

**(47:202:313:01) GENDER, CRIME, & JUSTICE**  
**3 Credits**  
**Fall Semester 2018**

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**Monday and Wednesday**  
**10 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.**

**I. Course Information**

**Instructor Information:**

Location: Hil-106  
Office Hours: by appointment  
Phone: 201-204-3487  
Email: [karen.desoto@rutgers.edu](mailto:karen.desoto@rutgers.edu) or [profd@earthlink.net](mailto:profd@earthlink.net)  
Dr. Karen DeSoto

**Course Overview:** This course is designed to explore the important and under-studied intersection between gender/women and crime. The word intersection is used because the status structures commonly used by criminologists and sociologists never occur alone. Another way of saying this is that social scientists study a number of social demographics or correlates of crime at the same time. Thus, in this class women involvement in crime, whether as victims or as offenders, or as professionals engaged in the criminal justice system, a number of these variables have to be investigated (studied) at the same time. We will explore the nature and extent of women as victims, offenders, and workers in the criminal justice system. We will investigate the relationship between victimization and offending, and study the details of women in the criminal justice system as offenders or workers (professional as law enforcement officers, court personnel, correctional workers, etc.). A major focus will be to learn about the major debates and topics within criminology relating to gender and crime. This course will allow us to become familiar with criminological theories (which have been traditionally male oriented) but now we investigate a feminist response and engagement in criminological theorizing of women. In addition to the above ideas we will look at women fear of crime, women limited mobility economically, crime policies that impact the lives of women as victims, offenders, and professionals.

**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:

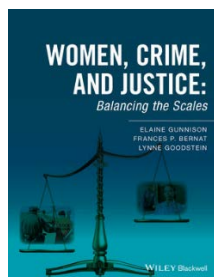
- 1) Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.
- 2) Describe 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.

## **Course Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand, analyze, and be able to discuss the role of women within the criminal justice system
2. Develop an understanding of the evolution of society's views of women in the system
3. Explore issues related to women as victims and offenders of crime
4. Examine the position of women as professionals within the criminal justice field

## **Required Readings:**



### **TEXTBOOK:**

Elaine Gunnison, Francis P. Bernat & Lynne Goodstein. *Women, Crime and Justice: Balancing The Scales*, West Sussex: Wiley Blackwell, 2017.

**ISBN- 978-1-118-79346-6**

Selected readings that are not included in your textbook such as cases or academic articles, if assigned, will be made available on Blackboard under the "Assignments" section in .pdf format.

### **Course Requirements:**

Students are required to read assigned readings and participate in classroom discussions in a manner that reflects familiarity with the readings and previous class sessions. Students are required to access blackboard regularly to stay informed about any changes in lecture topics, assigned readings and other course announcements.

**Blackboard** will be used for all of your assignments, check it regularly. The syllabus, assignments, grading rubrics, and reading assignments will be posted and accepted through Blackboard. Additional assignments may occur as the semester proceeds and will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for everything posted on Blackboard, whether or not it is mentioned in class. Checking blackboard regularly since course assignments, due dates, and our syllabus may be subject to changes.

### **Course Structure:**

Course content will be a mixture of traditional lectures, class discussions, guest speakers, video presentations, and on-site visits. Additionally, there will be several in-class activities, exercises and assignments.

## **II. Course Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Readings &amp; Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 9/5	<b><u>Introduction</u></b>	Review Syllabus Course Overview
Week 2 9/10, 9/12	<b><u>Foundations for understanding women and crime</u></b>	Chapter 1 lecture; group discussion.
Week 3 9/17, 9/19	<b><u>Women and the crimes that they commit</u></b>	Chapter 2; group discussion regarding the different levels of trial and appellate courts.
Week 4 9/24, 9/26	<b><u>Women convicted of crime and their punishments</u></b>	Chapter 3; lecture; group discussion
Week 5 10/1, 10/3	<b><u>Legal Control over women's bodies</u></b>	Chapters 4; lecture only. Quiz # 1
Week 6 10/8, 10/10	<b><u>Sexual victimization</u></b>	Chapter 5; lecture; group discussion. LIBRARY SESSION
Week 7 10/15, 10/17	<b><u>Domestic violence</u></b>	Quiz #2; Chapter 6 lecture; group discussion
Week 8 10/22, 10/24	<b><u>Victimization enabled by technology</u></b>	Chapter 7; lecture; group discussion.
Week 9 10/29, 10/31	<b><u>Women and law enforcement</u></b>	Chapter 8; lecture; group discussion Quiz#3

Week 10 11/5, 11/7	<b><u>The Courts</u></b> <b>*11/5 is the last day to withdraw from course with "W"</b>	Chapter 9; lecture; group discussion
Week 11 11/12, 11/14	<b><u>Due Process &amp; Constitutional Review</u></b>	Intermediate Scrutiny & Hobby Lobby Case Quiz #4
Week 12 11/19, 11/21	<b><u>Post-conviction offenders</u></b>	Chapter 10; group discussion.
Week 13 11/26, 11/28	<b>Appellate and Habeas Corpus &amp; Bill of Rights</b>	Quiz #5 & Writing Workshop
Week 14 12/3, 12/5	<b><u>Conclusions</u></b>	Chapter 11
Week 15 12/10, 12/12	<b><u>Presentations</u></b>	<b><u>Presentations</u></b>
Week 16 <b>FINAL EXAM WEEK</b>	FINAL EXAM WEEK 12/14 to 12/21 <b>Final Exam on 12/17</b>	FINAL EXAM WEEK 12/14 to 12/21 <b>Final Exam on 12/17</b>

### III. Grading

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

- |                          |        |          |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| 1. Attendance            | (10%)  | CLO 1-4  |
| 2. Assignments & quizzes | (50%). | CLO 1-3  |
| 3. Presentation          | (15%)  | CLO 1, 2 |
| 4. Final Paper           | (25%). | CLO 2-4  |

**QUIZZES and ASSIGNMENTS (50 %):** Assignments and Quizzes are worth 50% of your final grade. All assignments can be found on blackboard and have different point totals depending on the difficulty of the assignment.

**FINAL PAPER (30%):** The final will be graded on a 100-point scale. See Blackboard for the grading Rubric. This assignment is worth 30% of the final grade.

**Paper Presentation (10 %):** Student paper presentations will be worth 10% of your Final Grade. This presentation will be a presentation of your final paper.

**ATTENDANCE (10%):** A percentage of your grade is based on class participation and attendance. Attendance is mandatory and crucial to your success in this course. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to identify missed content and turn in missed assignments. Missing more than 3 classes will impact your grade.

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:**

Attendance for this course is mandatory. Attendance will be taken at the start of every class. Students are permitted two unexcused absences. Starting with a student's third unexcused absence, points will be deducted from their final grade. Late assignments will not be accepted without permission and a valid medical or bereavement excuse.

### **IV. Course Policies**

#### **Classroom Rules**

All members of this class are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner. Laptops are permitted only if disengaged from the internet and other electronic devices should be stored away unless you specifically seek the instructor's permission. In this class, we may have discussions that challenge our taken for granted assumptions about crime and justice. Students should be prepared to engage honestly and openly about this material and perhaps even examine their own beliefs about the issues. While I am hopeful that the course materials will spark interesting discussion, personal insults or other types of demeaning, disrespectful, or threatening comments toward other class members about their experiences, backgrounds, or statements will **NOT** be tolerated. **NO RECORDING, VIDEOTAPING, OR PICTURE TAKING WITHOUT PERMISSION.**

#### **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.

Kate Torres  
Coordinator 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: [kate.torres@rutgers.edu](mailto: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/>