

**27:202:603: Place-Based Community Crime Prevention  
Spring 2025**

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**Course Modality: Asynchronous Online  
Course Page: Canvas**

**Course Information**

**Rutgers Course Catalog Description**

This course relates urban design and management to crime and crime reduction. The course is presented through the critical lens of problem-oriented policing and situational crime prevention to reduce local crime. It emphasizes evidence-based decision-making, community engagement, efficient utilization of resources, transparency, and sustainability. This course provides a practical study of policies and programs that demonstrate how police and other organizations can address crime vulnerabilities and exposures in the communities they serve through strategies that go beyond specific deterrence of offenders. This course may count towards an MA certificate, Spatial Analysis for Public Safety and Security.

**Course Overview**

This course gives graduate students an overview of key institutions, processes, and policies regarding place-based community crime prevention. Using various materials and approaches, students will be introduced to urban design and crime management research, policing strategies, problem-oriented policing and community engagement, situational crime prevention, and evidence-based decision-making in crime reduction.

**Learning Objectives (LOs)**

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

- LO 1. Understand and critically assess the research on problem-oriented policing, situational crime prevention, risk-based policing, and place-based community crime prevention.
- LO 2. Explore essential research questions in crime management and reduction using policing strategies in local communities.
- LO 3. Understand the broad range of policies and practices on urban design, risk terrain modeling, spatial analysis, and crime reduction.
- LO 4. Sharpen analytical and writing skills by completing course readings, informed discussions, various assignments, and a research paper.

**Required Readings**

All readings for this course are located on Canvas and through the Rutgers Library—no need to purchase any books.

Kennedy, L. W., Caplan, J. M. & Piza, E. L. (2018). Risk-based policing: Evidence-based crime prevention with big data and spatial analytics. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [ISBN: 9780520968349]

Caplan, J. M. & Kennedy, L. W. (2016). Risk terrain modeling: Crime prediction and risk reduction. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. [ISBN: 9780520282933]

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Course Modality: Asynchronous Online Learning via Canvas**

This course will require that you access online resources on the University's Canvas site. Please review the following link for Canvas Student Resources for assistance in getting started in Canvas: <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/students/>

Review Rutgers' Tech Guides at <https://it.rutgers.edu/technology-guide/> to get assistance with technology literacy if you are unfamiliar with online courses at Rutgers. Please also contact the helpdesk for all technology questions: <https://it.rutgers.edu/help-support/>

Canvas Accessibility Statement:

<https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-Canvas-accessibility-standards/ta-p/1564>

It is your responsibility to make sure you can access resources on Canvas well in advance. Please get in touch with the helpdesk for all technology questions: <https://it.rutgers.edu/help-support/>

### **Online Course Rules/Policies**

All members of this class are required to conduct themselves appropriately and professionally. Students should be prepared to honestly and openly discuss this material and examine their beliefs about the issues. The course materials will spark interesting discussions. Insults or other demeaning, disrespectful, or threatening comments toward other class members about their experiences, backgrounds, or statements will NOT be tolerated.

In learning about crime and justice, students may encounter language, depictions, behaviors, and/or attitudes that they may find disturbing or offensive. Please discuss any concerns about the course materials with the instructor. Please get in touch with me as soon as possible if you want to opt out of participating in a particular class module because of discomfort.

In this course, we will use person-centered language (<https://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/SCJ-1st-person-humanizing-language-statement.pdf>), not labels based on statuses or behaviors (e.g., inmates, offenders, parolees, etc.) when talking about the people's involvement in crime and the criminal legal system. The Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice (SCJ) encourages students, faculty, and staff to use person-first and humanizing language in their verbal and written communications. Being mindful of how we describe people impacted by our criminal legal systems is essential in restoring their dignity and humanity. This evolution of language is a crucial piece of broader systemic shifts needed to make our justice systems more equitable. We encourage replacing labels that refer to people as "offender," "inmate," "parolee," or related terms with more neutral descriptors such as "person convicted of a crime," "incarcerated person," and "person under parole supervision."

## Grading Scale and Requirements

### Grading scale

Letter	Definition	Points	Percent
A	Outstanding	180 - 200	90-100%
B+		174 - 179	87-89%
B	Good	160 - 173	80-86%
C+		154 - 159	77-79%
C	Satisfactory	140 - 153	70-76%
D	Poor	120 - 139	60-69%
F	Failure	0 - 119	<60%

### Final Grades

Any issues regarding an assigned grade must be addressed before the final examination date. Do not wait until the last minute. You will know exactly what your final term grade should be before it is assigned because you will know the grades of every assignment/examination/etc. This syllabus also states the value of each assignment toward your final term grade. No grade changes will be considered on or after the final examination date. Grades are assigned objectively. You will get the grade that you earn.

### Course Assessment

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

\*\*\*Similar to most graduate-level classes, this is a reading-intensive class.\*\*\*

**Weekly Assignments (60 points):** Students will submit assignments based on the readings. This paper should be no more than 2- 3 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman font. Due dates for all assignments are on Canvas.

**Weekly Discussion Board (60 points):** You must complete a weekly discussion session. Your weekly discussion post should be based on factual information from the readings and not personal opinions. All discussions should be objective and factual, not subjective.

- **In a discussion board forum, you must write a 200 minimum-word response to the questions/situation/paper given. You are then to read other students' posts and choose ONE post to provide feedback on.**
- Posting early in the week or by Wednesday or Thursday gets the momentum going and allows other classmates to respond to your post. Your main post and response to another classmate's post must be completed weekly by Sunday at 11:59 pm.
- Your feedback to another classmate's posting should be at least 50 words.
- Discussions are graded weekly. Therefore, no post means zero points. Points will be lost for all late and incomplete discussion posts.

**Discussions should be written in essay format, not bullet points, as you discuss a topic, not a summary of information. Think of discussions as short essays with ideas that flow in complete sentences.**

**Final exam (60 points):** Students will complete a final exam related to topics covered in class. More information about the final paper is available on Canvas. The final exam questions will be given one week before its due date. Students will answer several questions based on information covered during the semester. Additional instructions for the final exam will be provided when the exam is released.

**Assessments linked to course learning objectives**

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Learning Objective (LO)</b>
Discussion Board	LO1; LO2; LO3
Assignments	LO1; LO2; LO3
Final exam	LO1; LO2; LO3

**Late or Missing Assignment Policy**

You are expected to complete and submit all work on time. If you submit assignments late, you may lose points. You must notify me if an emergency arises and you cannot complete the coursework on time. Please provide the reason for your absence as early as possible. Please reach out to me to discuss options for late or missing work.

**The use of Artificial Intelligence**

As noted in Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy 10.2.13, the principles of academic integrity require that students ensure that all submitted coursework be “the student’s own and created without the aid of impermissible technologies, materials, or collaborations.”

Please read Rutgers AI policy

<https://policies.rutgers.edu/B.aspx?BookId=11914&PageId=459231&Search=academic%20integrity>.

Online resources for AI use at Rutgers: <https://it.rutgers.edu/ai/>

**Course Evaluation**

Your feedback about this course is very valuable to me. Please complete the anonymous Student Instructional Rating survey when available in Canvas and through your email.

**Course Schedule**

**(course schedule and syllabus are subject to change)**

**Week 1**

**January 21 – 24**

First Week of Classes

**Module 1 – Meet your Professor**

- Review the syllabus
- Complete the discussion
- Become familiar with the class on Canvas – click on all the links

**Week 2**

**January 27 – 31**

**Module 2**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 3**  
**February 3 – 7**

**Module 3**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 4**  
**February 10 – 14**

**Module 4**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 5**  
**February 17 – 21**

**Module 5**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 6**  
**February 24 – 28**

**Module 6**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 7**  
**March 3 – 7**

**Module 7**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 8**  
**March 10 – 14**

**Module 8**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 9**  
**March 17 – 21**

**SPRING BREAK**

**Week 10**  
**March 24 – 28**

**Module 10**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 11**  
**March 31 – April 4**

**Module 11**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 12**  
**April 7 – 11**

**Module 12**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion

- Submit the assignment

**Week 13**  
**April 14 – 18**

**Module 13**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 14**  
**April 21 – 25**

**Module 14**

- Read the articles – see canvas for assigned readings
- Complete the discussion
- Submit the assignment

**Week 15**  
**April 28 – May 2**

**Last week of class**

1. Work on Final Exam
2. Final Exam Due by Sunday May 11, 2025 at 11:59 pm

**General University information**

**Accommodation and Support Statement**

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to creating an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University. 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 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 give the LOA and talk with the 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 \(ods.newark.rutgers.edu\)](https://ods.newark.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973) 353-5375 or.

**For Pregnant Individuals:** 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 assist 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](#). Students requesting a verification letter should submit information using the link: <https://go.rutgers.edu/Verification>.

**For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries:** The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students 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](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu). Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: <https://go.rutgers.edu/RUNReportingForm>.

**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). A confidential text-based helpline is available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support. Students do not need to be victims/survivors 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: <https://go.rutgers.edu/RUNReportingForm> or emailing [careteam@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:careteam@newark.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](mailto:counseling@newark.rutgers.edu) or call (973) 353-5805. Additional support is available through Uwill services:

- Uhelp: Crisis support at 833-646-1526 (available 24/7/365).
- Urise: Wellness-based video collection with a free account.
- Umatch: Teletherapy with flexible scheduling, starting 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 the Rutgers University Police Department at (973) 353-5111.

### **Rutgers: SCJ**

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

