CCJS 105 – Introduction to Criminology
Spring 2013
Discussion Sections 0101-0108

Syllabus

Professor:
Name: Dr. Kiminori Nakamura
Office Hours: Monday 3:00pm-5:00pm; or by appointment
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Phone: (301) 405-5477

Lectures:
Monday, Wednesday 12:00-12:50pm, Tydings Hall 0130

Teaching Assistants:
Name: Sarah Boonstoppel
Discussion Sections: 0101, 0102, 0106, 0107
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Office: LeFrak 2163
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Name: Harriet Jones
Discussion Sections: 0103, 0104, 0105, 0108
Office Hours: Thursday 1:30-3:30pm
Office: LeFrak 2163
E-mail: hattiej@umd.edu

Course Website:
I will be using Canvas to make announcements, post grades, readings, and other documents. Please make certain that you have access to this course through ELMS (http://www.elms.umd.edu) and that the email listing you have attached to this account is active and routinely monitored. You can log in with your Directory ID (logon ID) and password, select 105 from your courses.

Course Description:
This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime. The main focus of the course will revolve around crime measurement, patterns and trends in crime, crime types, criminological theories, and how the theories are related to public policies and the criminal justice system.
Required Text:


Other required readings will be available on the ELMS course website.

Grading:

Midterm Exam 1 (Non-cumulative): 100 points
Midterm Exam 2 (Non-cumulative): 100 points
1 Final Exam (Cumulative): 200 points
Quiz: 30 points
In-Class Writing Assignment: 30 points
Participation: 30 points
Office Hours Visit: 10 points

TOTAL 500 points

Extra credit: 15 points maximum (added to your total points)

Exams: Each exam will test you on material covered during the previous portion of the course. You will be held responsible for all assigned readings, lecture materials, class discussions as well as discussion section activities. The exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. On exam days, you should arrive to class with a #2 pencil with an eraser and your UM student identification card. The two midterm exams will not be cumulative. The final exam will be cumulative.

Quiz: There will be one quiz during the semester. The quiz will be administered during discussion sections and will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. As with the exams, material on the quizzes may come from readings, lectures, class discussions, and discussion section activities. The quiz will be given during the first 15 minutes of the specified discussion; if you are late you will only be given the remaining time of this 15-minute block to complete the quiz. So, please make sure you are on time.

In-Class Writing Assignment: This assignment will require you to demonstrate familiarity of the content of the course by integrating information from the lectures and readings and writing an extended essay. You will have 50 minutes in which to draft your responses in a “blue book”.

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**Class Participation:** This is a very large class, but I encourage participation during lectures. I expect you to attend every discussion section and participate frequently during these sessions. Attendance is not the same as participation. Active participation in the discussion sections is necessary for you to earn full participation points.

**Office Hours Visit:** You are required to come to my or your TA’s office hours at least once to briefly discuss your progress in class and any issues or concerns you may have. If you are not able to come to the office hours due to scheduling conflicts, please make an appointment to meet with me or your TA outside of the office hours. This requirement must be completed between Week 6 and Week 13.

**Extra Credit:** You can choose to complete the following extra credit opportunities (You are allowed to complete both).

1. (10 points maximum) You can choose to write a critical review of an article from a peer-reviewed journal for extra credit. Your TA will go over the expectations (content) for this extra-credit option in your discussion sections. The peer-reviewed article you select must be approved by your TA and copied and attached to your critical review. Reviews must be no longer than 2 pages in length. The extra-credit option is worth a maximum of 10 points. If you choose to write a critical review, it is due in class on the last day of lecture (May 8).

2. (5 points) You can choose to complete the midterm course evaluation online, which will be available only during Week 8 (March 11-March 15).

To calculate final grades, add together the number of points acquired throughout the course (including the extra credit points), divide by 500 and multiply by 100. You receive the grade with the corresponding percentage. I round the percentage to the nearest number, rounding up at .5 (e.g., 86.4% will be B, 86.5% will be B+). I do not curve nor negotiate student grades at the end of the semester. It is recommended that you monitor your own progress.

Percentage points will be converted to a letter grade as listed below:

- A+ (97% +)
- A (93-96%)
- A- (90-92%)
- B+ (87-89%)
- B (83-86%)
- B- (80-82%)
- C+ (77-79%)
- C (73-76%)
- C- (70-72%)
- D+ (67-69%)
- D (63-66%)
- D- (60-62%)
- F (<60%)

**Course Policies:**

**Class Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class. Since the exams and the quiz will cover reading and in-class discussions, missing multiple classes will likely result in a reduced final grade. If you do miss class, you should get the notes from a classmate. The TA’s and I will NOT share our notes.

**Classroom Behavior:** You are required to be courteous to each other, to the TAs, and me. Any student who engages in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the classroom. Being disruptive includes repeatedly coming late to class or leaving the classroom without
authorization, making loud or distracting noises, sleeping, speaking without being called on, reading outside material, using a laptop for purposes other than note-taking, and talking on cell phones or text-messaging. At the same time, students should feel that they are being respected. If fellow students are not acting in a respectful manner, please inform me.

**Reading:** You are expected to complete all reading assignments on time. The relevant reading materials can be found either in the required textbooks or on the course website.

**Discussion Sections:** You have registered for a particular discussion section and this is the one that you are expected to attend. “Switching” discussion sections is only allowed when you have an excused absence with prior notification and proper documentation submitted to your TA and you have determined with your TA which discussion section can be your “make-up” for that single absence. If you are not able to switch within the same week, you will not make up the full participation points for that week even with proper documentation. If you arrive unannounced at a discussion section for which you have not registered for, you will be asked to leave.

**Missed Exams/Quiz/In-class Writing Assignment:** No late work is accepted. Make-up exams, quiz, or in-class writing assignment will be offered only under the following limited number of circumstances: a medical problem (self or dependant), a death in the immediate family, a religious holiday, or participation in University activities at the request of university authorities, and other compelling circumstances beyond the students’ control. Proper written documentation must be submitted for the make-up exams, quiz, and in-class writing assignment. Such documentation includes an obituary/death notice, an official health center excused absence form, or hospital records.

If you know in advance that you will be absent on the day of an exam, the quiz, or the in-class writing assignment with an approved absence, you will be expected to take the exam, the quiz, or the writing assignment prior to the exam/quiz date or the date of the writing assignment. Failure to abide by these rules will result in a grade of zero on the assignment/exam/quiz. You will not be allowed to turn in missed assignments or make-up exams/quiz if you have not notified me and provided proper documentation **within one week of the date of the exam or the in-class writing assignment.**

**Addendum on Medical Absences:** The three exams, the quiz, and the in-class writing assignment are considered to be Major Scheduled Grading Events and therefore the new university medical excuse policy ([http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/V-100G.pdf](http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/V-100G.pdf)) which allows one student-signed honor statement attesting to illness does NOT apply to them. The signed honor statement, however, can be applied to the discussion sections but only in the event you have provided written notice, either hard copy or email, to your TA prior to the discussion section meeting that you are going to miss. In the event you become chronically absent, missing more than two consecutive weeks of class, due to the same persistent illness this must be verified by a health professional in writing and be brought to my attention in writing. Any absences from Major Scheduled Grading Events will be counted as zeroes in the event you have failed to inform me of these developments within one week of the grades for the remainder of the class being posted on Blackboard. Please refer to the link above in locating the items that must be included in both the signed honor statement and chronic absence verification.
**Grade Disputes:** If you have questions or concerns about your grade(s) and believe the TA’s and/or I should review them, you must submit a written request over email to your TA that describes your concern in detail. This request must be submitted within one week of the day that grades for the relevant assignment are disseminated.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and any violations will be reported to the Honor Council. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication of information used in assignments, plagiarism, and knowingly facilitating the academic dishonesty of another. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Honor Council, please visit the following website: http://shc.umd.edu/SHC/Default.aspx.

**Religious Observance:** If you have a request for a make-up exam, quiz, or in-class writing assignment listed on the syllabus due to religious observance reasons, you must submit this request to me in writing (hard copy) with the specific details by February 6.

**Students with Disabilities:** I will be willing to make necessary accommodations for students who are registered with the Disability Support Service (DSS) Office and who provide me with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation letter. This letter must be presented to me by February 6. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide me with documentation that has been reviewed by DSS after February 6. DSS students who are requesting to take their exams at the DSS Center need to provide me with a Test Authorization Form for each exam that must be turned in to me no later than one week prior to each exam. The student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class.

**Athletes:** Official athletic schedules must be submitted to me by February 6. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the TA of upcoming discussion section absences. Practices do not count as an excused absence; in cases of an excused absence (e.g., a game), students are expected to determine with their TA which other discussion section they can attend as a “make-up.” Athletes who miss exam(s)/the quiz/the in-class writing assignment/discussion section(s) due to games or other commitments, yet never submitted an official athletic schedule by February 6, and never spoke with me and/or your TA, will receive a grade of zero for the relevant assignment.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** On occasion, classes may be cancelled due to inclement weather. If the university is closed on the day a graded item is scheduled the graded assignment will be rescheduled for the next class meeting in which the university is open. If a final exam is cancelled, we will follow university rules for rescheduling.

**Copyright:** The lectures that I deliver in this class and the course materials I create and distribute are protected by federal copyright law as my original works. My lectures are recorded or delivered from written lectures in order to ensure copyright protection. You are permitted to take notes of lectures and to use course materials for your use in this course. You may not record my lectures or reproduce or distribute notes of lectures or my course materials or make any commercial use of them without my express consent.
Communication: The preferred means of communication is via email or in person during your TA’s or my office hours. You are responsible for checking your UMD email and any announcements on Canvas. Due to the volume of emails that both I and the TA’s receive, please include in the subject line “CCJS 105” and your discussion section number whenever you send an email, which will increase the probability of your email not being considered as junk mail. Also, be sure to sign your message by just typing your full name at the end of your email, so we know who you are.

Course Evaluations: Your feedback about this course is very important to me and your TA’s and is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. You will have an opportunity to provide feedback through the Midterm Course Evaluation online during Week 8 (March 11-March 15) as part of the extra credit opportunities. Another important way to provide feedback about this course is to fill out the online evaluation at the end of the semester (www.courseevalum.umd.edu). CourseEvalUM will be open for students to complete your evaluations for Spring 2013 courses between Tuesday, April 23 and Friday, May 10. You can go directly to the website to complete your evaluations beginning April 23.

Spring Semester Important Dates:
Tuesday, February 5: Last day of Schedule Adjustment (last day to drop the class without “W”)
Week of February 11: Quiz in your discussion section
Monday, February 25: First Midterm
Monday, March 11-Friday, March 15: Midterm Course Evaluation
Wednesday, March 13: In-Class Writing Assignment
Sunday, March 17-Sunday, March 24: Spring Break
Monday, April 8: Second Midterm
Wednesday, April 10: Last day to drop the class with “W”
Tuesday, April 23-Friday, May 10: Course Evaluation (www.courseevalum.umd.edu)
Wednesday, May 8: Extra credit review paper due in class
Thursday, May 16: Final exam

Course schedule (*Subject to Change):

Week 1 (January 23: No discussion section this week)
   Introduction to Course

Week 2 (January 28, 30)
   I. Introduction to Criminology & The Meaning of Crime

Readings: Brown et al. Chapters 1, 2

Week 3 (February 4, 6: Deadline for notification of special accommodations – such as DSS, religious observance, and athletic schedules – is February 6)
   II. Measuring Crime – Crime Statistics
      Researching Crime – Research Methods
Readings: Brown et al., Chapter 3

Week 4 (February 11, 13: **Quiz in discussion**)

III. Patterns of Crime
Readings: Brown et al., Chapter 4

Week 5 (February 18, 20)

IV. Crime Types
   a. Violent Crime
   b. Property Crime
Readings: Brown et al., Chapters 11, 12

First Midterm Exam: Monday, February 25, 12:00-12:50pm in Tydings 0130
Remember to bring a #2 pencil with an eraser and your student ID

Week 6 (February 25, 27)

V. Explanations for Crime and Criminality
   a. Classical Criminology (Wednesday)
Readings: Dooley, Chapter 1

Week 7 (March 4, 6)
   b. Extensions and Applications of Classical Criminology
   c. Biological and Psychological Explanations of Criminality
Readings: Dooley, Chapters 2

In-Class Writing Assignment: Wednesday, March 13, 12:00-12:50pm in Tydings 0130
Remember to bring a #2 pencil with an eraser and your student ID

Week 8 (March 11, 13: **Midterm Course Evaluation will be available online March 11-March 15**)
   d. Biological and Psychological Explanations of Criminality continued (Monday)
Readings: Dooley, Chapter 3

Spring Break: No Class Monday, March 18 and Wednesday, March 20
No Discussion Section in the Week of March 18

Week 9 (March 25, 27)
   e. Sociological Explanations
   f. Neighborhoods and Crime
Readings: Vold et al. Chapter 6 (to be posted on the ELMS course website); Dooley, Chapter 4
Week 10 (April 1, 3)
   g. Anomie and Strain Theories
Readings: Dooley, Chapter 8; Canada, Part I (Coves of Conduct)

   Second Midterm Exam, Monday, April 8, 12:00-12:50pm in Tydings 0130
   Remember to bring a #2 pencil with an eraser and your student ID

Week 11 (April 8, 10)
   h. Learning Crime (Wednesday)
Readings: Brown et al., Chapter 8 (p. 310-334); Canada, Part II (A Matter of Time)

Week 12 (April 15, 17)
   i. Control Theory
Readings: Dooley, Chapter 5; Canada, Part III (The Best Way We Know How)

Week 13 (April 22, 24:
Complete the online course evaluation after April 23: www.courseevalum.umd.edu
   Movie: “The Interrupters” (http://interrupters.kartemquin.com/)
Readings: None

Week 14 (April 29, May 1)
   j. Labeling Theory
   k. Critical Criminology
Readings: Dooley, Chapters 9, 7

Week 15 (May 6, 8: No discussion section this week; Extra credit review paper due in class on May 8)
   l. Developmental and Integrated Theories
      Review & Catch-up
Readings: Dooley, Chapters 6, 10

Final Exam, Thursday, May 16, 8:00-10:00am in Tydings 0130
Discussion Sections:

* 0101(14139)  
  M........ 9:00am- 9:50pm (LEF 1220) Boonstoppel

* 0102(14140)  
  M........ 11:00am-11:50am (LEF 1201) Boonstoppel

* 0103(14141)  
  M........ 10:00am- 10:50am (SQH 2122) Jones

* 0104(14142)  
  Tu........ 2:00pm- 2:50pm (KEY 0120) Jones

* 0105(14143)  
  M........ 1:00pm- 1:50pm (KEY 0125) Jones

* 0106(14144)  
  W........ 9:00am- 9:50am (HJP 1125) Boonstoppel

* 0107(14145)  
  Th........ 11:00am-11:50am (COL 0100) Boonstoppel

* 0108(14146)  
  W........ 2:00pm-2:50pm (LEF 1201) Jones