

University of Maryland, College Park
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
CCJS 105: Introduction to Criminology (Freshman Connection)
Fall 2022

WHEN:

We meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

WHERE:

We meet in Tydings Hall (TYD) Room 1132.

WHO (INSTRUCTOR):

Justin P. Bernstein (he, him, his)

JPBerns@umd.edu (most preferred means of contact)

(301) 578-6521

(410) 260-3527 (least preferred, and I will not be able to answer after about 3:30 p.m. on days we meet anyway)

Available to meet by appointment. I am not ordinarily on campus outside of class but am happy to schedule time to meet with you.

Please do *not* be shy about contacting me to schedule time.

Unless specifically attributed to someone else, all views and opinions I express in this course are solely my own, are not on behalf of and do not represent the positions of the Maryland Judiciary, or anyone else.

WHAT (COURSE DESCRIPTION):

This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime. Topics include measurement of crime, crime distribution and trends, major criminological theories, correlates of crime, and how theory relates to criminal justice policy and practice.

BOOK (SHOULD BE AT THE BOOKSTORE BUT POSSIBLY AVAILABLE CHEAPER ONLINE):

Walsh, Anthony, & Cody Jorgenson. 2020. *Criminology: The Essentials*. 4th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781544375373

Additional materials will be available on the course website.

UMD COURSE-RELATED POLICIES:

You should familiarize yourself with UMD's course-related policies, which are available at <https://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>.

COURSE WEBSITE:

This class uses Canvas (ELMS) for distribution of course information such as announcements or reading materials. To access Canvas go to <http://elms.umd.edu> and log in with your Directory ID and password. If you have difficulty with ELMS

for this course contact the ELMS support desk at 301-405-1500 and also send me an email to let me know what has occurred (JPBerns@umd.edu).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty in any form will absolutely NOT be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to behaviors such as cheating on exams and assignments.

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally Recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards in this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. Familiarize yourself with UMD's Academic Integrity Policies, available at <https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/academic-integrity-student-conduct-codes/>.

ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY SUPPORT

I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Accessibility and Disability Support Service (ADS) Office and who provide me with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation form for the Fall 2022 semester. Accommodation forms must be presented to me **no later than September 12, 2022**. I cannot accommodate students who are not registered with ADS or who do not provide me with documentation that has been reviewed by ADS by **September 12**. ADS students who are requesting to take their exams at the ADS Center need to provide me with a testing form for each exam that must be turned in to me no later than 1 week prior to each exam. The student is expected to take the exam at the same time as the rest of the class.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

The success of this class depends on our ability to work together to create an environment conducive to learning. As a department and university, we expect faculty and students to be prepared for class and to be actively engaged in the classroom activities. Disruptive behaviors in the classroom deprive other students of opportunities to learn. The University of Maryland's Code of Academic Integrity defines classroom disruption as "behavior a reasonable person would view as substantially or repeatedly interfering with the conduct of a class." Examples include coming late to class, repeatedly leaving and entering the classroom without authorization, making loud or distracting noises, and persisting in speaking without being recognized. I also find the following distracting, and disrespectful, to me and other students: reading outside material, sleeping, side conversations, text messaging, and using laptops for nonacademic functions (instant messaging, email, surfing, shopping, etc.). I also request that you turn cell phones to vibrate or silent during class.

Students are expected to treat each other with respect. Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated. Students who are unable to show civility with one another or with me will be subject to referral to the Office of Student Conduct or to Campus Police. You are expected to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct.

You can expect the following of me:

1. I will start class on time and will not keep you past 5:45 p.m.
2. I will be prepared for class.
3. I will respond to your emails promptly as stated in the email policy in this syllabus.
4. I will post grades promptly and will alert you to any anticipated delays.
5. Because I do not have regularly scheduled office hours, I will make myself available to meet at mutually convenient times.
6. I will stick to the assignment deadlines and exam dates that appear on the syllabus, unless the University is closed for an emergency or emergency health conditions necessitate adjustments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I expect you to keep up-to-date on reading materials and assignments, to engage with those materials, and to contribute substantively to class discussions and other activities. You are free to express differing views and opinions on the subject matter—and I encourage you to do so—in a respectful and professional manner.

If you miss a class, obtain notes from a classmate. Once you have obtained the notes, I am happy to go over any questions you have—email me with questions or to schedule a time.

In addition to class participation, grades will be based on 3 exams (noncumulative), 2 brief (about 2-3 page) written assignments, and a slightly longer (about 4-6 page) written assignment. More information about exams, written assignments, and final grade calculations below.

EMAIL POLICY:

The University has determined that your official email to use in all classes is your TERPMAIL email. All of our communication must therefore be through your TERPMAIL email account. Check your email daily to ensure that you receive important announcements relating to this class.

I will make every effort to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, typically the same day for emails received during business hours (Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.). For emails sent outside of those hours I will try to respond by the following business day, but if you do not receive a reply from me within 24 hours of when you can anticipate a response, please re-send the email.

EXAMS

There will be 3 exams this semester, each covering a specified portion of material. Exams will **NOT** be cumulative, unless and to the extent we discuss earlier material in the context of later topics.

The exams will be on:

- Monday, October 3, in class;
- Monday, November 7, in class; and
- Tuesday, December 20, at 1:30 p.m. – note that this is not at our regularly scheduled class time.

The 3 exams together will constitute 65% of your final grade. I will weight the 2 exams on which you score highest more heavily than the third exam. As a hypothetical example:

Exam	Score on Exam	Weight*	Score*Weight= Contribution to Final Grade
Exam 1	80%	.225	18
Exam 2	70%	.200	14
Exam 3	90%	.225	20.25
Total		.650	52.25

* Weights used in final grade calculations to be determined later, but will not be less favorable to you than the above.

Exams are considered to be **Major Scheduled Graded Events**. The University medical excuse policy, which allows one student signed honor statement attesting to illness, therefore does not apply.

Makeup exams will **only** be given in cases of excused absences supported by official documentation. Excused absences are: illness with a doctor's note, death in the immediate family, required University activities, and required court appearance. 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. By law, you are entitled to get a copy of this and it is your responsibility to do so. If you are providing me with a medical record please redact sensitive information, but leave enough information to document the legitimacy of the absence.

I must be notified by email or by phone PRIOR to missing an exam. You must notify me before the exam begins in class for me to consider giving you a makeup exam. Makeup exams may be a different style or content than the

regular exam. If you have a problem on the day of an exam, call or email me. If you know in advance that you will be absent for an exam with an approved absence, you will be expected to take the exam prior to your absence and prior to the regularly scheduled exam.

FEEDBACK ON COURSE

Your feedback about this course is very important to me. Please fill out the online evaluation at the end of the semester—but if a concern arises, and you are comfortable raising it with me, you do not need to wait until the end of the semester to do so. CourseEvalUM will be open for students to complete their evaluations for Fall 2022 courses towards the end of the semester. Students can go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete their evaluations. Students who complete evaluations for all of their courses in the previous semester (excluding summer), can access the posted results via Testudo's CourseEvalUM Reporting link for any course on campus that has at least a 70% response rate.

FINAL GRADES

Components of final grade:

3 Exams:	65%
Class Participation:	15%
2 Short Writing Assignments (5% each):	10%
Slightly Longer Writing Assignment:	+10%
	100%

There may be opportunities for extra credit. Details to be provided if and when such opportunities arise.

Final letter grades will be determined by the following:

97-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+
93-96 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	63-66 D
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-
			<60 F

INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Students (and instructors) should be respectful of fellow students (and instructors) and at all times feel comfortable and safe in the classroom environment. A diverse exchange of ideas is an integral part of the learning process and is essential to intellectual growth. The classroom should be a space where diverse opinions are exchanged in a nonthreatening and respectful manner. No student should ever be made to feel marginalized in the classroom. If at any time you feel uncomfortable or offended with something said or presented in the classroom, please notify me immediately. If you are not comfortable raising the matter with me directly, please contact Dr. Laure Brooks, Undergraduate Director, LBrooks1@umd.edu.

UMD policy recognizes that name and gender identity are central to most individuals' sense of self and well-being, and it is important to establish mechanisms to acknowledge and support individuals' self-identification. To this end, we ask that students honor the name and pronouns that each of us go by.

MASKING REQUIREMENT

Effective Monday, August 29, wearing a mask is not required while in classrooms. As a reminder, masks are a significant defense against the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. Doctor Marinopoulos, Director of the University Health Center and Chief Medical Officer for UMD, therefore recommends wearing a KN95 mask while indoors for added protection. You can get a KN95 mask at the Information Desk at the Stamp Union. If the university's mask guidance changes, I will be strictly enforcing it.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

If you are unable to take any of the exams on the date scheduled due to a religious observance, you need to discuss this with me by September 12, 2022.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Students may use their personal computers to take class notes. Abuse of this privilege risks losing it.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There will be 2 brief written assignments, about 2-3 pages each, and a longer written assignment, 4-6 pages. The 2 brief assignments will each contribute 5% and the longer assignment 10% to final grades. Late assignments will have a full letter grade (10%) deducted for every 24 hours late.

I will distribute instructions for the first brief assignment on October 3 and it will be due on October 12.

I will distribute instructions for the second brief assignment on November 7 and it will be due on November 16.

I will distribute instructions for the longer assignment on November 16 and it will be due on December 12.

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments (due on date listed) & Notes
1	Mon 29 Aug	Preliminary matters--review of syllabus, etc.	Syllabus; Solomon
	Wed 31 Aug	Course introduction –What is criminology?	Chapter 1; Lageson
2	Mon 05 Sep	LABOR DAY - NO CLASS	
	Wed 07 Sep	Measuring crime	Chapter 2; Li
3	Mon 12 Sep	Methods	Bushway et al.
	Wed 14 Sep	Crime Trends	Morgan & Thompson; Roman; [Additional reading TBD]
4	Mon 19 Sep	Violent offenses	Chapter 12
	Wed 21 Sep	Property offenses	Chapter 14
5	Mon 26 Sep	Public order offenses	Chapter 15
	Wed 28 Sep	Catch up (if needed) and Review	
6	Mon 03 Oct	EXAM 1	First short written assignment distributed
	Wed 05 Oct	Victimology	Chapter 3
7	Mon 10 Oct	White collar crime	Chapter 16; Sutherland
	Wed 12 Oct	Early approaches to crime	Isay et al.; Chapter 4; First short written assignment due
8	Mon 17 Oct	Biosocial	Chapter 10
	Wed 19 Oct	Psychosocial	Chapter 9
9	Mon 24 Oct	Neoclassical	Chapter 5; [Additional reading TBD]
	Wed 26 Oct	Neoclassical	
10	Mon 31 Oct	Crime and place, the Chicago School, disorder, and progeny	Chapter 6; Wilson & Kelling
	Wed 02 Nov	Catch up (if needed) and Review	
11	Mon 07 Nov	EXAM 2	Second short written assignment distributed
	Wed 09 Nov	Anomie, Strain, and progeny	Merton

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments (due on date listed) & Notes
12	Mon 14 Nov	(Sub)cultural theories	Anderson
	Wed 16 Nov	Differential association & learning	Chapter 7 Second short written assignment due; Longer written assignment distributed
13	Mon 21 Nov	Control	[Additional reading TBD]
	Wed 23 Nov	Labeling	Lemert
14	Mon 28 Nov	Developmental and life course	Chapter 11 Sampson & Laub
	Wed 30 Nov	THANKSGIVING RECESS - NO CLASS	
15	Mon 05 Dec	Critical and feminist	Chapter 8
	Wed 07 Dec	Organized Crime and Terrorism (if time)	Chapter 17 and Chapter 13
16	Mon 12 Dec	Catch up (if needed) and Review (last day of class)	Longer written assignment due
	Tue 20 Dec	EXAM 3 at 1:30 p.m.	I believe this is the date—I will confirm

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.