

08/15/2016

**CCJS 654  
Theories of Crime  
Fall 2016**

Terence P. Thornberry  
Distinguished University Professor

Wednesday, 4:00pm – 6:45pm; Wellford Conference Room, LeFrak 2165E

Office Hours: LeFrak 2155, Tuesday 1:00pm – 2:30pm or BY APPOINTMENT

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**Course Description:** In this course, there will be detailed coverage of the elements and foundations of scientific theory, most sociological and/or social-psychological theories of crime, and recent developments in criminological theory. The course will not cover biological or economic theories of crime, situational or life course theories, feminist or critical race perspectives since these approaches are emphasized in other courses offered in the graduate curriculum.

Below is a list of courses in which these other theories and perspectives are covered:

- Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJS 657)
- Crime in the Life Course (CCJS 699J)
- Drugs and Crime (CCJS 680)
- Gender and Crime (CCJS 660)
- Labor Markets and Crime (CCJS 699B)
- Psychology of Crime and Justice (CCJS 699P)
- Race and Crime (CCJS 670)

**Course Prerequisites:** It is assumed that students will have taken Introduction to Criminology (CCJS 651) or a comparable MA-level course in criminological theory.

**Required Readings:**

1. Akers, Ronald L. and Christine S. Sellers. (2013). *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Oxford University Press. (Available at the UMD Bookstore.)
2. Selected Articles and Chapters are noted with "\*". These are available on UMD ELMS at <http://elms.umd.edu/>
3. A number of books are assigned throughout the course. Unfortunately, some of them are out of print. The best sources for all of the assigned books are sites such as <http://www.amazon.com> or <http://www.barnes&noble.com>.

**Course Requirements:**

There will be two essay examinations in this course. Each exam will be expected to take you between two and one-half and three hours to complete. The two exams must be taken on the assigned day, so plan accordingly. If there are circumstances that preclude you from taking the exam on that day, I must be notified in advance. All make up examinations will be oral exams.

1. Midterm Examination. The midterm examination is scheduled for October 12. It will cover all material from the beginning of the course through the class of October 5. It will constitute 45% of your grade.
2. Final Examination. The final examination is scheduled for December 14. It will cover all material from the class of October 19 through the class of December 7. It will constitute 45% of your grade.
3. Class Participation. All students are expected to have done the assigned readings for the week, be able to respond to questions about it, and take part in class discussions of the topic. Participation will constitute 10% of your grade.

**Before any assignment is considered complete, an oral examination may be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor.**

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
August 31 (Readings 01)	Introduction/History	*Beccaria *Bentham *Lombroso-Ferrero *Hooton *Dugdale *Rafter (2004)
September 7/ September 14 (Readings 02)	Theory Construction	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 1 *Cook & Campbell (1979) *Paternoster & Bachman (2001) *Liska et al. (1989) *Akers (1989) *Hirschi (1989) *Thornberry (1989) *Davis (1985) *Gould (1996)
September 21/ September 28 (Readings 03)	Strain	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 9  *Merton (1968) *Farnworth & Leiber (1989) *Agnew (1992) *Agnew & White (1992) *Burton et al. (1994)  Cloward & Ohlin (1960): <i>Delinquency and Opportunity</i>  Messner & Rosenfeld (2013): <i>Crime and the American Dream</i>
October 5 (Readings 04)	Labeling	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 7 *Lemert (1951) *Farrington (1977) *Wellford (1975) *Paternoster & Iovanni (1989) *Bernburg & Krohn (2003) *Bernburg et al. (2006)  Becker (1963): <i>Outsiders</i>  Braithwaite (1989): <i>Crime, Shame and Reintegration</i>

October 12	Midterm Exam	-----
October 19/ October 26 (Readings 05)	Social Control	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 5 *Sykes & Matza (1957) *Krohn & Massey (1980) *Kempf (1993) *Agnew (1991)  Hirschi (1969): <i>Causes of Delinquency</i>
(Readings 06)	Self-Control	*Grasmick et al. (1993) *Hirschi & Gottfredson (1993) *Pratt & Cullen (2000) *Na & Paternoster (2012) *Sturge-Apple et al. (2016)  Gottfredson & Hirschi (1990): <i>A General Theory of Crime</i>
November 2 (Readings 07)	Differential Association/ Social Learning	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 5 *Sutherland & Cressey (1960) *Akers (1994) *Akers et al. (1979) *McGloin (2009) *Melde & Esbensen (2011) *Osgood et al. (1996)  Warr (2002): <i>Companions in Crime</i>  Thornberry et al. (2003): <i>Gangs and Delinquency in Developmental Perspective</i>
November 9 (Readings 08)	Family Process Models	*Patterson et al. (1991) *Conger et al. (2010) *Conger et al. (2002) *Fisher & Chamberlain (2000) *Eddy & Chamberlain (2000)  Patterson et al. (1992 or 1997): <i>Antisocial Boys</i>
November 16	NO CLASS (ASC)	-----
November 23	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	-----

November 30 (Readings 09)	Elaborated and Integrated Theories	Akers & Sellers, Chapter 14 *Elliott et al. (1989) *Thornberry (1987) *Catalano & Hawkins (1996) *Krohn et al. (1996) *Hoffmann et al. (2013) *Catalano et al. (2005)
December 7 (Readings 10)	Intergenerational Models	*Thornberry (2009) *Thornberry et al. (2003) *Besemer & Farrington (2012) *Auty et al. (2014) *Bailey et al. (2009) *Martin et al. (2010) *Capaldi et al. (2012)
December 14	Final Exam	-----

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\* Readings available on UMD ELMS.