

SPRING 2004
AJ 118, Section 2
TTh 9:00 - 10:15
MacQuarrie Hall Rm 520

Dr. Cynthia Baroody Hart
Office: MacQuarrie Hall 511
Phone: 924 - 2944
Office Hours:
Tue : 7:00AM - 9:00AM
Wed : 4:30PM - 5:30PM
Thur: 7:00AM - 9:00AM
OR BY APPOINTMENT

AJ 118
THEORIES OF CRIME & DELINQUENCY

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Theories of Crime & Delinquency deals with the analysis of the nature and extent of crime, including causation and prevention. Descriptions of offenses, criminal typologies, and victim surveys. Evaluation of various prevention and control strategies are discussed.

The financial and human costs of crime are staggering. Crime and criminality rank as one of the top issues in the list of American concerns.

This course is designed to explore the nature of crime, criminality and delinquency. In order to do so, we must first understand how crime is "officially" defined and the workings of the criminal justice system relative to that definition. We must also understand the extent of crime (which is not an easy thing to do!) We will discuss various ways of measuring crime and how that may color our definitions. Our study of the nature and extent of crime, will be guided by discussions of various types of crime.

The majority of the class lectures and discussions will focus on various theoretical explanations of crime and criminality. We will discuss psychological, socio-economic, and socio-cultural perspectives in criminology.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To examine legal definitions of various acts as criminal.
2. To review the workings of the criminal justice system.
3. To understand the extent of crime.
4. To identify the ways of measuring crime.
5. To analyze various theoretical explanations of crime and criminality.

REQUIRED READING:

John E. Conklin (2004) Criminology (8th ed.) Boston: Allyn & Bacon

Moore, Michael (2001) Stupid White. New York: Harper Collins

The books are available at the Spartan bookstore as well Robert's bookstore. Other readings may be assigned to supplement the text. These will be placed on reserve in the library or made available to the student in class. Students are also expected to keep up with recent developments in the criminal justice area by reading a daily newspaper such as, The Los Angeles Times, The San Francisco Chronicle, The New York Times or The San Jose Mercury News. As well as watching

national/international news such as PBS, BBC or The Newshour with Jim Lehrer. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO CLASS DISCUSSION REGARDING CURRENT EVENTS AND ISSUES.

GRADING:

The basic requirements for the course consist of adequate performance (in line with the university requirements) on three examinations. The format of the exams will be a combination of multiple choice & essay. The examinations will reflect (1) required readings (2) lectures (3) class discussion and (4) films used in class. Each examination is worth 100 points and represents 33% of the final grade.

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|---------|---|------|
| EXAM #1 | = | 33% |
| EXAM #2 | = | 33% |
| EXAM #3 | = | 33% |
| | | 100% |

An extra credit paper is available to the student. Extra credit papers must be arranged, IN WRITING, PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 19, 2004. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. The topic is open, however it must be relevant to the subject matter of the class! Extra credit reports should be 8 - 10 double-spaced pages in length. In an attempt to aid the student interested in the extra-credit paper, I would like to keep a close watch on the initial stages of the paper. There is nothing worse than putting a great deal of effort into a paper and then having to change your approach in mid-stream. The following schedule for the paper should be helpful. Topic & references 2/19; outline 3/18; first draft 4/15, DUE 5/13. PLEASE PROVIDE 2 COPIES OF YOUR WORK FOR EACH STAGE. IF YOU DO NOT ADHERE TO THESE GUIDELINES, YOU FORFEIT YOUR OPTION FOR AN EXTRA CREDIT PAPER.

TIME FRAME FOR EXTRA CREDIT PAPER

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| DUE 2/19 | - One typed page explanation of paper topic/ and list of possible sources. THIS REQUIRES THAT YOU DO LIBRARY RESEARCH BEFORE 2/19!! You must provide at least 3 sources from the periodical literature. These must be scholarly articles. Journals such as: Criminology, Justice Quarterly, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, Journal of Criminal Justice are appropriate. Familiarize yourself with the periodical section at M L King. |
| DUE 3/18 | - IF NECESSARY, Conference with me re: paper topic and sources. I will initiate this meeting. Outline of paper & list of sources. Two typed, double-spaced pages; one page outline and one page of references. |
| DUE 4/15 | - FIRST DRAFT DUE |
- PAPER DUE MAY 13TH - NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

EEACH STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO SCHEDULE AN INITIAL CONFERENCE WITH THE INSTURTOR EARLY IN THE SEMESTER. I would like to see students on a regular basis - my door is always open to you, don't hesitate to come by. If your schedule does not fit well with my office hours, please call for an appointment. I am frequently around at times other than scheduled office hours. You are welcome to come by any time.

Class participation is also encouraged. While there is no clear formula, in cases where a final grade is between two grades, attendance and class participation may help to enhance your grade. I will be keeping close track of class participation, tallying class participation and lack of participation. I reserve the right to increase a student's final grade based on class participation.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is important. However, attendance is not required but is suggested, strongly.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

Make-ups are given in EXTREME CASES and only when APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION is provided. A make-up exam will be given on the following exam date along with the subsequent exam in the time allotted.

Tentative class schedule

Students are EXPECTED TO HAVE THE MATERIAL READ FOR CLASS!!!!!!

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|----------------------|------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 st week | 1/29 | Intro | |
| 2 nd week | 2/3 | Norms, Deviance & Crime | Chapter 1 |
| 3 rd week | 2/10 | The study of crime Measuring Crime | Chapter 2 |
| 4 th week | 2/17 | Costs of Crime | Chapter 3 |

EXTRA CREDIT CONTRACT DUE BY FEBRUARY 19TH

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| 5 th week | 2/24 | Classical Theories | Handout |
| 6 th week | 3/2 | Bio and Psych Theories | Chapter 5 |

EXAM 1 MARCH 11TH

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|----------------------|------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 8 th week | 3/16 | Socio-econ Sources of Crime | Chapter 6 |
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EXTRA CREDIT OUTLINE DUE MARCH 18TH

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| 9 th week | 3/23 | Social Control Theory | Chapter 7 |
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START READING TRADE BOOK

SPRING BREAK MARCH 29 - APRIL 2

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|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------|
| 10 th week | 4/6 | Learning Theory | Chapter 8 |
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EXTRA CREDIT FIRST DRAFT DUE APRIL 15TH

EXAM 2 APRIL 15TH

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|-----------------------|------|--------------------|------------|
| 11 th week | 4/20 | Opportunity Theory | Chapter 9 |
| 12 th week | 4/27 | Criminal Careers | Chapter 10 |
| 13 th week | 5/4 | Organization | Chapter 11 |
| 14 th week | 5/11 | Response to Crime | Chapter 12 |

*****EXTRA CREDIT PAPER DUE MAY 13 *****

LAST DAY OF CLASS AND EXAM REVIEW MAY 18

FINAL EXAM TUESDAY MAY 24 7:15AM - 9:30AM

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER VACATION!!!!!!!!!!!!!!