommodations if you contact me BEFORE the deadline. Otherwise, late papers will be penalized ½ of a letter grade for each day late, including the day on which they are due.

**Course Schedule:**

Week	Topics	Reading Assignments	Examinations and Other Assignments
Week 1: 1/8 -	<b>Crime and Criminology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What criminologists do</li><li>• A brief history of criminology</li><li>• Deviant or criminal?: How criminologists define crime</li><li>• Criminology and the criminal law</li><li>• Criminology and criminal justice</li><li>• Ethical issues in criminology</li></ul>	Siegel Chapter 1	<b>Online Quiz #1 due on Friday, 1/12</b>
Week 2: 1/17 - (NO CLASS on Monday, 1/15)	<b>The Nature and Extent of Crime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary sources of crime data</li><li>• Crime trends</li></ul>	Siegel Chapter 2	<b>Online Quiz #2 due on Friday, 1/19</b>
Week 3: 1/22 – (Guest Speaker on Wednesday, 1/24)	<b>The Nature and Extent of Crime Cont.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Crime patterns</li><li>• Chronic offenders/criminal careers</li></ul>	Siegel Chapter 2	
Week 4: 1/29 -	<b>Rational Choice Theory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of rational choice theory</li><li>• Concepts of rational choice</li><li>• Is crime truly rational?</li><li>• Situational crime prevention</li><li>• General deterrence</li><li>• Specific deterrence</li><li>• Incapacitation</li><li>• Criminal justice and rational choice theory</li></ul>	Siegel Chapter 4	<b>Online Quiz #3 due on Friday, 2/2</b>

Week 5: 2/5 -	<b>Fear of Crime and Victimization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fears about crime and criminals</li> <li>• Facts about crime and criminals</li> <li>• Uniform Crime Reports</li> <li>• National Crime Victimization Survey</li> <li>• The reality of crime</li> <li>• Crime images</li> </ul>	Kappeler, Victor E. & Gary W. Potter 2018. <i>Crime Waves, Fears, and Social Reality</i> pp. 41-62 in <i>The Mythology of Crime and Criminal Justice</i> .	<b><u>First Midterm on Friday, 2/9</u></b>
Week 6: 2/12 - (NO CLASS ON Friday, 2/16)	<b>Social Structure Theory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic structure and American society</li> <li>• Social structure theories</li> <li>• Social disorganization theory</li> <li>• Strain theories</li> <li>• Cultural deviance theory</li> <li>• Social structure theory and public policy</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 6	<b>Online Quiz #4 due on Wednesday, 2/14</b>
Week 7: 2/19 -	<b>Social Process Theory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutions of socialization</li> <li>• Social learning theories</li> <li>• Social control theory</li> <li>• Social reaction (labeling) theory</li> <li>• Social process theory and public policy</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 7	<b><u>Response Essay #1 (Kappeler and Potter) due on Friday, 2/23</u></b>
Week 8: 2/26 -	<b>Social Conflict, Critical Criminology, and Restorative Justice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origins of critical criminology</li> <li>• How critical criminologists define crime</li> <li>• Instrumental vs. structural theory</li> <li>• Research on critical criminology</li> <li>• Alternative views of critical theory</li> <li>• Critical theory and public policy: Restorative justice</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 8	<b>Online Quiz #5 due on Friday, 3/1</b>

Week 9: 3/4 -	<b>Applying Theories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of theories to real-life criminal events (drug use)</li> </ul>	Shukla, Rashi K. 2016. Pathways to Methamphetamine. Pp. 20-39.  AND  Shukla, Rashi K. 2016. Loving Meth. Pp. 39-55.	<b>Online Quiz #6 due on Friday, 3/8</b>
Week 10: 3/11 -	<b>Public Order Crimes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law and morality</li> <li>• The theory of social harm</li> <li>• Substance abuse</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 13	<b><u>Second Midterm due on Friday, 3/15</u></b>
Week 11: 3/18 – (NO CLASS: SPRING RECESS)			
Week 12: 3/25 -	<b>Public Order Crimes Cont.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sex-related offenses, paraphilias, prostitution, and pornography</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 13	<b>Online Quiz #7 due on Friday, 3/29</b>
Week 13: 4/1 -	<b>Violent Crime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causes of violence</li> <li>• Rape</li> <li>• Murder and homicide</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 10	<b><u>Response Essay #2 (Shukla) due on Friday, 4/5</u></b>
Week 14: 4/8 -	<b>Violent Crime Cont.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assault and battery</li> <li>• Robbery</li> <li>• Contemporary forms of interpersonal violence</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 10	<b>Online Quiz #8 due on Friday, 4/12</b>
Week 15: 4/15 -	<b>Economic Crimes: Blue-Collar, White-Collar, and Green-Collar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of economic crimes</li> <li>• Blue-collar crimes and criminals</li> <li>• White-collar crime</li> <li>• Green-collar crime</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 12	<b>Online Quiz #9 due on Friday, 4/19</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theories of white-collar and green-collar crime</li> <li>Controlling white-collar and green-collar crime</li> </ul>		
Week 16: 4/22 -	<b>Political Crime and Terrorism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political crime</li> <li>Types of political crimes</li> <li>Terrorism</li> <li>A brief history of terrorism</li> <li>Contemporary forms of terrorism</li> <li>What motivates the terrorist?</li> <li>Extent of the terrorism threat</li> <li>Criminal justice response to terrorism</li> </ul>	Siegel Chapter 11	<b>Online Quiz #10 due on Friday, 4/26</b>
Finals Week: 4/29 –			<b><u>Final Exam: Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 2:45 – 4:45 PM</u></b>

### Grading Scale:

Three exams – 45% (15% each)

Two reaction papers – 45% (22.5% each)

Online Quizzes – 10%

### Grade Distribution:

90 – 100% = A	80 – 89% = B	70 – 79% = C
60 – 69% = D	59% or lower = F	

### Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty in any form (plagiarism, cheating, lying, stealing, etc.) will NOT be tolerated in this course. Academic dishonesty includes signing in for students who are not present in class or including an absent classmate's name on an in-class assignment. Students who turn in the work of other students either past or present will be in violation of this policy. The regulations for academic conduct set forth in the Code of Conduct will be strictly enforced. If you are found to be violating these expectations, you could fail the assignment, fail the course, and/or be reported to the Office of Student Standards. All assignments will be submitted through TurnItIn to check for plagiarism. Not properly citing your work is a form of plagiarism and will be treated as such. Familiarize yourself with in-text citation and visit the Writing Center if you need assistance.

### AI and ChatGPT:

Artificial intelligence (AI) language models, such as ChatGPT, and online assignment help tools, such as Chegg®, are examples of online learning support platforms: they cannot be used for course assignments except as explicitly authorized by the instructor. The following actions are prohibited in this:

- Incorporating any part of an AI generated response in an assignment;
- Submitting all or any part of an assignment statement to an online learning support platform;
- Submitting your own work for this class to an online learning support platform for iteration or improvement.

Also, please remember that ChatGPT and other chatbots based on large language models can be inaccurate as they can produce “hallucinations.” If you are in doubt as to whether you are using an online learning support platform appropriately in this course, I encourage you to discuss your situation with me. Any assignment content composed by any resource other than you, regardless of whether that resource is human or digital, must be attributed to the source through proper citation. Unattributed use of online learning support platforms and unauthorized sharing of instructional property are forms of scholastic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU’s Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Student Disability Services. All accommodations must be approved through the SDS. Please stop by 9<sup>th</sup> Street Hall, Room 2022, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

#### **The Student Success Center:**

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center ([www.eiu.edu/~success](http://www.eiu.edu/~success)) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9<sup>th</sup> Street Hall, Room 1302.

#### **Other Services and Resources:**

- Academic Advising Center (217-581-2313)
  - <http://www.eiu.edu/advising/>
- Counseling Center (217-581-3413)
  - <https://www.eiu.edu/counsctr/>
- Writing Center (217-581-5929)
  - <http://castle.eiu.edu/writing/>
- EIU Office of International Students and Scholars (217-581-2321)
  - <https://www.eiu.edu/international/>

For additional assistance, please contact me.

**COVID-19 Safety Precautions & Behavior Expectations:** To protect our campus community during the Covid-19 pandemic, all persons on campus are required to observe social distancing guidelines, wash hands frequently, and wear a clean cloth or disposable face mask in all shared spaces, including classrooms, hallways, offices, dining halls, grounds and parking lots. Students should also self-monitor for possible Covid-19 symptoms, and contact university health services if feeling sick. Students who refuse to comply with the Covid-19 mask policy will be asked to leave the classroom, and will be reported to the Office of Student Standards for further disciplinary action. For additional information about EIU Covid-19 policies and expectation, please refer to the *EIU Covid-19 Return to Campus Guidebook* at <https://www.eiu.edu/covid/returntocampus.php>.