

47: 202: 333 Race & Crime
3.0 Credits
Fall, 2018

Tuesdays
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

I. Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Quovella Spruill

Email: qs76@scj.rutgers.edu and gmspruill@gmail.com (Please email both simultaneously.)

Office Hours: By Appointment Only (email to arrange an appointment)

Course Overview:

Explores the relationship between the criminal justice system and racial minorities in the United States. Seeks to understand some of the economic, political, and sociological reasons why racial minorities, particularly Native Americans, African-Americans, Asians, Latinos and Immigrants are represented in the criminal justice system. Explores normative issues of justice and equity in broader social interactions that influence and are influenced by crime and the criminal process.

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.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn the correlation of race and crime in the criminal justice system.
2. Students will examine the connection between race and crime in the United States.
3. Students will understand how the media and other social elements affect the portrayal of race and crime.
4. Students will understand the various categories of race, class, gender, citizenship, national origin and language within criminal justice system.

Required Readings:

Required Textbook:

Race & Crime, 4th edition.

Author: Shaun L. Gabbidon & Helen Taylor Greene

Publisher: SAGE

The book will be available at the Rutgers Newark Bookstore.

***Additional required readings will be distributed during class sessions throughout the course.**

Course Requirements:

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

Blackboard: The syllabus, outside readings, and grades will be posted via Blackboard. To access this website, please go to:

- <http://blackboard.newark.rutgers.edu/>
- go to "login here"
- enter your Rutgers NetID and password (Pegasus account info)
- your courses should be listed on the right side of the screen
- select course name

Please update your email information so that you have access to Blackboard. All class updates will be posted onto Blackboard.

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

Date	Class Topic	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 1 Sept 4	Introduction and Course Overview Overview of race and crime	Read Chapter 1
Week 2 Sept 11	Crime and Victimization	Read Chapter 2 and handouts provided
Week 3 Sept 18	Theoretical Perspectives on Race and Crime Review for Quiz	Read Chapter 3 and handouts provided Response Paper #1 - Due – 9/18
Week 4 Sept 25	Policing & Race	Read Chapter 4 and handouts provided Quiz #1 – 9/25
Week 5 Oct 2	Courts	Read Chapter 5 and handouts provided
Week 6* Oct 9	In Class Group Project	Handouts will be provided
Week 7 Oct 16	Sentencing Review for Quiz	Read Chapter 6 and handouts provided Response Paper #2; Due – 10/16
Week 8 Oct 23	Death Penalty	Read Chapter 7 and handouts provided Quiz #2 – 10/23

Week 9 Oct 30	Corrections	Read Chapter 8 and handouts provided
Week 10* Nov 6	Juvenile Justice	Read Chapter 9 and handouts provided Response Paper #3; Due – 11/6
Week 11 Nov 13	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	
Week 12 Nov 20	*****NO CLASS – THURSDAY CLASSES SCHEDULED ON NOV 20*****	
Week 13 Nov 27	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	
Week 14 Dec 4	Review for FINAL EXAM	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
Week 15 Dec 11	FINAL EXAM	

III. Grading

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Attendance and Class Participation | 20% |
| • Response Papers (3) (10% each) | 30% |
| • Quizzes (2) (10% each) | 20% |
| • Final Exam | 20% |
| • Presentation | 10% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

RESPONSE PAPERS: (3 - 10% each)

There will be three (3) response papers (2-3 pages) during the semester. For each paper, you will be provided with a designated topic from the covered chapters. The essay should discuss and analyze the key issues and concepts in the reading assignments.

These assignments must be typed, double spaced throughout, Times New Roman or Arial font, 12 pt font size, with 1-inch margins. These short papers must include at least ONE (1) peer reviewed source cited in the proper APA format, in addition to the text book. You will be required to attach a cover page and bibliography of these sources at the end of the paper in APA style, this page does not count towards the page requirements. **Papers must be printed and submitted in class on the specified due dates - NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

QUIZZES: (2 - 10% each)

The quizzes will consist of material covered in the most recent classes.

FINAL EXAM: (20%)

The final exam will consist of a comprehensive examination of the material provided throughout the course.

PRESENTATION: (10%)

A presentation will be required to present your assigned topic regarding an approved current or event relative to race and crime topics discussed in class.

The following requirements must be met:

- 5-minute presentation in which all students must participate.
- A PowerPoint presentation is required with a minimum of 7 slides and maximum of 12 slides.
- Students will be graded on the quality of the written material and information on the slides (5%), the ability of the student to present the information (2 %) and overall quality of the presentation (3%).
- Student who do not participate will not receive credit.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION: (20%)

Attendance is mandatory and crucial to your success in this course. You are allowed one (1) absence. For every absence thereafter, a one percent (1%) will be deducted from your grade. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to identify missed content (including handouts, schedules, etc) and turn in assignments. **If you are 15 (or more) minutes late for class, you will receive reduced or no credit for attendance.**

Students are expected to actively participate in the class and to complete all written assignments. Students are required to be prepared to participate by reading all assigned readings. This is a criminal justice course, which may involve controversial topics during discussions. All students should always be respectful of their classmates' opinions.

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:

All assignments are due on the scheduled dates. **Late papers will not be accepted.**

Additionally, if you are late for class, points will be deducted for lateness – 1 point per 15 minutes each class.

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.

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
350 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
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/>

Follow us, to stay up to date! @SCJ_apps

