

**47: 202: 344Q1 Crime in Different Cultures  
3 Credits  
Fall 2024**

**Wednesdays**

**6:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Engelhard Hall, Room 203**

1. **Course Information**

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Swiderski

Email: [Nicole.sachs@rutgers.edu](mailto:Nicole.sachs@rutgers.edu); [nms152@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:nms152@scarletmail.rutgers.edu)

Phone: (732) 705-7837, you may call or text me at this number

Office Hours: By appointment only.

**Course Overview:**

This course explores crime through the critical lens of anthropology by situating criminal acts as consequences of the complexity and nuances of human interactivity and cultural heterogeneity. Crime and punishment in other societies, especially non‐Western societies that lack institutional systems of criminal justice, and the social evolution of crime and crime‐related institutions throughout the United States of America's history are particular topics that are discussed in this course.   
**Writing Intensive Course– B.S., B.A.**

**Prerequisite:**

(21:355:102 ENGLISH COMPOSITION) or (21:355:104 HONORS ENGLISH COMPOSITION)

**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:**

1. Analyze various crimes across nations and cultures.
2. Explore and critically analyze scholarly works on crimes across different nations and cultures.
3. Compare and contrast the workings of the criminal justice system in the United States to that in different nations and cultures.
4. Increase understanding and conceptualization of crime as a social phenomenon in the context of culture.

### Required Readings:

Jenks, D. A., & Fuller, J. R. (2017). *Global crime and justice*. Routledge.

**Course Requirements:**

Students are required to read assigned readings, attend course meetings, and participate in class discussions in a manner that reflects familiarity with the course's materials. Students are required to access the course website on Canvas regularly to stay informed about any lecture topics, assigned readings, assignments, and other course announcements.

**Course Structure:**

# This course will be a mixture of instructor's lectures, student led discussion, reading assignments, and videos.

# Course Schedule

NOTE: Course Schedule Subject to Change at the Discretion of the Instructor.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Class Date | Book Reading | Topic(s) Covered | Assignment(s) Due\* |
| September 4 | None | Review of Syllabus and Canvas  Assignment Expectations  Writing Refresh  APA Format Review | None |
| September 11 | Chapter 1 | Global Crime in Context  Six Dimensions Short Paper Discussion | DRAFT of Six Dimensions Short Paper due in class on Wednesday, September 18 |
| September 18 | Chapter 2 | Six Dimensions Short Paper Draft Revisions  Comparative and Transnational Crime  *Trafficked: Counterfeiting* | Six Dimensions Short Paper due by 11:59pm Sunday, September 22 |
| September 25 | Chapter 3 | Human Trafficking  *Trafficked: Black Market Babies*  *Trafficked: Black Market Organs* | None |
| October 2 | Chapter 5 | Weapons Trafficking  *American Totem* documentary | DRAFT of Documentary Reaction Paper due in class on Wednesday, October 9 |
| October 9 | Chapter 4 | Drug Trafficking | Documentary Reaction Paper due by 11:59pm Sunday, October 13 |
| October 16 | Chapter 6 | Terrorism  *The Secret History of ISIS* | None |
| October 23 | Review Chapters 1 through 6 | **MIDTERM EXAM** | **MIDTERM EXAM** |
| October 30 | Chapter 7 | Information Technology Crime  Music and Crime Paper Discussion  *The Perfect Weapon* | Music and Crime Paper due by 11:59pm Sunday, November 3 |
| November 6 | Chapter 8 | Subculture Paper Discussion  International Criminal Law | None |
| November 13 | Chapter 9 | Comparative CJ Systems | Subculture Paper due by 11:59pm Sunday, November 17 |
| November 20 | Chapter 10 | Human Rights and International Crime Control | None |
| November 27 | None | **NO CLASS – FRIDAY SCHEDULE** | Music and Crime Paper and Subculture Paper Revisions due by 11:59pm Sunday, December 1 |
| December 4 | Chapters 11 and 12 | Privatization and Global Justice  The Future of Global Crime | Crime in Different Cultures Paper and Presentation due by 11:59pm Tuesday, December 10 |
| December 11 | None | Crime in Different Cultures Presentations  Final Exam Review | None |
| December 18 | Review Chapters 7 through 12 | **FINAL EXAM** | **FINAL EXAM** |

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*: Attendance and Participation | SLO #1-4 | 5% |
| *Assignment #2:* Six Dimensions Short Paper | SLO #1-4 | 5% |
| *Assignment #3:* Documentary Reaction Paper | SLO #1-4 | 5% |
| *Assignment #4:* Music and Crime Paper | SLO #1-4 | 10% |
| *Assignment #5:* Midterm Exam | SLO #5 | 20% |
| *Assignment #6:* Subculture Paper | SLO #1-4 | 10% |
| *Assignment #7*: Crime in Different Cultures Paper | SLO #1-4 | 15% |
| *Assignment #8:* Crime in Different Cultures Presentation | SLO #1-4 | 10% |
| *Assignment #9*: Final Exam | SLO #5 | 20% |

**ASSIGNMENT 1** (5%): Attendance and Participation

It is expected that students attend every class and show up on-time to all course meetings. This includes days where classmates are presenting. Further, students are expected to read all course material prior to class time so they may actively participate in class discussions. It is expected that all students speak at least once during every class meeting. The attendance and participation grade is based on BOTH attendance and participation. Even if a student attends all classes, they will not earn full points if they do not also participate. Students are permitted to miss TWO (2) classes without penalty. Any student who is more than 15 minutes late to class will earn a half absence for that day. After two classes missed, one (1) percentage point will be deducted from the student’s final course grade for every additional class missed. So, if a student misses four (4) classes, a total of two (2) percentage points will be deducted from their final course grade.

**ASSIGNMENT 2** (5%): Six Dimensions Short Paper

Students will each choose one country and describe the country based on six dimensions: Power distance index; Individualism versus collectivism; Uncertainty avoidance index; Masculinity versus femininity; Long-term orientation versus short-term orientation; Indulgence versus restraint. Then, the student will discuss the six dimensions in relation to crime within the country.

This paper should be in APA format, meaning it should include a Title page, at least three (3) double-spaced pages of written text (i.e., body of the paper), and a References page. The paper should be formatted in Times New Roman size 12 font, with 1” margins. Page numbers should be included at the top of each page. Only Word or PDF files should be uploaded on Canvas.

**ASSIGNMENT 3** (5%): Documentary Reaction Paper

Students will view a documentary in class regarding American gun culture. They will provide a brief summary (one page or less) of the documentary and spend the rest of the paper comparing America’s gun culture to another country’s (of their choosing) gun culture. Papers should include a discussion on crimes related to gun violence, comparing the crimes between America and the other country chosen.

This paper should be in APA format, meaning it should include a Title page, at least three (3) double-spaced pages of written text (i.e., body of the paper), and a References page. The paper should be formatted in Times New Roman size 12 font, with 1” margins. Page numbers should be included at the top of each page. Only Word or PDF files should be uploaded on Canvas.

**ASSIGNMENT 4** (10%): Music and Crime Paper

Music shapes culture, and vice versa. For this paper, students will examine how music has influenced, or has been influenced by, culture, and how music might influence or reflect crime or criminal activity. The genre of music, decade of music, and culture where the music originates will be chosen by the student. Examples of songs should be mentioned, but song lyrics within the paper should be kept to a minimum in the interest of paper length.

This paper should be in APA format, meaning it should include a Title page, at least three (3) double-spaced pages of written text (i.e., body of the paper), and a References page. The paper should be formatted in Times New Roman size 12 font, with 1” margins. Page numbers should be included at the top of each page. Only Word or PDF files should be uploaded on Canvas.

**ASSIGNMENT 5** (20%): Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will be given during the week of October 21. The midterm exam may include a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in, and short essay questions. The exam will be based on the course textbook and will cover Chapters 1 through 6. A midterm exam review will take place in class the week before the exam is scheduled.

**ASSIGNMENT 6** (10%): Subculture Paper

For this paper, students will select a deviant subculture and discuss its norms and values, and discuss why the subculture is considered deviant by ‘mainstream’ society. Examples of subcultures to choose from include: motorcycle gangs, street gangs, BDSM, furries, religious cults (Scientology, FLDS, etc.), alternative lifestyles, punks, goths, UFO contactees/abductees, drug users, extreme tattooing, NAAFA, white supremacy groups, NAMBLA, and extreme environmentalists.

This paper should be in APA format, meaning it should include a Title page, at least four (4) double-spaced pages of written text (i.e., body of the paper), and a References page. The paper should be formatted in Times New Roman size 12 font, with 1” margins. Page numbers should be included at the top of each page. Only Word or PDF files should be uploaded on Canvas.

**ASSIGNMENT 7** (15%): Crime in Different Cultures Paper

For this paper, students may choose a crime of interest to them, and compare the legality of the crime(s), the history of the legality of the crime(s), societal reaction to the crime(s), and punishments for the crime(s) across a minimum of two (2) countries OR cultures. Particular attention should be paid to *cultural influences* affecting legality, history, societal reactions, and punishments mentioned above. Students must enter their topic/crime and countries/cultures in a Google Sheets document created by the professor and must receive approval on their chosen crimes and countries/cultures before beginning any research.

**ALL FINAL PAPERS MUST:**

1. Include at least ten (10) peer-reviewed and/or government sources other than the assigned book, and any biographies, videos, and/or anything else shown or discussed in class or provided by the instructor;
2. Be properly formatted in APA (we will discuss APA early in the semester);
3. Be properly cited throughout the entire paper, both in format and frequency;
4. Be typed, in Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced, and have a cover page, abstract, and references page,
5. Include at least 8-10 pages of actual content, and;
6. Stay on topic and clearly outline the differences in the chosen crime(s).

**ASSIGNMENT 8** (10%): Crime in Different Cultures Presentation

Each student will create and deliver an original presentation based on their Research Paper. Presentations should be eight (8) to ten (10) minutes in length and involve classmate participation and/or discussion. A rubric will be provided to students on Canvas.

**ASSIGNMENT 9** (20%): Final Exam

A final exam will be distributed in-person during the course’s scheduled Final Exam period. The final exam may include a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in, and short essay questions. The final exam will be based on the course textbook and will cover Chapters 7 through 12 only. A final exam study guide will be provided to students at least one week prior to the exam date, and a review session will be held in class the week prior to the exam.

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

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A 90–100%

B+ 87-89%

B 80-86%

C+ 77-79%

C 70-76%

D 60-69%

F <60%

### Late or Missing Assignment Policy:

### Late or missing assignments will receive a 15-point deduction per day late. Because this course is writing intensive and relies on instructor feedback, it is critical that all assignments are completed on-time.

### IV. Course Policies

### Classroom Rules

All the participants in the course are required to conduct themselves appropriately and professionally. I want to ensure this course is respectful towards all students in the classroom regardless of any personal characteristics. During discussions, be open to considering alternative thoughts, ideas, opinions, and experiences from your classmates. Everyone is allowed to state their opinions and have them respected. Before asking a question, please ask yourself if your question is relevant, clarify the contents of the class, or it is helpful to expand the conversation. Refrain from using cell phones during class times. I will provide a break during class; you may use your phones during that time only.

**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.

**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

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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.

**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)](https://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](https://policies.rutgers.edu/1027-currentpdf) Students requesting a letter of verification should submit information using the following link: <https://go.rutgers.edu/Verification>.

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

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



