

University of Maryland, College Park
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

CCJS105 Introduction to Criminology

Fall 2019 Section FC01

Lecture

Location: 1132, Tydings Hall

Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30pm -5:45 pm

Instructor

Mei Yang

Office: 2220B, LeFrak Hall

Email: meiyang2@umd.edu

Office hours:

Mondays 1:30-3:30 pm; Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm; other times by appointment

Course Description

This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime. Topics will include measures of crime, crime trends, criminological theories, and how theories are related to the criminal justice and public policy.

Required Texts

Walsh, Anthony, & Cody Jorgensen. (2018). Criminology: The Essentials (3 Angeles, CA: Sage. ISBN: 978-1-506-35971-7.

Course Website

I will be using Canvas to make announcements and to post important course materials as well as grades. Please be sure that you have access to the course through this website (<https://www.elms.umd.edu/>). Use your Directory ID and password to log in.

Grading

Exam 1 15%

Exam 2 20%

Exam 3 20%

Class participation 16%

Writing Assignment 20%

Scheduled Quizzes 9%

Extra Credit: up to 3%

Grade Cut-off (grades will be rounded up at the .45% threshold)

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%

Exams

There will be three exams administered throughout the semester. Exams are noncumulative and consist of multiple choices as well as true/false questions. 2/3 of the questions are from lecture materials and 1/3 of the questions are from the readings. Please bring a #2 pencil, an eraser, and your University ID to each exam. **Students arriving after the first student has completed the exam will not be permitted to take the exam.** Exam grades will not be curved.

Class Participation

Students are expected to attend class, keep up with the readings and assignments, and actively participate in all class activities/discussions. Per University Policy, you will not be graded on attendance; however, you will need to attend lectures in order to participate in class discussions. Full participation points can be earned by arriving class on time, actively listening to lectures and taking notes, participating in in-class activities, and asking/answering relevant questions. Points may be deducted for being late for class or leaving class early, sleeping in class, inappropriate use of technologies, not participating in discussions/activities, and/or being disrespectful towards the instructor or other students.

It is important for students to be courteous and respectful in class discussions. Students who engage in personal attacks, insults, aggressive and/or offensive language, or any other behavior that the instructor deems inappropriate will receive a zero for the day and be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct.

Writing Assignment

One writing assignment will be given for you to apply what you have learned from this class to explain real world phenomenon. You will pick one real crime incident that happened after the date of Jan 1st, 2019, and apply two criminological theories we've covered in class to explain why the crime was committed. Your paper should be 3-5 full double-spaced pages with 1-inch margins and 12 point Times New Roman font. Detailed explanations of this writing assignment, a description of the research requirements, and a grading rubric will be posted on ELMS.

Please upload a paragraph about your chosen topic to the ELMS Dropbox by 11:59pm (EST) Wednesday, Oct 14th, 2019. Your final paper is due on 11:59pm (EST), Wednesday, Nov 20th, 2019, and should also be submitted online to the ELMS Dropbox.

Scheduled Quizzes

Four scheduled quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes are administered at the beginning of class. This is to assess whether students are keeping up with the readings. Each quiz will include 10 multiple choice and/or T/F questions. The quiz covers the reading materials scheduled for the quiz day and each worth 3% of the total grade. Only the three highest quizzes will be counted towards your final grade. Students have the option of using the dropped quiz for extra-credit, but students must inform me in writing before the last day of class if they plan to do so.

Grade Disputes

If you have questions or concerns about your grade(s) and believe I should review them, you must submit a written request over email that describes your concern in detail. This request must be submitted within one week after grades for the relevant assignment have been posted.

Absences and Missed Class Materials

Students are expected to attend class in order to obtain lecture notes. I will not post or share lecture notes/slides, recordings, and other in-class materials. If you cannot make it to lecture, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from your classmates. We can meet if you have any questions and/or would like to discuss materials for any missed lectures after obtaining notes from your classmates. However, this privilege is only given if you have notified me about your absence prior to the missed class.

Missed or Late Work

I have very strict policy regarding late/missed work. All make-ups are only given under cases of excused absences, which include illness with a doctor's note, death in the immediate family, required University activities, and required court appearance. In accordance to university policy (<https://president.umd.edu/sites/president.umd.edu/files/documents/policies/V-100G.pdf>), I will accept one self-excusal note for a make-up quiz and/or in-class activity if you are unable to attend the lecture. Any subsequent absences would require official written documentation attesting excused absences in order to schedule makeup quiz and/or in-class activity. You must notify me prior to the missed lecture, and provide self-excusal note and/or written documentation before taking the makeup quiz/in-class activity

Exams and writing assignment are considered as Major Scheduled Grading events and therefore the self-signed honor statement does not apply to them. Make-up exams will only be given in cases of excused absences accompanying with official written documentation. You need to notify me prior to the exam in order to schedule a makeup, and provide written documentation before taking the makeup exam. All makeup exams must be completed within one week of the missed exam/assignment. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in a grade of zero for the exam.

Papers submitted after the due date will be accepted late up to five days after the due date. There will be a 10% penalty per day the assignment is late. Late begins at 12:01am the day after the due date. No projects will be accepted after five days past the due date.

I will not accept a Health Center honor statement to verify an illness. If you go to the Health Center and a doctor will not write you a note, you will need to get a copy of your medical record from them to verify your illness. I will verify all documentation of absences. If you are found to have fabricated documentation, you will be referred to the Student Honor Council.

Religious observances

If you are unable to attend any lecture because of religious observances, you will need to discuss it with me before Sep 9th, 2019. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the participation points of the missed lectures and exams/quizzes (if applicable).

Disability Support

I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Disability Support Services (DSS)/Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS) Office and who provide me with required DSS/ADS documentation. Please make sure to provide me with the updated acknowledgement form (<https://www.counseling.umd.edu/global/docs/ds/acknowledgementofStudentRequestForm.pdf>) no later than Monday, Sep 9th, 2019. If you need accommodations for exams, please provide the necessary forms to me no later than one week prior to the date of each exam. Failure to do so will result in taking the exam with the rest of the class. Students taking exams at ADS testing center are expected to start the exam on the same day as the rest of the class. For more information, please visit this website (<https://www.counseling.umd.edu/ads/forms/>).

Academic Integrity

I take academic integrity very seriously. The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized *Code of Academic Integrity* which sets standards for academic integrity for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards in your courses. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>.

Classroom code of conduct and other course-related policies

The classroom should be an intellectually stimulating and respectful environment. Any disrespectful and/or disruptive behaviors towards the instructor and other students will not be tolerated. Examples include arriving late to class and/or leaving class early without permission, engaging in non-class relevant activities and conversations, sleeping in class, texting, playing music, and making rude comments towards the instructor and other students. While you are free to express your opinions during class discussions, it is very important to be polite and respectful at all times. Students who are unable to show civility toward one another, discussion leaders, or me will be asked to leave and subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct or to Campus Police. For more information about course-related policies, please consult this website <https://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>.

Technology policy

I will allow students to use laptops for note-taking and class activities. Using laptops for non-class relevant purposes is disruptive to your own study and may distract your classmates, and therefore is strictly prohibited. Cell phone use is strictly prohibited. Your cell phone should be turned on vibrate or silent during class. Students use technologies inappropriately will be asked to leave. Students found using laptops in inappropriate ways will automatically forfeit the right to use laptops for the rest of the semester.

Email Policy

I have a 24-hour response policy (weekends excluded). That is, I will make every effort to respond to your email within 24 hours of receiving it. If you have not received a response within 24 hours, please resend. You are expected to check the email associated with your ELMS account (your university email) regularly and monitor class announcements/updates.

Some guidelines to keep in mind: I do not guarantee response to a personal, non-university email account. This is to make sure the identity of each student. Please use formal language in all email communications. Please make sure you have consulted the syllabus before sending me an email, as I will not respond to emails where answers are clearly found in this syllabus. Please also make sure to include “CCJS105” in the title of your email in order to get prompt response.

Course Evaluations

Your feedback to this class is very important to me. Two evaluations will be administered throughout the semester. The first one is an informal, anonymous questionnaire for me to check whether your expectations are met and make any necessary adjustments for the second half of the semester. The second one is administered by the university and will be available at the end of the semester. Please go to this website <https://www.courseevalum.umd.edu/> for end-of-semester evaluation.

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. You may not record, reproduce, or distribute my lectures/notes for any commercial purpose without my written consent. Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials, possess commercial copies of my 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).

Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
Monday, 8/26	Greetings and Syllabus	None	
Wednesday, 8/28	What are crime, criminology, and theories?	W & J, Chapter 1	
Monday, 9/2	Labor Day, No Class	None	
Wednesday, 9/4	Measuring Crime	W & J, Chapter 2	
Monday, 9/9	Victims of Crime	W & J, Chapter 3	Quiz 1
Wednesday, 9/11	Classical school of criminology	W & J, Chapter 4	
Monday, 9/16	Positivist school of criminology	W & J, Chapter 4	
Wednesday, 9/18	Biosocial Theories	W & J, Chapter 10: P183-192, P200	
Monday, 9/23	Psychosocial Theories	W & J, Chapter 9: p163-165; p169-181	
Wednesday, 9/25			Exam 1
Monday, 9/30	Strain Theories	W & J, Chapter 7, p105-109	
Wednesday, 10/02	Social Disorganization Theory	W & J, Chapter 7, p102-105	
Monday, 10/07	Learning Theories	W & J, Chapter 7, p122-127	Quiz 2
Wednesday, 10/09	Control Theories	W & J, Chapter 7, p127-129	
Monday, 10/14	Control Theories continued	W & J, p129-131, p167-169	Paper Topic Due
Wednesday, 10/16	Crime as a Choice	W & J, Chapter 5, p85-89, p96	
Monday, 10/21	Academic writing/paper review/citing	No Reading	
Wednesday, 10/23	Developmental Theories	W & J, Chapter 11	Quiz 3
Monday, 10/28	Labeling Theories	W & J, Chapter 7, 132-136	
Wednesday, 10/30	Critical and Feminist Theories	W & J, Chapter 8, p141-159	
Monday, 11/04			Exam 2
Wednesday, 11/06	Subcultural Theories	W & J, Chapter 6, P109-112; Anderson, 1994	
Monday, 11/11	Violent Crimes	Chapter 12	
Wednesday, 11/13	Annual Meeting of Criminology, No Class		
Monday, 11/18	Violent Crimes Continued. Watch "Conversation with a Killer: Ted Bundy Tapes", Complete Worksheet	Chapter 12	
Wednesday, 11/20	Property Crime	Chapter 14	Paper Due Midnight on ELMS
Monday, 11/25	Public Order Crime	Chapter 15	
Wednesday, 11/27	Thanks Giving Holiday, No Class		

Monday, 12/02	Group and Organized Crime	Chapter 17	Quiz 4
Wednesday, 12/04	School Crimes	No Reading	
Monday, 12/09	Class Wrap up and Exam Review	No Reading	
Saturday, 12/14	Final Exam 4-6 pm Location: TBA		