

47: 202: 312
Comparative Criminal Justice
Three Credits
Fall, 2018

Mondays & Thursdays
1:00pm-2:20pm

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: EDEM F. AVAKAME, Ph.D.
Email: EDEM.F.AVAKAME@GMAIL.COM
Phone: 862-230-1589 (TILL 10PM)
Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides a worldwide overview of cultural and legal traditions related to crime. It is used to fuel discussions about different approaches to law enforcement, criminal procedure, criminal law, corrections, and juvenile justice across different nations and cultures. It analyzes crime and criminal justice systems in selected countries and cultures. It focuses on the ways these different societies define and respond to criminal behavior. Finally, it addresses how different societies structure their justice systems to meet their goals and reflect their values.

COURSE PREREQUISITE

None

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.

CORE LEARNING OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. To promote an intellectually stimulating approach to the comparative study of criminal justice systems.
2. To provide a thorough understanding of the historical and social sources of the definition of crime and criminal behavior across different cultures.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The instruction will be delivered through lectures and classroom discussions.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Course Schedule and Associated Readings

NATURE & SCOPE OF COMPARATIVE CRIMINOLOGY

- Howard, Gregory, J., Graeme Newman, and William Alex Pridemore (2000). Theory, Method, and Data in Comparative Criminology. Measurement & Analysis of Crime and Justice, Volume 4, pp. 139-211.

CRIME TRENDS ACROSS THE GLOBE

- Van Dijk (2008). The world of crime: Breaking the Silence on Problems of Security, Justice, and Development across the World (Chapters 2-7). Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications

CASE STUDIES OF CRIME & JUSTICE IN DIFFERENT CULTURES

- The American System of Criminal Justice.
- Abotchie, Chris (1997). Crime and Social Control in Traditional Southern Eweland in Ghana. Accra: Ghana Universities Press.
- Terrill, Richard J. (2013). World Criminal Justice Systems: A survey. (8th Edition). New Providence NJ: Matthew Bender & Co.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Final grades will be assessed on the basis of students' performance on the following:

- Three 10-page papers (20% each)
- Final Term Paper – 40%

PS: Late or missing assignments will not be accepted.

THE FOLLOWING GRADING SCALE WILL BE USED IN ASSIGNING FINAL GRADES

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

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class attendance and participation are mandatory. Students are responsible for what takes place in class during their absence.

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 RESOURCES

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
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Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973.353.5300
Fax: 973.353.5666
E-mail: kate.torres@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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