

**47: 202: 333: 52 Race, Crime and Justice  
3 Credits  
Fall 2023**

**Tuesdays**

**6:30pm - 9:30pm**

1. **Course Information**

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor: K. Englander

Email: k.englander@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: 5:30pm to 6:30pm Tuesdays (in DH 114) & By appointment

Classroom: DH 114 (DeMare Hall –County College of Morris Campus)

**Course Overview:**

The strong connection between race and crime in the United States is prominent in the media and in the minds of the public. How large are racial and ethnic differences in criminal involvement in this country? How do we know that such differences exist? How can we explain ethno-racial differentials in crime in the United States? What implications do both the “facts” and the media portrayals of the race-crime connection have for how people think and act in this society? And, how does all of this filter through the various components of the criminal justice system? In this course, we will address these and other questions to learn about the state of knowledge on the relationship between race, ethnicity, crime, and criminal justice. We will discuss data, theoretical approaches, and current research about the ways in which race and ethnicity are connected with criminal involvement and criminal justice processing. In doing so, we will learn about the complex ways in which the race-crime-criminal justice connection is both a product of societal forces and affects broader social relations. The course will further all the learning goals for the criminal justice major.

Competence in understanding the major theoretical perspectives will be furthered through readings, lectures, discussions, and written work that address the major perspectives used to account for the sources and consequences of racial and ethnic inequality in crime and criminal justice processes. The central focus of the course is on increasing the multicultural understanding of crime and criminal justice within society based upon contemporary theoretical and empirical knowledge. In doing so, the course will address the major institutions that affect crime and that carry out the application of justice. It will also familiarize students with the major data sources.

This course explores how race is a factor within the field of criminal justice, including principles of justice, due process rights, police and ethics, and a comparative approach to criminal justice in multicultural climates.

**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:**

This course aims to provide a critical understanding of the politics and policies surrounding the issues of race and the criminal justice system in the U.S. The course objective is to gain an overall understanding of the policies and practices of criminal justice agencies and how they may directly or indirectly affect other criminal justice agencies, social systems, and/or key stakeholders without solely referencing personal experiences and/or long held beliefs.

### Required Readings:

Alexander, M. (2020). ***The New Jim Crow***. (3rd ed.). New York, NY: The New Press**. ISBN13 (paperback): 9781620971932 or ISBN13 (ebook): 9781620971949**. Please note - The Alexander text is available for free download from the Library resources

Gabbidon, S.L & Greene, H.T. (2018). ***Race and Crime.*** (5th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publishers. **ISBN13 (paperback):** **9781544334233 or ISBN13 (ebook): 9781544334226**

**Any additional readings will be posted on Canvas.**

**Course Requirements:**

Attendance - It is imperative that students regularly attend class. Regular class absences will substantially reduce class participation grade.

Class participation/Class readings - Students are expected to complete the required readings prior to each class meeting. Students will be better able to meaningfully contribute to class discussions if they are prepared for class. Having read the course material prior to class will assist students in identifying issues/areas of concern. Clarification of these issues/concerns can then be made during class to improve student comprehension, which in turn should assist students in performing well on course exams. In addition, each class will traditional begin with a quick review of the most previous lectures material. This should be used by students as a baseline as to whether they grasp/comprehend the material covered in the previous class.

Written Assignments - Dedicate sufficient time to research and write the written assignments. Students should be sure to proofread their work and cite properly according to APA format. Students should seek additional assistance from the Writing Center, if needed. Plagiarism in any form (including the use of AI, such as ChatGPT) will not be tolerated.

**Course Structure:**

# This class will consist primarily of lecture and class discussion of the weekly assigned readings. On occasion, videos will also be utilized to further examine the relevant course topics.

# Course Schedule - This course schedule is tentative and subject to change.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Class Topic | Readings & Assignments Due |
| Week 1Sept. 5 | Introduction to the Course  NJC - The Rebirth of Caste | **Alexander: Ch 1** |
| Week 2Sept. 12 | NJC - The Rebirth of Caste (Cont.)  NJC – The Lockdown | **Alexander: Ch 1-2** |
| Week 3Sept. 19 | NJC – The Lockdown (Cont.) | **Alexander: Ch 2** |
| Week 4Sept. 26 | NJC – The Color of Justice | **Alexander: Ch 3** |
| Week 5Oct. 3 | NJC – The Cruel Hand | **Alexander: Ch 4** |
| Week 6Oct. 10 | NJC – The New Jim Crow | **Alexander: Ch 5** |
| Week 7Oct. 17 | R&C – Overview of Race & Crime  R&C - Extent of Crime & Victimization | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 1 & 2 |
| Week 8Oct. 24 | **Midterm Exam**  R&C - Theoretical Perspectives on Race and Crime | MidtermGabbidon & Greene: Ch 3 |
| Week 9Oct. 31 | R&C - Policing | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 4 |
| Week 10Nov. 7 | R&C - Courts | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 5 |
| Week 11Nov. 14 | Sentencing | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 6 |
| Week 12Nov. 21 | **No Class – Thursday classes meet** | Happy Thanksgiving |
| Week 13Nov. 28 | R&C - The Death Penalty | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 7 |
| Week 14Dec. 5 | R&C - Corrections | **Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 8** |
| Week 15Dec. 12 | R&C - Juvenile Justice | Gabbidon & Greene: Ch 9 |
| Week 16Dec. 19 | **Final Exam – 6:30 pm** | Final Exam – 6:30 pm |

1. **Course Assessment and Grading**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Assignment Description | Linked to SLO | % of Course Grade |
| Assignment # 1  Midterm Exam | SLO #1-3 | 30% |
| Assignment # 2  Final Exam | SLO #1-3 | 30% |
| Assignment #3 Written Assignment | SLO #1-4 | 30% |
| Assignment #4  Class Participation | SLO #1-4 | 10% |

**Exam # 1** (30%): The first exam is scheduled for October 24, 2023. Students will be responsible for all readings and course material covered from September 5 to October 17, 2023. The exam will include predominantly multiple choice, matching and short answer questions. Additional information regarding the exam will be discussed in class.

**Final Exam** (30%): The final exam is scheduled for December 19, 2023. Students will be responsible for all readings and course material covered from October 24 until December 12, 2023. The exam will include predominantly multiple choice, matching and short answer questions. Additional information regarding the exam will be discussed in class.

**Written Assignments** (30%): Students must complete one written assignment for the course. A separate assignment sheet will be provided to explain the requirements and expectations of the written assignment. Written assignments should be formatted according to APA guidelines, including a works cited page.

**Class Participation** (10%): Class participation is expected/ required of all students. It is important that students come to class prepared to ensure that they can meaningfully contribute to the class discussion of the readings and lecture.

**Grading Scale:**

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%

**Missed Exam -** If you miss an exam, it is the student's responsibility to promptly contact the instructor (within 48 hours) via email regarding the missed exam. The student will be expected to provide documentation of any exigent circumstances that led to his/her absence from the exam. There are no make-up exams without a documented, verifiable medical excuse or emergency excuse for the day of the exam.

**Late Papers** – Late papers will be accepted, but as specified on the written assignment handout, points are deducted for each day late that the paper is submitted.

**Missing Papers** - If a student does not submit a written assignment within two weeks of the due date (or before the day of the final exam), he/she will receive a zero ('0') on the assignment. Papers will not be accepted more than two weeks following the due date or after the final exam.

### IV. Course Policies

### Classroom Rules

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and remain in class for its duration. Please inform the instructor before class begins if you have to leave early on a given day. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class period. Any student who misses more than two classes can expect his/her unexcused absences to negatively impact his/her grade. Students must provide documentation (e.g. - doctor's note) when seeking an excused absence. Excused absences are made at the discretion of the instructor.

- Students should refrain from engaging in behavior that may distract their classmates and/or disrupt the classroom atmosphere. Please refrain from engaging in private conversations during class.

- Electronic devices (e.g. smart phones, tablets, etc.) should be turned off or on silent while class is in session. Texting, phone calls, emailing, internet browsing, etc. are strictly prohibited while class is in session.

- At times we will be discussing controversial/ sensitive topics in class. It is imperative that students are respectful of other's opinions, even if they strongly clash with your own opinions. Students are free to voice contradicting opinions, but be sure to be respectful of your fellow classmates. Any speech that is intended to degrade, humiliate, intimidate, or incite prejudice against someone based on race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated in class.

**Grammarly** - Rutgers students have access to Grammarly premium accounts with their Scarletmail address. This also works for Faculty and Staff using the @[rutgers.edu](http://rutgers.edu/) email address (i.e. [christal.harry@rutgers.edu](mailto:christal.harry@rutgers.edu)). Please see below for details on how to create an account. The code to activate the premium membership is "gorutgers."

Students may access Grammarly as follows:

1.  If you already have a free Grammarly account linked to your ScarletMail account, you must delete this account. You may do so by logging in and selecting Account on the left-hand side. On the next page, you will then click Delete Account at the bottom of the page.

2.  Sign up for an institutional account using the following link: [www.grammarly.com/edu/signup](http://www.grammarly.com/edu/signup) .  Please note that this is a specific link for institutional accounts and is different from creating an account through the regular Grammarly website.

3.  Enter your information and verify your email by clicking on the link in the confirmation email sent to you. Once prompted for a code, enter "gorutgers" to activate your premium membership.

**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 [University Policy 10.2.13 (rutgers.edu)](https://studentaffairs.newark.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2020-08/Academic%20Integrity%20Policy.pdf)

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.

**Health and Safety Statement**: Please be sure to follow the University’s Health & Safety Protocols[Health &amp; Safety Statement Fall 2022 (1).docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fstudentaffairs.newark.rutgers.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2022-08%2FHealth%2520%2526%2520Safety%2520Statement%2520Fall%25202022%2520%25281%2529.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

**Crisis Support and Campus Resources**: Rutgers offers a number of helpful resources for students: [Crisis Support and Campus Resources (rutgers.edu)](https://studentaffairs.newark.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/2021-11/Crisis%20Support%20and%20Campus%20Resources%20.pdf)

**Accommodation and Support Statement**

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support.

**For Individuals Experiencing Disability:** The Office of Disability Services (ODS) works with students with medical, physical, and/or mental conditions who encounter disabling barriers in order to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations for access. Students who have completed the process with ODS and have approved accommodations are provided a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) specific to each course. To initiate accommodations for their course students must both provide the LOA to and have a conversation with the course instructor about the accommodations. This should occur as early in the semester as possible. More information can be found at the RU-N ODS website (ods.newark.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973) 353-5375 or via email at [ods@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:ods@newark.rutgers.edu).

**For Individuals who are Pregnant:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-5063 or via email at [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu)

**For Short-term Absence Verification:** The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing [deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu)

**For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries:** The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu>

**For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment**: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm For more information, students should refer to the University’s Title IX Policy and Grievance Procedures located at <https://uec.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/60-1-33-current-1.pdf>

**For support related to Interpersonal Violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA) can provide any student with confidential support. The office does not have a reporting obligation to Title IX. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing [run.vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run.vpva@rutgers.edu) There is also a confidential text-based helpline available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support. Students do not need to be a victim/survivor of violence; any student can receive services, information and support.

**For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a plan of support plan and address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Connect with the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing [careteam@rutgers.edu](mailto:careteam@rutgers.edu) .

**For Psychological Support (Stress, Mood, Family Issues, Substance Use concerns and other personal challenges):** The Rutgers University-Newark Counseling Center provides individual therapy and support groups for students dealing with psychological issues. To schedule an appointment, email counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or call (973) 353-5805.

Additional support is available to any RU-N student through Uwill services:

• Umatch: Teletherapy with flexible scheduling, starting with a free account.

• Uhelp: Crisis support at 833-646-1526 (available 24/7/365).

• Urise: Wellness-based video collection with a free account.

Access Uwill@RUN at <https://my.rutgers.edu> using your netid. Services are confidential and free.

**For emergencies**, call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.

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