

## CRIMINOLOGY

Justice Studies/Sociology 345 - Fall Term 2022

### Professor:

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Justice Studies Program  
Social Science Division  
Lewis-Clark State College  
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### Class Meets:

Tuesday & Thursday 3:00pm-4:15pm Administration 12

### Office Hours:

Tuesday 1:45pm-2:45pm,  
Wednesday 1:45pm-2:45pm  
Thursday 1:45pm-2:45pm  
and by appointment.

Website: Canvas

### Course Description:

Students study crime and society, theories of criminality, types and trends of crime, characteristics of criminals, social control, and criminological controversies. Prerequisite: JS 103 or instructor's permission; see SOC 350. Cross-listed with SOC 345.

### Purpose:

This course intends to examine the extent, nature, causes, and consequences of crime to allow justice system practitioners and citizens to form rational reactions to crime.

### Goals:

We will discuss the research that supports or refutes the various theoretical explanations of crime (Curran & Renzetti, 2001: xi-xiii). We will also examine the practical implications of the theories. Furthermore, students will become practiced at viewing crime, law, and theories about crime and the law as criminologists. While some citizens may see criminological theories as simply explanations for why people do “bad” things, we will present the view that crime, law, and the theories that explain them are social products that reflect the social, political, and economic conditions of the period during which they were created.

### Course Requirements:

Class Participation 100 points (4 reports@ 25 points each, plus 1 extra credit)  
Exam One 100 points  
Exam Two 100 points  
Exam Three 100 points  
Total: 400 points

Course Grading:

A 400-372  
A- 371-360  
B+ 359-348  
B 347-332  
B- 331-320  
C+ 319-308  
C 307-292  
C- 291-280  
D 279-240  
F 239-0

Assignment Grading:

A  93%  
A-  90%  
B+  87%  
B  83%  
B-  80%  
C+  77%  
C  73%  
C-  70%  
D+  67%  
D  63%  
D-  60%  
F  53%

Class Participation:

Attendance is expected and active participation is essential for the success of this class. Students who participate actively derive the most lasting benefits from the course. Attendance will be taken most days, and at the end of the semester, students with an attendance record of 90% or better will receive an extra one percent added to their course grade. Participation includes attending class meetings and contributing to class discussions. In order to ensure adequate student discussion, I reserve the right to call on students to discuss the topics of the day, so please be prepared to contribute.

Participation also includes short reports (approximately 2-3 typed pages) on selected issues in the readings (to be assigned in class). The reports are important because they will serve as preparation for discussions. The reports will be evaluated on the quality and thoughtfulness of your social scientific analysis of the assigned material. They will be

graded as: excellent, surpassing expectations (A), good, competent work (B), satisfactory (C), not satisfactory (D), failing (F).

REPORTS WILL BE DUE THE DAY OF CLASS **BEFORE THE START OF CLASS. REPORTS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CANVAS.** LATE REPORTS WILL BE PENALIZED A FULL LETTER GRADE (e.g. a late "B" will become a "C"). FIVE (5) REPORTS WILL BE ASSIGNED. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE FIRST FOUR (4). YOU MAY SUBMIT REPORT FIVE IF YOU NEED EXTRA CREDIT. An "A" extra credit report adds four points, a "B" is worth three points, and a "C" is worth two points.

**Also note that your reports must contain references for paraphrased and quoted material. See the end of the syllabus for models of reference citations.**

Reference all paraphrasing and quotes. Use block quotes for quotes longer than 5 sentences. Include a reference page. **You must use the modified APA-style referencing that is used in the journal *Criminology*:** A recent study (Smoe, 1996) reveals knowledge is good. A more specific paraphrase: Joe Smoe (1996:2) found 90 percent of the people believe knowledge is good. A long quote should be indented on both margins and single-spaced:

All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. All work and no play make Jack/Jill a dull person. (Smoe, 1996:3)

When in doubt, it is better to err on the side of over-referencing sources. If you plagiarize, you will receive an "F" for the assignment

Exams:

Three exams (including the final exam) consisting of essay, multiple-choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blanks questions will be administered via Canvas during class time. Study questions will be available prior to the exams to help you prepare.

Student Conduct:

"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" (Provost Fernandez, 2008).

All students are expected to take the short tutorial on citing sources at:

[http://www.lcsc.edu/library/ILI/Module\\_2A/Welcome.htm](http://www.lcsc.edu/library/ILI/Module_2A/Welcome.htm)

Any student with questions remaining as to what constitutes cheating or plagiarism should consult the instructor in order to avoid any misunderstanding. If a student is caught cheating, at minimum, he/she will fail the assignment, the Judicial Affairs Officer will be notified and the incident recorded. Students must also keep copies of any written work turned in. Moreover, we will be dealing with controversial issues at times and it is essential that discussions remain constructive and respectful.

Please refrain from gaming or web surfing during class.

Reading: (Available at the LCSC Bookstore)

Authors: Beirne, Messerschmidt

Title: **Criminology**, 5<sup>th</sup> edition or 6<sup>th</sup> edition (Note chapter orders vary)

Year: 2011 or 2015

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: 978-0-19-539476-4 or 978-0-19-933464-3 (6<sup>th</sup> edition)

Topics and Assignments:

(Due to the nature of academic discussions, the items listed below will not always correspond to the days' discussions, and we may not be able to cover every topic)

Aug 23-25: Introduction to the Problem of Crime

Reading: Chapter "The Problem of Crime"

Aug 30-Sept 1: The Measurement of Crime

Reading: Chapter "The Measurement of Crime"

Sept 6-8: The Origins of Criminological Theory

Reading: Chapter "Inventing Criminology"

Written Report 1 (Sept 8)

Sept 13-15: The Emergence of Sociological Criminology

Reading: Chapter "Social Structure, Anomie, and Crime"

Sept 20-22: Delinquent Subcultures

Reading: Chapter "Delinquent Subcultures, Subcultures of Delinquency, and the Labeling Perspective"

Written Report 2 (Sept 22)

Exam Study Questions Distributed

Sept 27-29: Criminology in the United States

Reading: Chapter "Social Learning Theory and Social Control"

**Sept 29: EXAM ONE**

Oct 4-6: Theoretical Diversity

Reading: Chapter "The Conflict Tradition"

Career Fair Oct 6 10am-2pm Activity Center

Oct 11-13: New Directions in Criminology

Reading: Chapter "Feminist and Critical Criminologies"

Written Report 3 (Oct 13)

Oct 18-20: Inequality, Crime and Victimization  
Reading: Chapter "Inequality, Crime and Victimization"

Oct 25-27: Property Crime  
Reading: Chapter "Property Crime"

Nov 1-3: Interpersonal Violence and Serial Killers  
Reading: Chapter "Interpersonal Violence"  
Written Report 4 (Nov 3)  
Exam Study Questions Distributed

Nov 8-10: Syndicated Crime

**Nov 10: EXAM TWO**

Nov 15-17: White Collar Crime  
Reading: Chapter "White-Collar Crime"

Nov 21-25: Fall Break

Nov 29-Dec 1: Political Crime  
Reading: Chapter "Political Crime"

Dec 6-8: Comparative Criminology  
Reading: Chapter "Comparative Criminology"  
Exam Three (Final Exam) Study Questions Distributed  
Written Report 5 (Dec 8)

**December 15: FINAL EXAM: 3:00pm**