
Additional readings as assigned.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** To develop the student's ability to understand the results of research presented in professional journals and to communicate the meaning of data, research findings, and statistical data to others.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Weekly Assignments* (10 points each)  
2. Journal Article Reviews ** (10 points each)  
3. Literature Review w/complete citations  
4. 1st Exam  
5. 2nd Exam  
6. Class Presentation – Research Proposal^  
7. Weekly Attendance/Class Participation^^  

**TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS** 530

*Weekly Assignments:* You will have an assignment due every week in this class. They can be found on the “Assignments” link on Blackboard. The due dates for assignments are NOT “estimates” or “suggested” due dates. Assignments are due on the appointed date before class begins. Please organize your time accordingly. You will be graded on your ability to relate the weekly assignment to class readings and lectures, and to provide some thoughtful insight into your work.

One of the best ways to avoid late assignments is not waiting until the last minute to submit them on Blackboard. Technical issues do come up from time to time. You need to allow for these real-world circumstances and prepare accordingly.

In order to receive full credit for work in this class, ALL of your work must:

1. Include your name, the course name or number, assignment name & date on all work  
2. Be submitted electronically to Blackboard, in either .doc or .rtf format. Be sure to include your last name, course number, assignment number and year in your file name: (e.g., YourLastName SS 385 Assn 2 2015). You may want to print a copy to assist you in class discussions.  
3. Be turned in by the due date  
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the material covered  
5. Include an element of critical thinking (no regurgitating from lectures or textbook) - take what you’ve learned and draw some conclusions about it.
6. Be typewritten, double-spaced, with one-inch margins
7. Include page numbers
8. Be proofread and spellchecked (i.e., free of typographical and grammatical errors)
9. Cited appropriately, in APA format (provide textbook page numbers or websites you used for your answers. See http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/03/ for APA guidelines and examples for “In-text citations”. Use the menu at the left side of the screen for examples of how to properly write a References page, based on the sources you use.
10. Copying and pasting text from another source is plagiarism and will result in a “0” on your assignment. Correctly citing text that you have simply pasted from another source will also result in a “0”. DO YOUR OWN WORK.
11. Remember to write in third person (professional voice), like a reporter (e.g., “The study indicates . . .”). Avoid using “I” statements (e.g., “I think”, “I believe”, “In my opinion”, etc.)

Your reference page should be in APA format. Go to http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/06/ and use the menu on the left-hand side of the screen to write an appropriate References page for the types of sources you used.

Sometimes students are under the impression that class assignments are asking what they already know about a topic. This is not the purpose of higher education. Class assignments are developed to gauge what you are learning, not what you already know. While you may have a really good answer to an assigned question based on your personal knowledge and experience, the purpose of course assignments are to assess your ability to learn material presented in the course, and assimilate this new information into useful skills in the criminal justice profession. Please bear this in mind when doing your assignments.

**The best way to prepare a top-notch paper is to:**

a. Carefully read and re-read the material.
b. Highlight text and/or write down highlights that will help you remember the main points of the section you are reading.
c. Write a rough draft of your answer.
d. After you’ve had time away from your rough draft, re-read it, even out loud to see if it “sounds” right.
e. Use spell check and grammar check in Word AND on your own to correct any errors.
f. Submit your final draft (NOT your rough draft) of your assignment.

**Papers that do not include the above criteria will be returned to the student, unexamined.** This could negatively affect your grade if timelines are not met.

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

8/25 Introduction, Syllabus and Course Expectation Review
**Part One: An Introduction to Criminal Justice Inquiry**

8/27  Chapter 1 – “Crime, Criminal Justice, and Scientific Inquiry”

9/1   Chapter 2 – “Foundations Criminal Justice Research”

9/3   Chapter 3 – “Ethics and Criminal Justice Research”

**Part Two: Structuring Criminal Justice Inquiry**

9/8   Task – How to read a scholarly article

9/10  Task – Finding Other Studies on your Research Topic

   LCSC Librarian Barbara Barnes will be here to provide instruction on how to best use
   the library to locate scholarly articles.

9/15  Chapter 4 – “General Issues in Research Design”

9/17  Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

9/22  Chapter 5 – “Concepts, Operationalization, and Measurement”

9/24  Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

9/29  **EXAM 1**

10/1  Task - IRB Applications – **FINAL RESEARCH TOPICS DUE**

10/6  Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

10/8  Chapter 6 – “Measuring Crime”

10/13 Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

10/15 Chapter 7 – “Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Design”

**Part Three: Modes of Observation**

10/20 Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

10/22 (Little bit of) Chapter 8 – “Sampling” & all of Chapter 9 – “Survey Research”

10/27 Scholarly Journal Presentations & Group Work

10/29 Chapter 10 – “Qualitative Interviews”
**Research Article Reviews:** Students must summarize findings from 10 articles during the semester related to criminal justice research. You must present 3 of these to the class. Some of your resources can be from instructor pre-approved, government websites. The majority of the 10 articles must come from scholarly journals found through the LCSC library [http://www.lcsc.edu/library/](http://www.lcsc.edu/library/) or other libraries. A good pace is to write 2 article reviews per week.

The research articles you choose should relate to your selected research proposal topic. For each of the articles you review, prepare a 2-3 page written summary that includes the following information:

1. What is the **hypothesis** stated by the author(s)? (*If the article is a “descriptive” study, there will not be a hypothesis*).
2. Identify any criminological **theories** the author(s) used in their research.
3. What are the **units of analysis**?
4. Identify the **dependent** and **independent variables**. (*If the article is a “descriptive” study, there will not be an independent and dependent)*.
5. Summarize the **findings** from the research.
6. Describe the **strengths and weaknesses** of the study.
Research Proposal – Your Research Proposal will be approximately 18 pages and will contain the following items (also see “DETAILED OUTLINE OF RESEARCH PAPER” posted under “Assignments” on Blackboard for more instruction):

1. Title Page (1 page)
2. Abstract (1 page)
3. Introduction (Describe the issue, why it is important: 1 – 2 pages)
4. Review of the Literature* with full Citations (5-7 pages; 10 resource minimum)
5. Method (describes how you will carry out your research – 3-5 pages)
6. References (1-2 pages)
7. IRB Application
   a. Consent Form/Approach Script
   b. Survey/Interview Questions
   c. Letter of Support from Agency

*For this class, a Literature Review is simply you finding (reviewing) 10 scholarly articles (literature) on your chosen topic, and writing a summary of what these other researchers have found when they studied your same topic. For the Literature Review:

- Take and summarize the information from the article that is relevant to your research.

- Do not:
  - Critique the article – if it stinks, don’t use it
  - List all of the details of the research process (just provide the most basic information – e.g., “A questionnaire was administered to 400 inmates.” We don’t need to know that originally 640 inmates were in the study, but that 240 dropped out.)
  - List all of the demographic information of the study population (e.g., “There were 200 participants between the ages of 18 and 24, 167 participants between the ages of 25 and 34 . . .” Only discuss the demographic information as it pertains to the ‘Findings’ of the study (e.g., “Study participants between the ages of 18 and 24 had the highest recidivism rates.”). (See how the individual demographic information “matters” now to the research?).

CHECKLIST FOR RESEARCH PROJECT:

1. What are you trying to find out? (What is your research question?)
2. What is the value of the research? (Why is it important to Justice Studies?)
3. What variables will you use to measure your research question?
4. What obstacles will you have to overcome to gain the knowledge?
5. What methods will you use to gain the knowledge?
6. Are the conclusions drawn justified by the data and methods used?

^^Class participation: Non-preparation or non-participation will be considered non-attendance for grading purposes. Ten (10) points can be lost each week for failing to participate in any given class. If you must be absent from class, please obtain class notes and assignments from one of your classmates.
Participation requires at a minimum:

1. Being present in the classroom during the entire class session.
2. Being prepared for class (e.g., already read the material, assignments completed).
3. Submitting completed Peer Review forms for student article presentations.

Class participation is included in your evaluation for two important reasons: One, when you are not present, the class is diminished by not having your ideas and your influence on others' thinking. Two, being in class also expresses your ability to conduct yourself in a professional manner.

- You are expected to come to class having already read the material to be discussed for that day.

- We cover a lot of material in this class – PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS. I do not mind clarifying information, and quite likely, others are wondering the same thing. I want you to understand the material. I am happy to meet with you outside of class to help your understanding. Don’t flounder out there alone becoming more and more frustrated. Ask me so we can get you back to full production.

- If you must be absent from class, please obtain class notes and assignments from one of your classmates. Class information is presented at the time appointed on the syllabus. You signed up to take this class at the time indicated. This means that you agree to attend class at the time indicated, in order to obtain the information necessary for you to pass this class.

Cell phones, laptops and other electronic devices: Cell phones should be turned off during class. If you must answer a call, please step outside the room so you won’t disturb the students around you.

It is permissible to use laptops/computers for note taking during class lectures/discussions, but not during exams. It is considered rude and unprofessional behavior to use the computer for other than taking notes during lecture/discussion periods. Use of the Internet, checking emails or social media sites, playing computer games or other non-class related activities during class, means you are not “present” for the class and therefore you will be marked as absent, losing the 5 points for lack of participation.

Students will be able to find class materials as well as track their grades on the LCSC Blackboard website at https://lcsc.blackboard.com/.

For issues with Blackboard you can call the LCSC Blackboard Help Center at 1-855-671-6899 or visit their website at http://lcsc.edusupportcenter.com/sims/helpcenter/common/layout/SelfHelpHome.seam?inst_name=lewisclark.

Professional Writing Standards
All work submitted to this professor should be prepared at a college standard of professional editing in accordance with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed.). Allow sufficient preparation time for proofreading and correction of typos, misspellings, and grammatical errors. See http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/03/ for APA guidelines and examples for “in-text
citations”. Use the menu at the left side of the screen for examples of how to properly write a References page, based on the sources you use.

The reason for this expectation is that professionals are often judged based upon the quality of their written work. Carelessness in spelling and editing suggests that there will also be mistakes in the substance of the work. Therefore, written work which has misspellings and other editing problems will be graded down on this basis alone.

Grading
Your grades are based on the common grading scale (90% = A; 80% = B; 70% = C, etc.). Because this is an upper division course, mid-term grades will not be posted. Use your returned, graded assignments and the Blackboard website https://lcsc.blackboard.com/ to track your grade in the class throughout the semester.

Your graded assignments will be returned to you as an attachment via Blackboard. Your graded assignments will contain feedback from the instructor that includes areas you were strong, and guidance on where to improve. It is expected that students incorporate corrective feedback into future assignments. If suggested improvements are not made in future assignments, more points will be lost on each subsequent assignment. It is important that students take responsibility for their learning and use graded assignments as tools for improvement. I am always happy to discuss ways for you to produce your best work possible outside of class as well.

Workload - What is a credit hour? For a typical LCSC semester (15 weeks), 1 credit hour corresponds to 3 hours of student work per week (e.g. 50 minute lecture w/ 2 hours of homework/study). Therefore, approximately 9 hours of student work per week corresponds to 3 credit hours.

Expectations of Students in the Justice Studies major: http://webdev.lcsc.edu/catalog/Page.aspx?pageID=17
  1. The ability to think critically about major issues relating to justice studies.
  2. An understanding of human behavior, social control, cultural differences, and concerns for minority groups with regard to criminal justice.
  3. Proficiency in the use of verbal and written communication skills.
  4. Basic competencies in conceptualizing, conducting, interpreting, and evaluating research in the field of criminal justice.
  5. An understanding of criminal and juvenile justice, criminology, law enforcement, adjudication, and corrections.
  6. First-hand experience in the theoretical and practical applications of justice studies.

Student Decorum
The best learning occurs in an environment of respect. Please remember that this is a professional program and in addition to class content, you are expected to learn and exhibit professional behavior towards one another. This includes respectfully receiving feedback from instructors, administrators, supervisors, etc.

Students may not always understand, or agree with the instructor’s evaluation of their work. If you would like to approach me with a genuine interest in how you can improve your work, I am happy to spend as much time as you need helping you do that. Conversely, please understand that ill-mannered
confrontations (either in person, over the phone, through e-mails, etc.) will not be tolerated or responded to by this instructor. You will find similar responses by employers and co-workers when you become part of the professional workforce, so it is best to develop your professional persona now. College is a particularly stressful, albeit rewarding event in your life. Should you need assistance with managing your stress, NIC offers free counseling services to all LCSC students. NIC Counseling Services are located in Lee-Kildow Hall, Room 126 (Ph. 769-3445).

CODE OF CONDUCT

You are expected to participate in classroom discussions and conduct yourself in a professional manner. Private discussions with other students, passing notes, reading newspapers, disruptive eating, sleeping, and persistently arriving late or leaving early constitute inappropriate classroom behavior. If you demonstrate such behavior you will be verbally warned in class to cease. If you persist in disruptive or distracting behavior, formal action, in accordance with LCSC policy, will be taken.


Cheating or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable. The College functions to promote the cognitive and psychosocial development of all students. Therefore, all work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts and current understanding. Academic Dishonesty includes:

a) Cheating—intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term “academic exercise” includes all forms of work submitted for credit hours.

b) Fabrication—intentional and/or unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or the source of any information in an academic exercise.

c) Collusion facilitating academic dishonesty—intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of Academic Dishonesty.

d) Plagiarism—the deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas or words or statement of another person as one’s own without acknowledgment.

Students with Disabilities

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504/508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, LCSC-CdA provides services and accommodations to students who experience barriers in the educational setting due to learning, emotional/psychiatric, physical, visual, or hearing disabilities. For more information please contact Lewis-Clark State College, 1031 N. Academic Way, Coeur d’ Alene, ID 83814 (208) 666-6707.

Please also let your instructor know of any special needs you may have to achieve a successful learning environment.
LCSC Student E-Mail Account
According to college policy, your LC student e-mail account is the only e-mail we can use to communicate with you. We send you important information in e-mails that must be viewed in a timely manner. Please check your e-mail regularly! Another simple option is putting a forward on your LCMail to an account that you check more regularly. To do this:

1. Get logged into your LCMail account
2. Go into your inbox
3. Click on “mail settings” (upper right hand corner by your email address)
4. Click on “Forwarding and POP/IMAP”
5. Click on “Forward A Copy of Incoming Mail to:”
6. Insert your other e-mail address into the blank field
   - A code will be emailed to this account
   - Copy and paste the code into the box
7. Select “Keep LCSC Mails Copy in the Inbox” (if you choose)
8. Scroll to bottom and Save Changes

IT Issues (WarriorWeb), LCSC email account) email helpdesk@lcsc.edu or call 1-888-527-2445.

For issues with Blackboard you can call the LCSC Blackboard Help Center at 1-855-671-6899 or visit their website at http://lcsc.edusupportcenter.com/sims/helpcenter/common/layout/SelfHelpHome.seam?inst_name=lewisclark

Consumer Information
In 2008, the federal government required all post-secondary institutions offering federal financial aid programs to provide key data to both prospective and current students. To comply with this requirement, Lewis-Clark State College has developed a consumer information page, which may be accessed at http://www.lcsc.edu/consumer-information/

Disability Accommodations
Students requiring special accommodations or course adaptations due to a disability and/or a health-related issue should consult their course instructors and the LCSC Student Counseling Center immediately (RCH 111, 792-2211). Official documentation may be required in order to provide an accommodation and/or adaptation.

Student Rights and Responsibilities
Students have the responsibility for knowing their program requirements, course requirements, and other information associated with their enrollment at LCSC. Students should review the LCSC General Catalog (http://webdev.lcsc.edu/catalog and the LCSC Student Handbook (http://www.lcsc.edu/media/2157659/Student-Handbook.pdf) for more information.

Accidents/Student Insurance
Students participating in LCSC classes normally must look to their personal health insurance policy (Student Health Insurance Plan or comparable private coverage) should an accident occur. In the event of an accident, please seek medical help, if necessary, and report the incident to LCSC Security (792-2226). Fieldtrips or other special student activities may also require students to submit a signed participation waiver (forms can be obtained from the supporting Division Office).
Enrollment Verification/Attendance
Students who are not actively pursuing their classes may have to repay part or all of their financial aid awards depending upon the circumstances.

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated at LCSC. Individual faculty members may impose their own policies and sanctions regarding academic dishonesty after offering the student an opportunity to explain his or her actions. Sanctions imposed by the faculty member are limited to grades on the assignment(s) in question and/or on the course grade. On matters of academic dishonesty, faculty members do not have the authority to dismiss a student from class indefinitely nor to disenroll a student from a program without corroboration from a Division Chair (or program ethics committee where applicable), the appropriate instructional dean, and the Vice President for Student Affairs. Students who are accused of being academically dishonest may be referred to the VP for Student Affairs for official disciplinary action.

Illegal File Sharing
Students using LCSC’s computers and/or computer network must comply with the college’s appropriate use policies and are prohibited from illegally downloading or sharing data files of any kind. Specific information about the college’s technology policies and its protocols for combating illegal file sharing may be found on the VP for Student Affairs’ web page (http://www.lcsc.edu/student-affairs/student-code-of-conduct/ ).

Diversity Vision Statement
Regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation, you will be treated and respected as a human being.

Disclosures
During this course, if you elect to discuss information with me which you consider to be sensitive or personal in nature and not to be shared with others, please state this clearly. Your confidentiality in these circumstances will be respected unless upholding that confidentiality could reasonably put you, other students, other members of the campus community, or me in danger. In those cases or when I am bound by law to report what you have told me, such as incidents involving sexual assault or other violent acts, I will submit a report to appropriate campus authorities.

Student Feedback
Students shall be provided the opportunity to formally evaluate each course in which they are enrolled. Notification of student feedback opportunity and timelines will be made through the official LCSC student email (currently LCMail) or online course learning management (currently Blackboard Learn) systems.

Student Work
Student work for this course (assignments, quizzes, exams, projects, etc.) may be copied and retained for program assessment or accreditation purposes. For more information, speak with the instructor or division chair.

Approved by VP for Student Affairs & Provost 7/07/2015