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Class times: Wednesday 5:30-8:15

Office Hours: Mon 2:45-3:45; Wed.2:45-5:30, before, after class or by appt.

FALL 2009

JS118

THEORIES OF CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to criminology, examining demographics and measurement of crime, theories of causation and victimology. In depth study of the transition from deviant to antisocial and finally criminal behavior. Included will be violent crime, sex offences, theft offenses, political and public order crimes. Crime victims and their treatment within the Criminal Justice System will also be studied. Attention will be given to the criminalization and decriminalization process. International issues such as genocide, child mercenaries, sex trafficking and slavery will be reviewed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the time of the final students should be able to:

1. Articulate the concerns of criminologists, including the historical timeline From Classical criminology to Conflict criminology.
2. Master measurement techniques including survey research, UCR data, longitudinal research, experimental and observational methods of collecting data.
3. Have an understanding of general crime demographics and limited international demographics.

4. Understand the role of the victim in the criminal dynamic, and the system's evolving treatment of such victims.
5. Master theories of criminality including Classical, Biologic, Psychologic and Sociologic.
6. Develop typologies of violent crime, rape, pedophilia, serial/mass murder, white collar crime and public order crimes.
7. Apply theories of behavior to various criminal & deviant scenarios including homicide, domestic violence, gang violence, delinquency, child abuse White collar crime etc.
8. Understand the role of interest groups and the legislature in criminalizing and decriminalizing behavior.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Siegel, Larry (2009), 10th edition, Criminology, LARRY SIEGEL Thomson, Wadsworth . Recommended: Study guide for above text. A second book, chosen by the student, to use as research material for a paper analyzing criminal behavior.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Three exams will be required: two midterms and a final exam. Additionally, a research paper based on your book choice, 8 pages in length is required. The exams will cover lectures, videos, guest speakers and text readings. MISSED EXAMS MAY ONLY BE MADE UP ON THE LAST DAY OF CLASS. THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE! Students are encouraged to read the newspaper and bring in articles of interest to share with the class. This will improve your participation and may lead to a higher overall grade in the class. If you miss a class, find a buddy to share notes with. Do not ask me to supply notes! An incomplete will only be given only if the student has completed two thirds of the work and presents a valid, documented explanation for the request. Oversleeping the final or any other exam does not constitute a valid excuse. Class assignments, some but not all

lectures, announcements and grades will be located on Blackboard (<http://www.sjsu6.Blackboard.com>)

EVALUATION

Each exam will be assigned a point value based on a class generated curve. A review sheet will be provided two class periods before the exam.

Midterm # 1	25%
Midterm# 2	25%
Final exam	25%
Paper & outline	25% no paper will receive a grade without an outline!

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Participation will be a significant part of the course. I encourage all to get involved in the material; discussion enhances learning which will enhance your analytical & critical thinking processes. It would be extremely helpful for me in learning your names and assigning participation points for you to supply a photo of yourself. I also will give those students who did well on their paper, the opportunity to share their findings with the class. Also, from time to time we will have small group discussions on controversial subject areas. Role will be taken to encourage participation.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who need accommodation must register with the Disability Resource Center, document their registration, and determine the services and accommodation needed for student success. The DRC will contact the instructor with the types of consideration needed. Students must register with the Center during the first three weeks of the semester. Their website is: <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

In accordance with University policy, students caught **cheating or plagiarizing will both fail the entire class and be reported to the**

University Judicial Affairs Officer. If you are considering a career in the Justice System, be aware that reports of cheating will go on your permanent academic record and thus may be discovered by employer's background investigations. For more information, take the SJSU Library Tutorial at <http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagerism/index.htm>.

SPECIAL NOTE TO STUDENTS:

THIS CLASS WILL COVER MATERIAL WHICH MAY BE DISTURBING TO SOME STUDENTS, INCLUDING RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT, MURDER AND CHILD ABUSE. FOR THAT REASON, PLEASE DO NOT BRING CHILDREN TO CLASS AND PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU FEEL THE CONTENT MAY BE UNCOMFORTABLE FOR YOU. ALSO, PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES, THEY ARE DISTURBING TO OTHER STUDENTS. CONTINUAL EXCESSIVE TALKING WHICH IS DISTURBING TO THE CLASS MAY ALSO RESULT IN A GRADE LOWERED BY $\frac{1}{2}$ GRADE POINT.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>WEEK 1</u> Aug.26	Introduction, class mechanics, announcement of second Book. Concepts of crime, law and criminology; penology, Victimology, theory construction. Deviance-antisocial-Criminality transition. <u>Text Cp. 1</u>
<u>WEEK 2</u> Sept.2	Nature/extent of crime, measurement of offenses, Data collection. In class self-report exercise; further look at the Criminalization and decriminalization process. Text Cp. 2

WEEK 3
Sept. 9

Victims and Victimology,
Text Cp. 3
Approval of books for research paper

WEEK 4
Sept.16

CHOICE THEORY
Text Cp. 4
Review for first midterm

**FIRST MIDTERM-BRING SCANTRON 882
SEPT 23RD.
WHEN EXAM IS FINISHED WE WILL RESUME
LECTURE; book check**

WEEK 5
Sept 23rd

TRAIT, BIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, PERSPECTIVES
Text Cp. 5

WEEK 6
Sept.30th

SOCIAL STRUCTURE, SOCIAL PROCESS
Text. Cp. 6-7

WEEK 7
Oct. 7th

SOCIAL CONFLICT
Text Cp. 8

WEEK 8
Oct.14th

DEVELOPMENTAL CRIME
Text. Cp. 9
Continue reviewing theory; small group discussions

WEEK 9
OCT.21st

SECOND MIDTERM OCT 21ST.-BRING SCANTRON
CRIME TYPOLOGIES OF VIOLENT CRIME
Rape, murder, robbery, pedophilia
Text Cp. 10

WEEK 10
Oct. 28th

CONTINUATION OF CRIME TYPOLOGIES

WEEK 11
Nov.4th
PROPERTY CRIME
Theft, shoplifting, employee theft
Text Cp. 12
OUTLINE OF PAPERS DUE-25 PTS, DEDUCTION
IF LATE.

WEEK 12
Nov.11th
White Collar Crime/cyber/organized crime
Text Cp. 13; film

WEEK 13
Nov.18th
Public Order Crimes, prostitution, drugs, pornography.
Text Cp. 14
PAPERS DUE!!!!!!!!!!!!!! DEDUCTIONS FOR LATE WORK

WEEK 14
Nov. 23rd
NO CLASS FOR THANKSGIVING BREAK

WEEK 15
Nov. 30
International issues of genocide, sex trafficking

WEEK 16
Dec.2
Last day of class, make-up exams, review for final

FINAL EXAM WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH
5:15-7:30

Paper Assignment 8 pages Application of theory to behavior

The purpose of this assignment is to read a book, nonfiction, although some fiction may be approved by the instructor and apply theories, concepts, demographics, profiles and typologies to the criminal scenario. Think of yourself as a behavioral criminal profiler, providing explanations for deviant, criminal and sometimes horrific acts. A list of suitable books will be supplied as well as a binder which has book reviews, but it is the students responsibility to choose and find the book. Most are available online, used, at very reasonable prices. This is not a book report, you will be critically evaluating the behavior in the book using our class materials. There are many excellent accounts to choose from, and I will push you towards the more literary choices. The writing is better and usually provides more clues which will aid in your explanation. **IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER FORMAT YOU WILL BE DEDUCTED POINTS, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY! YOU MUST SUBMIT AN OUTLINE OR YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THE PAPER! THERE WILL BE NO MERCY FOR RECYCLED PAPERS! SEE NOTES ON PLAGERISM ABOVE.**

FORMAT:

1. PARTICULARLY RELEVANT THEORIES:

VICTIM PRECIPITATION

LIFESTYLE

DEVIANT PLACE

ROUTINE ACTIVITIES

CHOICE-RATIONALITY OF CRIME-DETERRENCE

TRAIT-DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES, FAMILIAL, PSYCHOLOGY

DSM CATEGORIES

ABUSE, FAMILY DYSFUNCTION, REACTION THEORY

CONFLICT THEORY-TERRORIST CRIME/ORGANIZED CRIME

SOCIAL STRUCTURE THEORY

INTELLIGENCE/CRIMINALITY

NEUTRALIZATION AND DRIFT

2. TITLE PAGE MUST CONTAIN A COLOR REPRODUCTION OF THE BOOK COVER.

3. THEORIES, CONCEPTS, ETC. MUST BE BOLDED!
4. INTRODUCTION: IN A FEW PAGES OUTLINE THE PLOT OF THE BOOK.(NO MORE THAN 2)
4. MOTIVE—WHAT THEORIES CAN EXPLAIN THE BEHAVIOR OF THE PERPETRATORS? AT LEAST 10 THEORIES SHOULD BE EXPLORED. DSM CATEGORIES MUST ALSO BE EXPLORED. (DIAGNOSTIC & STATISTICAL MANUAL OF PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESS)
5. YOU MUST INCLUDE VICTIMOLOGY THEORY.
6. APPLICATION OF THEORY TO BEHAVIOR (SEE EXAMPLES) ANALYSIS SHOULD BE CLEAR, CONCISE, COGENT AND CHECKED FOR GRAMMAR & EDITING.
7. CONCLUSION—TREATMENT BY THE CRJ SYSTEM? JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIM? PUNISHMENT? ULTIMATE OUTCOME.RESTORATIVE JUSTICE?
8. BIBLIOGRAPHY—CITATIONS/SOURCES/SUPPLEMENTAL SOURCES.THREE SCHOLARLY ARTICLES MUST BE INCLUDED IN YOUR ANALYSIS. PLEASE ATTACH EITHER THE ARTICLE OR AN ABSTRACT OF THE ARTICLES(S) TO THE END OF YOUR PAPER.

9. EXAMPLE OF APPLICATION OF THEORY TO BEHAVIOR:

Truman Capote's In Cold Blood provides an account of Perry Edward Smith, who, along with Richard Hickcock, murdered and robbed a family in Holcomb, Kansas in 1959. (It was also the topic of the 2005 film Capote). Capote's book was the first true-life literary account of an horrendous crime.

Capote's book suggest that Smith committed these crimes primarily as a result of what Miller identifies as **lower class focal concerns**. Smith was a single, white, thirty-one year old lower class male when he and Hickcock

murdered the Clutter Family. The main predisposing factor affecting Smith was an unhappy childhood. His alcoholic mother left his father and took Smith and his siblings with her when she went to California to lead a wild life. Smith was six years old at the time, his siblings were teenagers. His mother would have sex with anyone who would buy her a drink. The **emotional abuse** was compounded by the children's responsibility for cleaning up her Vomit, finding decent clothes and sufficient food. Smith's sister Fern, and his brother Jimmy would later commit suicide as adults. (**Suicide typologies** may be discussed later in the paper).

Committed to an orphanage at the age of seven, Smith was later returned to his Mother at age seven. After several confinements in institutions and children's **detention homes**, he was sent to live with his father. His formal education, and any **chance of a structured childhood** ended in third grade, further disposing him to crime. (discuss juvenile chronic offenders, DSM categories, pre-antisocial behavior). He and his father drifted around the country in a house trailer until Smith was 16 when he joined the merchant Marines. After discharge in 1952 he went to live with his father in Alaska. However, they fought bitterly, and he was thrown out of the house. (**abandonment**).

Psychodynamic theory stresses the importance of early childhood experience; bonding with parents, smooth transitions through developmental stages and the impact of traumatic events on the psyche of children experiencing **abuse/neglect**. Smith was a victim of his parent's alcoholism, neglect, and failed attempts to instill positive values and a sense of morality. The impact is underscored by the suicide of the siblings and his later sociopathic violence. Rageful children who are never given a forum in which to express feelings (therapy) often become rageful adults who visit their violence on the community.

A central attractive factor for Smith was his early experience in crime and prison life. After separating from his father, he had no money and no where to go. As a result, he committed a burglary and landed in prison with a 5-10 year sentence. While in prison (**social learning theory** should be explained here), Smith's acts demonstrated the lower class concern for toughness and smartness. During his confinement he bragged of having killed a man in Las Vegas. He claimed to have done it for the hell of it and maintained he had

gotten away with it. (**Institutionalization** should be explained here) He made up the story to impress other inmates. Etc. etc.

10. Suggested books:

Do or Die, Leon Bing---gangs, LA, excellent

Eight Ball Chicks, Ginny Sykes----girl gangsters, excellent

A Rip I Heaven, Cummins---memoir of violent crime survivor

Journal of the Dead, Kersten---best friends go camping and one ends up dead—murder, euthanasia? Excellent

Every Breath You Take, Ann Rule—or anything by this author, the primary writer in this genre

Black Dahlia, Hodel, cop investigates his father's past crime—excellent

Halfway Heaven, Thernstrom, murder-suicide at Harvard University—excellent

Lucky, Sebald—memoir of college sexual assault, excellent

Out of Bounds, Benedict—NBA culture of rape, violence—excellent

Black and Blue, Quindlen, domestic violence-excellent

Judgement Ridge, Lehr, highschool boys murder local professor

In Cold Blood, Capote, groundbreaking study of random murder-excellent

Night Stalker, Carlo, serial murder etc.

When a Child Kills, Mones, parricide—case studies of abused kids.

The Stranger Beside Me, Rule, Ted Bundy's horrific story, excellent.

Fire Lover, Wambaugh, serial arsonist, excellent; we will view the Video in class

She Wanted it All, Kathryn Casey-black widow story

Tacoma Confidential, Paul La Rosa, domestic violence tragedy

Such Good Boys, Carlton Smith, child abuse & murder

Helter Skelter, Bugliosi, historical, Manson killings

Darkest Night, Franscell, random murder

Death of a Dream, Paul La Rosa, 48 hours mystery

Columbine, Dave Cullen-excellent review of what really happened, and why.

I will add more to the list as the semester progresses.

