



Introduction to Criminology

CCJS 105

Fall 2019

Learning Outcomes

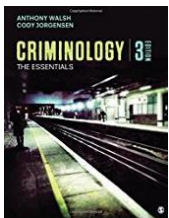
This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime and criminality. Our main focus is to introduce the major criminological theories and how these theories of crime participation are related to the policies and operation of the criminal justice system. Crime measurement, patterns and trends in crime, and crime types are discussed within this context.

After successfully completing this course you will be able to:

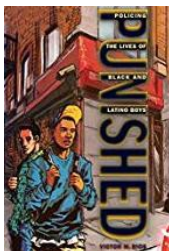
- Demonstrate an understanding of the major theories that are used to explain criminal behavior
- Demonstrate understanding of the research methods used in the study of criminology and criminal justice.
- Demonstrate competency in the ability to read, interpret, and synthesize (in writing) important research related to criminological theory and the criminal justice system.
- Demonstrate critical thinking in evaluating causal arguments in criminology, analyzing major assertions, background assumptions, and explanatory evidence.
- Explain how criminology can be used to analyze contemporary issues with crime and the criminal justice system and to develop policies for social change.

Required Resources

Course website: elms.umd.edu



Criminology
Walsh, A. & Jorgensen, C. (Eds.)
Third Edition (2018)
ISBN #9781506359717



Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys
Rios, V.M.
ISBN #9780814776384

Kyle Dorsey

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Office Hours

2211 LeFrak Hall
Mondays 1:00-3:00pm,
Tuesdays 2:00-4:00pm,
Wednesdays 1:00-3:00pm,
or by appointment

Lecture (All Sections)

Mondays & Wednesdays
10:00am – 10:50am
0200 Skinner Hall

Discussion (by Section)

Thursdays or Fridays
Consult your student
schedule for time and
location

Discussion Leaders

Office: 2163 LeFrak Hall

Sec: 101, 102, 103, 104
Sarah Kirk
snkirk@terpmail.umd.edu
Mondays 11:00am-1:00pm

Sec: 105, 106, 107, 108
Gabrielle Wy
gwy@umd.edu
Mondays 11:00am-1:00pm

Course Communication

Course information will be announced using the Announcement feature on ELMS. Students should contact us using the messaging feature on ELMS rather than emailing directly.

We do not reply to emails sent from non-university email accounts.

Campus Policies

It is our shared responsibility to know and abide by the University of Maryland's policies that relate to all courses, which include topics like:

- Academic integrity
- Student and instructor conduct
- Accessibility and accommodations
- Attendance and excused absences
- Grades and appeals
- Copyright and intellectual property

Please visit www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html for the Office of Undergraduate Studies' full list of campus-wide policies and follow up with me if you have questions.

Activities, Learning Assessments, & Expectations for Students

The course schedule details the readings that are to be completed each week during this course. It is imperative that you stick to this schedule so you do not fall behind. Doing this work on time will help to create more robust discussions in this class.

Exams. There are three exams scheduled for this course. Each exam will employ a combination of objective questions (True/False, Multiple Choice). Questions for the exams will be drawn from required reading, discussions, and lecture materials. Students arriving after the first student has completed the exam will not be allowed to take the exam. All students should arrive on time with their University ID, at least one pencil, and an eraser.

Quizzes. There are seven (7) quizzes scheduled for this course. Quizzes are administered during discussion sections throughout the semester. The quiz dates are on the course schedule and content covers the chapter in "Punished" (Rios) that is due that week. The quizzes will be short answer. Only the six highest quiz scores will count toward the final grade. If a quiz is missed, advanced notice and official documentation is required in order to schedule a make-up quiz. Self-excusals are not accepted for make-up quizzes.

Theory Critique Paper. The purpose of this paper is for you to critically evaluate the criminological theory of your choice that we have covered in this course. A reference table of theories discussed in this course is given on the front cover and back pages of the Walsh & Jorgensen textbook. Your paper should be 3-5 full double-spaced pages with 1-inch margins and 12 point Times New Roman font. It should include a cover page and reference list (not counted in the overall page total) and should be written following APA style guidelines. The content of your paper should address the following:

- Introduce the theory and explain how it originated (including who developed it) and provide a summary of its major components.
- Describe how the theory has been tested over time. This should include reference to at least two major research studies that support or refute the theory.
- Apply the theory to a crime incident that has been in the news within the last 6 months. You will need to reference a news story about a crime (e.g., a mass shooting, a string of burglaries, an assault, etc.) and apply the theory to that incident. What can the theory tell us about why that crime occurred? What can't the theory explain? Does the theory offer ways about how that crime could have been prevented (Explain)? Does that theory do a good job of predicting that particular crime (Explain)?

Papers are due via online submission to ELMS. Papers are submitted using the Turnitin software integration with ELMS. Learn more about Turnitin here: https://umd.service-now.com/itsc?id=kb_article&sys_id=c0116d8f0f7ef2007f232ca8b1050e63

Discussion Section Activities. During the semester, your Discussion Leader will facilitate graded activities each week. In addition, your class participation during discussion meetings will be graded. Merely showing up to discussion but not participating will not result in a passing grade. Laptops and other electronic devices are strictly prohibited during discussion unless students are directed to use them.

Extra Credit. The dropped quiz score can be used as extra credit for a boost of up to 2% of your final grade. Other extra credit opportunities may become available but are not guaranteed.

Course-Specific Policies

No computers, phones or tablet devices are permitted during our class meetings. I understand and have considered arguments for permitting laptop and tablet computers in the classroom. However, in my experience (and based on the research evidence) the reality is that they present an irresistible distraction and detract from the cooperative learning environment. Researchers have found that these distractions do in fact interfere with learning and active participation. For that reason, the use of computers and phones will not be permitted during class meetings (except when required for ADS accommodations). If a computer is needed to accomplish a class objective for the day I will provide it or give you advanced notice to bring one with you.

I expect you to make the responsible and respectful decision to refrain from using your cellphone in class. If you have critical communication to attend to, please excuse yourself and return when you are ready. For more information about the science behind the policy watch: <http://youtu.be/WwPaw3Fx5Hk>

Turnitin Integration. For this course, your prevention paper will be collected via Turnitin on our course ELMS page. I have chosen to use this tool because it can help you improve your scholarly writing and help me verify the integrity of student work. For information about Turnitin, how it works, and the feedback reports you may have access to, visit https://umd.service-now.com/itsc?id=kb_article&sys_id=c0116d8f0f7ef2007f232ca8b1050e63

Excused Absences. Excused absences are those that are detailed in the University's course related policies linked on the second page of this syllabus. All excusal notes are verified for accuracy. In the event an excuse note is not able to be verified, students will be referred to the student honor council for providing false information to University officials as prohibited under Part 10(j) of the University of Maryland Student Code of Conduct. Students are required to notify your Discussion Leader or Professor prior to missing a discussion, assignment, quiz, or exam unless the circumstances of the absence prevent you from doing so. Missed assignments, quizzes, or exams must be completed within one week of the absence unless otherwise arranged.

- Lecture notes are not handed out. The student must solicit peers for lecture notes when they are unable to make it to class.
- If you miss a discussion due to an excused absence, it will be dropped from your overall discussion score. Students are allowed one self-excusal for missed discussions.
- Since the theory paper is something you have worked on over the course of many weeks, late submissions by excusal are only considered if your absence prevents you from finishing up a minimal amount of editing the day it is due or prevents you from accessing a computer to submit the paper on time. This hardship must be documented in order to be considered.
- Excusals for on-time completion of exams or quizzes must include documentation that indicates you were not able to participate in class activities during the time and day of the exam or quiz.
- Pre-planned excused absences must be communicated to me in advance of your absence and all work must be completed prior to your absence or on a mutually agreed-upon schedule.

Get Some Help!

You are expected to take personal responsibility for your own learning. This includes acknowledging when your performance does not match your goals and doing something about it. Everyone can benefit from some expert guidance on time management, note taking, and exam preparation, so I encourage you to consider visiting <http://ter.ps/learn> and schedule an appointment with an academic coach. Sharpen your communication skills (and improve your grade) by visiting <http://ter.ps/writing> and schedule an appointment with the campus Writing Center. Finally, if you just need someone to talk to, visit <http://www.counseling.umd.edu>.



Everything is free because you have already paid for it, and **everyone needs help**... all you have to do is ask for it.

Names/Pronouns and Self Identifications

The University of Maryland recognizes the importance of a diverse student body, and we are committed to fostering equitable classroom environments. I invite you, if you wish, to tell us how you want to be referred to both in terms of your name and your pronouns (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.). The pronouns someone indicates are not necessarily indicative of their gender identity. Visit trans.umd.edu to learn more.

Additionally, how you identify in terms of your gender, race, class, sexuality, religion, and dis/ability, among all aspects of your identity, is your choice whether to disclose (e.g., should it come up in classroom conversation about our experiences and perspectives) and should be self-identified, not presumed or imposed. I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly, and I ask you to do the same for all of your fellow Terps.

Copyright

The lectures delivered in this class and the course materials created are original works and protected by federal copyright law. 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, take pictures of, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes for any purpose without the professor's written consent.** Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of course materials, possess commercial copies of notes (i.e. Terpnotes), or assist another person or entity in selling or distributing those materials may be considered in violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, Part 9(k) and subject to the penalties of violating Federal copyright law.

Grades

Grades are not given, but earned. Your grade is determined by your performance on the learning assessments in the course and is assigned individually (not curved). If earning a particular grade is important to you, please speak with me at the beginning of the semester so that I can offer some helpful suggestions for achieving your goal.

All assessment scores will be posted on the course ELMS page. If you would like to review any of your grades (including the exams), or have questions about how something was scored, please email either your Discussion Leader or the Professor to schedule a time to meet.

Late submission of the theory paper will be allowed with 10% deducted for every 24 hours it is late. This results in a loss of up to 50%. We are happy to discuss any of your grades with you, and if we have made a mistake we will immediately correct it. Any formal grade disputes must be submitted in writing and within one week of receiving the grade.

Learning Assessments	#	Points Each	Category Total	Category Weight
Discussion	14	5	70	20%
Quizzes (lowest score dropped)	7	5	30	8%
Theory Paper	1	50	50	12%
Exams	3	50	150	60%
Total Points:			300	

Final letter grades are assigned based on the percentage of total assessment points earned. To be fair to everyone I establish clear standards and apply them consistently. Grades are rounded up to the next percentage point at the .45% threshold. Please understand that being close to a cutoff is not the same as making the cut (89.44 \neq 90.00). It would be unethical to make exceptions for some and not others. Grades will not be curved or negotiated at the end of the course.

Final Grade Cutoffs				
+ 97%	+ 87%	+ 77%	+ 67%	
A 93%	B 83%	C 73%	D 63%	F <60%
- 90%	- 80%	- 70%	- 60%	

Course Schedule

WEEK & DATE		TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
1	8/26	Introduction to the Course and Criminology	Syllabus, ELMS
	8/28	The Meaning of Crime & Criminality	W&J Ch. 1
	Discussion Section: Introductions, Syllabus scavenger hunt, time management		
2	9/2	Labor Day NO CLASS	
	9/4	Measuring Crime & Criminal Behavior	W&J Ch. 2
	Discussion Section: Introducing “Punished” and Victor Rios (Rios preface & Ch. 1) Quiz #1		
3	9/9	Victimology: Demographics & Theories	W&J Ch. 3 p. 44-63
	9/11	The Early Schools: Classical and Positivism	W&J Ch. 4 p. 64-72
	Discussion Section: Restorative Justice (W&J p. 146)		
4	9/16	Deterrence Theory	W&J Ch. 4 p. 73-82
	9/18	Choice Theories	W&J Ch. 5 p. 83-89 & p. 96
	Discussion Section: Deterrence and Choice in The Flatlands (Rios Ch. 2) Quiz #2		
5	9/23	Psychosocial Theories: Intelligence and Temperament	W&J Ch. 9 p. 162-169, 173-181
	9/25	Psychosocial Theories: Personality	W&J Ch. 9 p. 173-181
	Discussion Section: Online Review Activity		
6	9/30	Biosocial Theories	W&J Ch. 10, 182-187, 192-202
	10/2	EXAM #1	
	Discussion Section: NO DISCUSSION		
7	10/7	Learning Theories	W&J Ch. 7 p. 121-127
	10/9	Labeling Theories	W&J Ch. 7 p. 132-136
	Discussion Section: Social Process Theories & “The Labeling Hype” (Rios Ch. 3) Quiz #3		
8	10/14	Social Disorganization Theories	W&J Ch. 6 p. 100-105
	10/16	Anomie & Strain Theories	W&J Ch. 6 p. 105-109
	Discussion Activity: Applying Social Structural & Broken Windows (Rios Ch. 4) Quiz #4		

9	10/21	Social Control Theories	W&J Ch. 7 p. 127-132, 136-138
	10/23	Subcultural Theories	W&J Ch. 6 p.109-112, 115-118
	Discussion Activity: Subcultural Effects (Rios Ch. 5) Quiz #5		
10	10/28	Developmental Theories	W&J Ch. 11
	10/30	Critical Theories	W&J Ch. 8 p. 141-150
	Discussion Activity: Exam Review Jeopardy		
11	11/4	Feminist Theories	W&J Ch. 8 p.150-159
	11/6	EXAM #2	
	Discussion Activity: Researching Academic Papers (bring laptop)		
12	11/11	Writing Academic Papers	
	11/13	NO LECTURE – work on papers	
	Discussion Activity: NO DISCUSSION		
13	11/18	Violent Crime	W&J Ch. 12
	11/20	Property Crime	W&J Ch. 14
	Discussion Activity: Violence and Masculinity (Rios, Ch. 6) Quiz #6		
14	11/25	White Collar Crime **PAPERS DUE ONLINE, 9AM**	W&J Ch. 16
	11/27	Thanksgiving: NO CLASS	
	NO DISCUSSION		
15	12/2	Public Order Crimes: Alcohol & Drugs	W&J Ch. 15 p. 283-298
	12/4	Course Wrap up, Final Exam Review	
	Discussion Activity: Drug Control; Marginalization (Rios Ch. 7 & Conclusion) Quiz #7		
16	12/9	NO LECTURE	
	NO DISCUSSION		
FINAL EXAM: TBD and Announced mid-semester. DO NOT schedule travel during exam week (Dec. 11-17th) to ensure you are present for our final exam. Accommodations will not be made for travel occurring before Dec. 17th.			

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for current deadlines. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing, or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.