I. Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: R. Rhazali
Email: rr854@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Overview:

This introductory undergraduate course explores the nature, causes, and treatment of criminal behavior with an emphasis on classical and contemporary theories. The biological, social, psychological, and environmental theories underlying crime and deviance are explored, as well as current approaches to punishment, treatment and prevention. Course material will be analyzed through readings, lectures, discussions, activities and assignments.

B.S., Criminal Justice Program Learning Goals
Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark, students should be able to:

1) Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.
2) Describe the mechanisms, correlates, theoretical underpinnings, and situational contexts of crime, criminal behavior and opportunity, and techniques for prevention and treatment.
3) Apply and analyze theories related to the policies and practices of the criminal justice system and its major institutions.
4) Demonstrate the ability to gather, explain, and apply empirical research in the field of criminal justice.
5) Obtain a comprehensive knowledge about the process of conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

Course Learning Objectives:
1. Describe how crime is defined and measured.
2. Articulate the major theories that explain criminal behavior, and the principal research findings associated with each major theory.
3. Critically examine crime and deviance as social constructs and evaluate the effects that societal response to crime has on criminal behavior.
4. Recognize diverse methods of data collection and the challenges of researching crime and deviance.
5. Explain classical and contemporary criminological theories.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts and research methods used by criminologists to understand, prevent, and predict criminality.
7. Apply criminological theories and ideas to real-world events and people.
8. Understand the correlation between criminology and crime control policies.
9. Demonstrate critical literacy and information research skills.

**Required Readings:**


**Course Structure:**

The course will incorporate diverse learning activities including lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and group discussions.

Classroom learning is a group activity that depends upon everyone’s full participation in order to succeed. I expect students to: be prepared to begin class on time, silence or turn off and put away cell phones and other electronic devices, read and be prepared to discuss homework, submit assignments on time, and assist your classmates. You can expect that I will: be on time and prepared for every class, be available via email and appointments to answer questions, make every class engaging and valuable, and respect your contributions to class.

**II. Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong> 9/11</td>
<td><em>Welcome, Introductions, Syllabus</em></td>
<td>Chapter 1, Crime and Criminology.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong> 9/25</td>
<td><em>The study of the victim, then and now.</em></td>
<td>Chapter 3, Victims and Victimization.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong> 10/2</td>
<td>CASE STUDY (1st paper) DUE on 10/2&lt;br&gt;*Classical Theory&lt;br&gt;*Rational Choice Theory</td>
<td>CASE STUDY (1st paper) DUE on 10/2&lt;br&gt;Chapter 4, Choice Theory: “Because They Want To.”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong> 10/9</td>
<td>*Trait Theories&lt;br&gt;*Biological and Psychological</td>
<td>Chapter 5, Trait Theory.</td>
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Week 6 10/16
*Crime and Economic Conditions
*Strain Theory.
Chapter 6, Social Structure Theory.

Week 7 10/23
*Social Process Theories
Social Learning Theory
Social Control Theory
*Labeling Theory
**Midterm on 10/23**
Chapter 7, Social Process Theories.
Midterm on 10/23

Week 8 10/30
*Social Conflict Theory.
Chapter 8, Social Conflict and Critical Criminology.

Week 9 11/6
*Developmental Theories: Life Course
Latent Trait Theories
Chapter 9, Developmental Theories.

Week 10 11/13
*Violent Crimes
Causes of Violence
Serial Killers and Mass Murderers.
Chapter 10, Violent Crimes.

Week 11 11/20
*Property crimes, defined and discussed.
**CASE STUDY 2 (paper) DUE on 11/20**
Chapter 11, Property Crimes.

Week 12 11/27
*White Collar and Cyber Crime.

Week 13 12/4
*Public Order Crimes defined and discussed.
Chapter 13, Public Order Crimes.

Week 14 12/11
*The Parts of the Criminal Justice System Class Wrap-up
Chapter 14, The Criminal Justice System.
Class Wrap-up

Week 15 12/18
Final Exam
Final Exam

III. **Course Assessment and Grading**
The final grade will be assessed based upon your performance on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation, news-sharing</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (2 worth 5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Papers (Case Studies-15% each)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment Description</td>
<td>Linked to SLO</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
<td>SLO #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students share news articles relevant to criminology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
<td>SLO #2 and 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students are to be quizzed on material from the class lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #3</td>
<td>SLO #2 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case study paper explaining the defendant’s criminality using criminological theories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #4</td>
<td>SLO #2 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case study paper explaining the defendant’s criminality using criminological theories</td>
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**ASSIGNMENT 1 (10%): News-Sharing**
For each class, be prepared to share relevant criminal justice news items. Try to connect the event to something you learned in class. Log onto [www.thecrimereport.org](http://www.thecrimereport.org) (an excellent criminal justice website maintained by John Jay College). Click on the red “email alert” tab on the upper left corner to receive daily emails of criminal justice headlines from reputable sources. Your contact information will not be shared with 3rd parties. Newspaper articles as well as reputable online sources are also welcomed.

**ASSIGNMENT 2 (10 %): Quizzes**
Quizzes will be made up of multiple choice as well as true/false questions, and will be administered upon prior notice.

**ASSIGNMENT 3 and 4 (30 %): Case Studies**
You are required to write two papers (3-4 pages in length) in which you will apply a criminological theory (or combination of theories) to a case study. Your job in writing the paper is to select one of the three case studies posted on BB and to explain the person’s behavior (crime) using a criminological theory (or theories) discussed in class and in the text book. Choose the one theory (or combination of theories) that you believe best explains why the defendant became a criminal. There may be more than one theory, but use the one (or ones) that you believe is most accurate.

**THE FOLLOWING GRADING SCALE MUST BE USED IN ALL UNDERGRADUATE COURSES:**

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

- **A** 90–100%
- **B+** 85–89%
- **B** 80–84%
- **C+** 75–79%
C 70-74%
D 60-69%
F <60%

Late or Missing Assignment Policy
Assignments not turned in the due dates specified on the syllabus will be reduced a grade for every late day thereafter (If paper receives an “A” grade and is one class late, the grade will drop to an “A-“, and if it is two classes late, the grade will then be a “B”).

IV. Course Policies

Classroom Rules
Discussion of Criminal Justice issues may challenge personal beliefs and incite emotional responses. Therefore, it is important to follow the norms of academic discussion and debate at all times. Students will raise their hands before speaking and not interrupt when others are speaking. Students should be prepared to state why they hold a certain belief (how they know what they know) if they expect to persuade others that their opinion is worth consideration. Students at Rutgers University come from a diverse range of ethnic, social, religious, and cultural backgrounds. Classroom discussions are enriched when students can compare practices and ideologies in the U.S. with those of their countries of origin.

Finally, please refrain from any behavior that interferes with the learning environment of the classroom. No phone use, earphones, and no texting. Turn off and put away all electronic devices at the beginning of class.

Academic Integrity
As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university’s policy will result in appropriate action.