

CCJS 105, Sections 0201-0208
Introduction to Criminology
Professor Sally S. Simpson

Spring Semester, 2019
E-mail Ssimpson@umd.edu

Course Meets: Tu Th 12:30-:1:20
Course Location: HJP 0226
Office Hrs: Wednesday, 10:00-
11:30; Thursday 1:30-2:30 or by
appointment
Office number: LeFrak 2165C
Office phone: 301, 405-4726

Teaching Assistants: Carol Chen (all Wednesday and Thursday Sections, including 0203, 0204, 0205, and 0207) and Kristin Reque (all Monday and Tuesday sections, including 0201, 0202, 0206, 0208).

Teaching Assistant Office Hours: Chen, Monday 10-12; Reque, Wednesday 9-11.

TA Office: LeFrak Hall 2163;

TA Email addresses: Chen cxchen18@umd.edu or Reque kreque@umd.edu

Course Description: This course offers a general introduction to the study of crime. The subject matter mainly focuses on central topics in criminology, including crime measurement, patterns and trends in crime, crime types, criminological theory, and crime and criminality from a global perspective.

General Education

The course also meets a general education distributive studies component (History and Social Science distribution). As such, by the end of the course, students should know the fundamental concepts and ideas in criminology; the qualitative and quantitative methods used to produce knowledge; and critical thinking in evaluating arguments. Students must earn a grade of D- or better in this course if used to fulfill this requirement. Courses used to satisfy general education may not be taken with the pass/fail grading method. To get credit for the course if you are a CCJS major (or plan to be), you must pass with a C- or better.

Elms

I will be using Elms to communicate with students and post important course information (e.g., the course syllabus, brief lecture outlines, and grades). Go to <http://elms.umd.edu> and log in with your Directory ID (logon ID) and password to use this feature.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented physical or learning disability, I am willing to make the necessary accommodations. If this is the case, please let me know your needs by February 12th and we can discuss the best way in which to handle your specific situation.

I am unable to accommodate students who are not registered with Disability Support Services or who do not provide me with documentation that has been reviewed by DSS. For more information, go to:

<https://counseling.umd.edu/ads>

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.

Course Specific Policies:

Requirements and Expectations

The course is structured around a lecture and discussion format. There are two lectures per week and one discussion section. Discussion sections meet at different times during the week and are led by a teaching assistant. The discussion sections aim to provide students with more opportunity to engage with course material through a variety of different activities (discussion, writing assignments, debating, games). Students are expected to attend lectures and their assigned discussion section (i.e., the one for which they are registered).

The classroom environment should be intellectually stimulating and respectful. Students unable to show civility with one another, the teaching assistants, or me will be subject to being referred to the Office of Student Conduct or to Campus Police. You are expected to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct.

Disrespect and disruptions can also occur through the inappropriate use of technology. Cell phones should be silenced during class and put away. Laptop computers are allowed solely for note-taking. If a student is found to be using personal technology devices in any way that is not specifically related to the day's class discussion, s/he will be referred to the Department Director of Undergraduate Programs. A second offense may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct for violating course policy on the use of personal computers in the classroom.

Attendance.

Students are expected to attend class, keep up-to-date on reading materials and assignments, and participate in all class activities. Students who miss class due to illness or medical necessity will provide a self-excusal note for the absence upon return to class. This note should explain the reason for the absence and acknowledge that the information provided is accurate. I will accept one self-excusal, but any subsequent absences must be excused by written documentation from a health care provider.

Examinations. There are three examinations scheduled for this course, two midterm examinations and one non-comprehensive final. Each exam will employ a combination of 50 True/False, Multiple Choice questions. Questions for the exams will be drawn from both required reading and lecture materials. Each question is worth 2 points. EXAM SCORES WILL NOT BE CURVED.

Quizzes. There will be three randomly given quizzes during the semester. The quizzes will be administered during discussion sections. Although the days the quizzes will be given are unknown, there will be only one quiz given per exam period (i.e., 1 quiz before the first exam, 1 quiz before the second exam, and 1 quiz prior to the final exam). The primary purpose of these quizzes is to assess whether students are keeping up-to-date with weekly reading assignments and if they understand these readings. The quizzes will combine objective and subjective questions, with each quiz worth 10 points. Only the two highest quiz scores will count toward the final grade. You will have the option of using the dropped quiz for extra-credit, but you must inform your TA (in writing) that you want to do so prior to the last meeting day of your discussion section. You may not attend a different discussion section other than your own to take a quiz. There is no make-up policy for quizzes unless you miss at least two or all quizzes due to the circumstances defined above. If this is the case, advanced notice and official documentation is required.

Make-up policy. Late work will not be accepted for course credit, so please plan to submit projects well before the scheduled deadline. There are a limited number of circumstances under which major graded scheduled events (i.e., exams) can be made up: (1) serious illness, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) religious holiday observance, (4) participation in University activities at the request of university authorities, and (5) circumstances beyond the student's control. Advanced notice is required (i.e., prior to missing a class or an exam). Notify your TA or me, via e-mail or telephone message for all circumstances listed, except in the case of religious observance. Notice of religious observance conflicts must be given no later than the second week of classes (February 7). Official documentation from a health care professional is also required and must be provided no later than the first day of class upon your return if not sooner.

Extra-Credit. The 3rd quiz can be used for extra-credit bonus points (see above) or students can choose to write a critical review of a scholarly article published in a peer reviewed journal or a critical review of a newspaper report on crime or justice from a major news organization (such as Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, NY Times, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, LA Times, etc.). The expectations (content) for this extra-credit option will be gone over in your discussion sections. The article/report must be approved by your TA, copied and attached to your critical review. Reviews should be no longer than 2 pages in length (typed and double spaced). If students choose to write a critical review, it is due on the last day that your discussion section meets and should be handed-in at the beginning of class. The extra-credit option is worth a maximum of 10 points.

Discussion Section Activities. During the semester, your TA will lead you in several graded activities. In addition, your class participation during discussion section meetings will be graded on a weekly basis using the following metric (0= no participation or missed class; 1= limited participation, 2= active and informed participant). Grading will begin the 3rd meeting of your discussion group and end final week of classes.

Learning Assessments. The midterm exams are worth 100 points each. The final exam is worth 100 points. The exams sum to a total point possibility of 300. Quizzes add another potential 20 points to the total. Other discussion section activities (including participation) will add another 80 points. Extra credit 10 points maximum (added to your total points).

Exams	300 points (75% of the final grade)
Quizzes	20 points (5% of the final grade)
Participation	24 points (6% of the final grade)
Section activities	56 points (14% of the final grade)

	400 Total Points

Grades

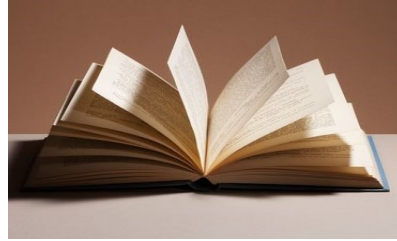
Final grades will be calculated on a percentage basis. Students receiving 95 percent or greater of 400 points (380+) will receive an "A+"; 90-94.9% will receive an "A";

88-89.9% will receive an "A-";
85-87.9% will receive a "B+";
80-84.9% will receive a "B";
78-79.9% will receive a "B-";
75-77.9% will receive a "C+";
70-74.9% will receive a "C";
68-69.9% will receive a "C-";
65-67.9% will receive a "D+";
60-64.9% will receive a "D";
58-59.9% will receive a "D-";
Less than 58 percent will receive an "F".

If you would like to review any of your grades (including the exams), or have questions about how something was scored, please email me or your TA to schedule a time to meet. I am happy to discuss any of your grades with you, and if I have made a mistake I will immediately correct it. Any formal grade disputes must be submitted in writing and within one week of receiving the grade.

Seeking Help

Taking personal responsibility for your own learning means acknowledging when your performance does not match your goals and doing something about it. Please come talk to me or your TA so that we can help you find the right approach to success in this course. I encourage you to visit <https://www.tutoring.umd.edu> to learn more about the wide range of campus resources available to you. In particular, everyone can use some help sharpening their communication skills (and improving their grade) by visiting <https://www.english.umd.edu/academics/writingcenter> and scheduling an appointment with the campus Writing Center. Finally, if you just need someone to talk to, visit <https://www.counseling.umd.edu>.



Required Readings

Your course texts can be purchased at the University Book Center or Maryland Book Exchange.

If you purchase the book from a different vender, be certain that you obtain the appropriate volume.

- Freda Adler, Gerhard O.W. Mueller, and William S. Laufer (2017/18), Criminology (9th Edition). McGraw Hill. ISBN 978-0-07-802642-3. The looseleaf Text is available at the UMD bookstore (full price) or in digital format, using McGraw-Hill's Connect learning platform and eBook (discounted price). If you opt into the Connect platform, you may also purchase a discounted loose leaf book through the University bookstore.

The UMD library also has ordered a looseleaf copy of the 2017/18, 9th edition for the Libraries' Top Textbooks on Reserve program. Students can read assigned chapters in the library via this program.

- Nikki Jones, Between Good and Ghetto: African American Girls and Inner City Violence (2010, paper). Rutgers University Press. ISBN-9780813546155

Important Dates

In Class Video: March 7

1st Midterm: March 12

2nd Midterm: April 16

In Class Video: April 25, 30 The Inside Job.

Extra-Credit due: Last meeting of your discussion section

Final Exam: TBD

Course Outline

Week 1 (January 29, 30)

- I. Introduction to Course and Criminology
 - A. A general picture of criminal behavior, actors, and institutions.
 - B. The Meaning of Crime
 - 1. History
 - 2. Definitions
 - 3. Social and Legal Components of Crime
 - C. Introduction to Ethics in Criminology and Criminal Justice D.
Criminal Law and Process

Reading: Adler et al., Chapter 1; Jones, Introduction

Week 2 (February 5, 7)

- II. Crime and Victimization Measurement
 - A. Data Sources
 - B. Crime Patterns and Trends
 - C. Victimology

Reading: Adler et al., Chapter 2; Jones Appendix (Reflection on Field Research and the Politics of Representation).

Week 3 (February 12, 14)

- III. Who are the Offenders and Victims?

Reading: Jones, Chapter 1

Week 4 (February 19, 21)

- IV. Explanations for Crime and Criminality
 - A. What is Theory? Why is it important in Social Science?
 - B. Classical and Positive Criminology: Early Developments Reading:
Adler et al., Chapter 3

Week 5 (Feb. 26, 28)

- V. Classical and Positive Criminology, continued.

VI. B. Biogenic and Psychogenic Models of Criminality Reading: Adler et al.,
Chapter 4

Week 6 (March 5, 7*)

*March 7: Video, Adrian Raine (56 minutes). Anatomy of violence: The biological roots of crime.

The new knowledge being gained from applying brain imaging techniques to understanding crime is creating an uncomfortable tension between our concepts of responsibility and retribution on the one hand, and understanding and mercy on the other.

This presentation outlines implications of this body of knowledge not just for research on violence, but also for our future conceptualization of moral responsibility, free will, and punishment. If the neural circuitry underlying morality is compromised in offenders, how moral is it of us to punish prisoners as much as we do? Can biological risk factors help better predict future violence? And how can we improve the brain to reduce violence?

*******MIDTERM EXAMINATION, March 12*******

Week 7 (March 12, 14)

C. Social Structural, and Social Process Theories
Reading: Adler, et al., 5 and 6; Jones, Chapter 3

Week 8 *****Spring Break, March 17-24*****

Week 9 (March 26, 28)

E. Social Control and Developmental Theory
Reading: Adler, et al., Chapter 7;

Week 10 (April 2, 4)

D. Labeling and Radical (Conflict, Marxist, Feminist, Critical Race)
Criminology
E. Crime and Place
Reading: Adler et al, Chapters 8 and 9;

Week 11 (April 9, 11)

V. Crime Types

A. Street Crimes

1. Violent Crime

Reading: Adler et al., Chapter 10; Jones Chapter 4 and Conclusion

*******Midterm Examination April 16*******

Week 12 (April 16, 18)

2. Property Crime

Reading: Adler et al., Chapter 11

Week 13 (April 23, April 25*)

B. Crimes of the Powerful

Reading: Adler et al., Chapter 12

* Video: "The Inside Job" 120 minutes (2 class periods).

Inside Job exposes the shocking truth behind the economic crisis of 2008. The global financial meltdown, at a cost of over \$20 trillion, resulted in millions of people losing their homes and jobs. Through extensive research and interviews with major financial insiders, politicians and journalists, Inside Job traces the rise of a rogue industry and unveils the corrosive relationships which have corrupted politics, regulation and academia.

Week 14 (April 30*, May 2)

B. Crimes of the Powerful, cont.

C. Public Order Crimes

Reading: Adler, et al., Chapter 13

Week 15 (May 7, 9)

Public Order Crimes, Continued.

D. Comparative Criminology

Reading: Adler, et al., 14

Week 16 (May 14)

VI. Summing up and Review

*****FINAL EXAM: TBD *****