

**47:202:324**

**Violent Crime**

**Fall 2023**

**Mondays from 10:00 am to 11:20 am**

**110 Warren Street (WRN-311)**

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**Mondays & Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:20 am**

**110 Warren Street (WRN-311)**

**Instructor Information**

**Instructor: Fabian Armilla**

**Email: Fa203@scj.rutgers.edu**

**Virtual Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00 pm-1:00 pm**

**Course Overview**

This course provides an in‐depth analysis of the relationship between violence and criminal behavior. It assesses the theoretical basis of violence by investigating its anthropological, biological, and sociological explanations and roots. Students taking this course will be involved in investigating how and why violence occurs within the contexts of individuals, groups, and societies.

**Course Structure**

This course meets weekly on Mondays & Wednesdays mornings from 10:00 am to 11:20 am. If we need to switch to remote learning anytime during the semester, we will continue to meet at the same time via Zoom.

**Course Learning Goals**

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

* Discuss methodological issues in counting violence.
* Evaluate the sources of crime statistics.
* Compare and contrast assault, homicide, and sexual assault.
* Understand violence within the context of the family.
* Evaluate the link between social class and violence.
* Identify the link between race and violence.
* Recognize the link between mental illness and violence.
* Understand the nature vs. nurture debate.
* Recognize the inadequacy of single-factor explanations.
* Compare and contrast male versus female-perpetrated domestic homicide.
* Identify the causes of youth violence and the origin of youth gangs.
* Determine the link between violent video games and violent behavior.
* Understand domestic violence.
* Understand terrorism and genocide.

**Course Learning Objectives:**

Understand and articulate the predominant criminological theories, including the nature and causes of crime, typologies, offenders, and victims.

**Required Readings**

Alvarez. A, Bachman. R. Violence: The Enduring Problem, Sage: Fourth Edition, Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore, Washington DC, Melbourne, 2020, ISBN: 9781544355658

**Course Structure:**

The course will incorporate diverse learning activities, including lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and group discussions.

Classroom learning is a group activity that depends upon everyone’s full participation to succeed. I expect students to be prepared to begin class on time, silence or turn off and put away cell phones and other electronic devices, read and be prepared to discuss homework, submit assignments on time, and assist their classmates. You can expect that I will be on time and prepared for every class, be available via email, virtual office hours, and appointments to answer questions, make every class engaging and valuable, and respect your contributions.

**Course Schedule**

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| **Class** | **TOPIC** | **ASSIGNMENT** |
| **Class# 1**  Wednesday- 9/6/23    **Class# 2**  Monday -09/11/2023 | **Introduction &**  **Syllabus**  Introduction  and Course Overview.  **Chapter 1.**  DEFINING VIOLENCE | **None** |
| **Class# 3**  Wednesday- 09/13/23  **Class# 4**  Monday- 09/18/23 | **Chapter 1. continued**  **Chapter 2.**  Why do we do it? | **Quiz #1 on chapter 1 at the start of class.** |
| **Class# 5**  Wednesday 09/20/23  **Class# 6**  Monday- 09/25/23 | **Chapter 2. Continued**    **Chapter 3: Assault and murder: A continuum of violence.** | **Quiz #2 on chapter 2 at the start of class.** |
| **Class# 7**  Wednesday- 9/27/23  **Class# 8**  Monday- 10/02/23 | **Chapter 3. Continued**  **Chapter 4: Serial, Mass and spree killing.** | **Quiz #3 on chapter 3 at the start of class.** |
| **Class# 9**  Wednesday- 10/04/23  **Class# 10**  Monday- 10/09/23 | **Chapter 4 Continued:**  **Chapter 5**  **Violence in the home** | **Quiz #4 on chapter 4 at the start of class.** |
| **Class# 11**  Wednesday- 10/11/23  **Class# 12**  Monday-10/16/23 | **Chapter 5 Continued**  **Chapter 6: Rape and Sexual Assault** | **Quiz #5 on chapter 5 at the start of class.** |
| **Class# 13**  Wednesday-10/18/23  **Class # 14**  Monday- 10/23/23 | **Chapter 6 continued**  **Chapter 7: Stranger crime and street violence** | **Quiz #6 on chapter 6 at the start of class.** |
| **Class #15**  Wednesday-10/25/23  **Class #16**  Monday-10/30/23 | **Chapter 7 Continued**  **Chapter 8: Hate Crimes** | **Quiz #7 on chapter 7 at the start of class.** |
| **Class # 17**  Wednesday- 11/1/23  **Class #18**  Monday- 11/6/23 | **Chapter 8 continued**  **Midterm Review:** | Will be paired in groups. |
| **Class #19**  Wednesday- 11/8/23  **Class #20**  Monday- 11/13/23 | **Midterm via Canvas.**  **No class. Have until end of day to complete it.**  **Chapter 9: Crowd Violence** | **No class** |
| **Class # 21**  Wednesday- 11/15/23  **Class # 22**  Monday-11/20/23 | **Chapter 9 continued**  **Documentary:** | **Quiz #8 on chapter 9 at the start of class.** |
| **Class # 23**  Wednesday-11/22/23  **Class # 24**  Monday-11/27/23 | **No Class (Friday Class)**  **Chapter 10: Terrorism** | **Violent Crime Paper Due by the end of the day.** |
| **Class # 25**  Wednesday-11/29/23  **Class # 26**  Monday-12/04/23 | **Chapter 10 Continued**  **Chapter 11**  **Genocide** | **Quiz #9 on chapter 10 at the start of class.** |
| **Class #27**  Wednesday-12/06/23  **Class #28**  Monday-12/11/23 | **Chapter 11 continued**  **Chapter 12. Toward Violence Prevention** | **Quiz #10 on chapter 11 at the start of class.** |
| **Class # 29**  Wednesday- 12/13/23  **Class #30**  Monday-12/18/23 | **Chapter 12 continued**  **Last Day of class**  **Final Online on Canvas** |  |

## Grading

The following grading system will be used for this course:

* Attendance 5%
* Violent Crime Paper 20 %
* Quizzes 25 %
* Midterm Exam 25 %
* Final Exam 25 %

**Total** 100 %

The following scale will be used to determine the final letter grade of this course:

A Outstanding 90 – 100%

B+ 85 – 89%

B Good 80 – 84%

C+ 75 – 79%

C Satisfactory 70 – 74%

D 60 – 69%

F Failing < 60%

**Attendance 5%**

According to Rutgers University regulations, attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled course meetings. Attendance for this course counts for 5% of your final grade. Four (4) missed classes will result in a drop of one full grade. Six (6) missed classes will result in course failure. Two tardiness amounts to one absence.

**Quizzes (25%)**

This will cover assigned readings, handouts, class discussions, presentations, and videos. It is important to keep current with the assigned readings as most of the questions on the quiz will derive from readings. Students must arrive on time for the quiz to be able to take the exam. Quizzes’ will comprise of 5-10 questions. The quizzes will be administered at the end of each chapter. The professor may skip a given week's quiz at his discretion. The professor will also drop the two lowest quiz grades.

**Mid-term Exam (25%)**

This course will measure knowledge of the outlined topic areas by administering a mid-term exam. The exam will combine multiple-choice, true or false, and open-ended responses based on course lectures and assigned readings. The midterm will take place on Canvas and will be available at midnight on November 8, 2023. It must be completed by 11:59 p.m. The exam automatically locks at midnight.

**Final Exam (25%)**

This course will also measure knowledge of the outlined topic areas by administering a final exam. The exam will combine multiple-choice, true or false, and open-ended responses based on course lectures and assigned readings. The Final will take place on Canvas and be available at midnight on December 18, 2023. It must be completed by 11:59 p.m. The test automatically locks at midnight.

**Violence Paper 20%**

Students will select a chapter from the book for their topic. Students will discuss the topic and analyze its effects on society. The purpose of the research paper or book report is to encourage you to think and integrate your ideas. All phrases, paragraphs, or sentences borrowed from another person’s writing must be cited. The paper requires (3) research sources with at least one source from a periodical database. Your paper must use APA (American Psychological Association) format. College-level writing is expected to use appropriate language, grammar, and punctuation. Papers must be six pages, typed, proofread, and double-spaced in a 12-point Times New Roman font. All work must be cited and contain a citation page. Failure to do this will result in an automatic failure of the assignment. The paper will be due at the end of the day on Monday, November 27th, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. via Canvas. This paper must be uploaded as a Word Doc attachment.

**General Information (School of Criminal Justice and University)**

# 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 effort; you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not yours. Violations of the university’s policy will result in appropriate action.

**Extra Credit**

A NOTE ON EXTRA CREDIT: The professor may award extra credit at her discretion. Extra credit is NOT guaranteed, and students should not expect to be offered nor rewarded extra credit during the semester.

**Trigger Warning**

In learning about crime and justice, particularly policing, students may encounter language, depictions, behaviors, and/or attitudes that they may find disturbing or offensive. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about the course materials with the instructor. If you would like to opt out of participating in a particular class module because of any discomfort, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

**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 its 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 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 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.

**For Short-term Absence Verification:**

The Office of the Dean of Students can help with 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, recovery from surgery, etc.). 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. VPVA is a confidential resource and 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. VPVA also maintains 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 to receive assistance; 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.

**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 Rutgers University Police Department at (973) 353-5111.