

**47: 202: 102 Criminology
3 Credits
Fall 2018**

**Class time: Tuesday & Thursday
6:00 pm – 7:20 pm**

I. Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Erin Cotrone, Ph.D.
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Phone: 954-980-1177
Office Hours: by appointment only

Course Overview:

This course introduces an examination of the field of criminology. Major topics include definitions of, and the basic assumptions that are used to formulate, criminological theories. Causes of crime and crime rates, United States and international comparisons, and a review of the current direction of research within the study of crime are also discussed. Attention will also be directed to the pervasive role of race, class, and gender in criminological theory.

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:

Course Learning Goals:

- 1) Learn 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) Understand diverse methods of data collection and the challenges of researching crime and deviance.

Required Readings:

Siegel, Larry J. 2016. *Criminology: Theories, Patterns, and Typologies*, 13th Edition Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Alexander, Michelle. (2011). *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* New York: The New Press.

Course Structure:

The format of this course will be primarily lecture and discussion. Students will occasionally divide into small groups for discussions and class exercises.

II. Course Schedule

Date	Class Topic	Readings
Week 1 9/4 & 9/6	Intro to the course Chapter 1: Crime and Criminology	Siegel pgs. 3-26
Week 2 9/11 & 9/13	Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime	Siegel pgs. 27-68

Week 3 9/18 & 9/20	Chapter 3: Victims and Victimization	Siegel pgs. 69-98
Week 4 9/25 & 9/27	<u>9/25 Exam #1</u> Chapter 4: Choice Theories	Siegel pgs. 99-138
Week 5 10/2 & 10/4	Chapter 5: Trait Theories	Siegel pgs. 139-186
Week 6 10/9 & 10/11	Chapter 6: Social Structure Theories	Siegel pgs. 187-232 Alexander- Chapters 2 & 3
Week 7 10/16 & 10/18	Chapter 7: Social Process Theories	Siegel pgs. 233-270 Alexander- Chapters 4 & 5
Week 8 10/23 & 10/25	Chapter 8: Social Conflict Theories	Siegel pgs. 271-304 Alexander- Chapter 6
Week 9 10/30 & 11/1	Chapter 9: Developmental Theories	Siegel pgs. 305-342
Week 10 11/6 & 11/8	<u>11/6 Exam #2</u> Chapter 10: Interpersonal Violence <i>Guest Lecturer: Loren Linscott</i>	Siegel pgs. 343-392
Week 11 11/13 & 11/15	Chapter 11: Political Crime and Terrorism	Siegel pgs. 393-430
Week 12 11/20	Chapter 12: Property Crime <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	Siegel pgs. 431-460
Week 13 11/27 & 11/29	Chapter 13: Enterprise Crimes: White Collar and Organized Crimes	Siegel pgs. 461-502
Week 14 12/4 & 12/6	Chapter 14: Public Order Crime: Sex and Substance Abuse Chapter 15: Crimes of the New Millennium: Cyber Crime	Siegel pgs. 503-575
Week 15 12/11	<u>Exam #3</u>	

III. Course Assessment and Grading

The final grade will be assessed based upon your performance on the following:

Class Participation (5% of final grade)

In-class Group Exercises: (5% of final grade)

Exam 1: (30% of the final grade)

Exam 2: (30% of the final grade)

Exam 3: (30% of the final grade)

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Making the effort to attend every class is important to your success in this course. While attendance will not count directly toward your course grade, it will count indirectly through your participation in class discussions and group exercises. Group exercises are only completed DURING class, and late work is not accepted under any circumstances. If you do not participate in a group exercise due to your absence, you do not earn the points.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Students must complete all reading assignments before class on the day that they are listed in the syllabus and must be ready to discuss them. The expectation is that you will each participate by raising issues that you did not understand during your readings and providing your opinions and thoughts on various relevant topics.

IN-CLASS GROUP EXERCISES: There will be 5 group exercises throughout the semester. Students will form small groups to discuss readings, brainstorm ideas related to a course topic, or discuss the pros or cons of criminal justice policies. Specific instructions for each exercise will be discussed in class. You will earn full points for your active participation in the group exercises.

EXAMS: The 3 exams will be non-cumulative and include multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer questions. Exam questions will be based on the material in the assigned readings, but may also cover material not discussed in the readings. **You are responsible for all of the material in assigned readings and discussed during lectures.** If you are unable to attend class on a given evening, you should make arrangements to obtain notes from a classmate.

Missed Group Work/Exam Policy:

Group exercises are only completed DURING class, and late work is not accepted. If you do not participate in a group exercise due to your absence, you do not earn the points.

If you have an emergency that will prevent you from coming to class to take an exam, the instructor must be notified BEFORE the exam, and you are then responsible for scheduling the make-up exam. An emergency, in this instance, is a documented major personal illness or overnight hospitalization, a major illness or death in the family, or other family emergency.

Failing to contact the instructor before a missed exam will result in a grade of 0.

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%

IV. Course Policies

Classroom Etiquette

Criminal behavior and motivations can be a very sensitive topic. You are encouraged to express your thoughts and opinions during class discussions, but you are expected to do so in a respectful manner. Any student who is disruptive or disrespectful towards other students, guest speakers, and/or the instructor may be asked to leave the classroom.

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.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:

- presenting another's work as if it were one's own;
- failing to acknowledge or document a source even if the action is unintended (i.e. plagiarism) (this includes copying & pasting material from the internet);
- giving or receiving, or attempting to give or receive, unauthorized assistance or information in an assignment or examination;
- submitting the same assignment in two or more courses without prior permission of the respective instructors;
- having another person write a paper or sit for an examination (including using online

paper-mills); and/or

- using tests or papers from students in prior semesters.

Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Allen Sheffield
Director of ADA Services and Academic Support
Robeson Campus Center, Suite 352
350 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973.353.5300
Fax: 973.353.5666
E-mail: allen.sheffield@rutgers.edu
Website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Psychological and Counseling Services

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university's psychological and counseling service center (<http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)
- Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website <http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/>

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