

**CRIJ 2362**  
**Criminology**  
**Spring 2015**

Professor:

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Office Location:

- C218

TELEPHONE:

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E-MAIL:

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Class Hours:

- Monday. Wednesday. Friday 11:00 am – 11:50 am

CLASSROOM:

- George Beto Criminal Justice Building A290

Office Hours:

- Monday. Wednesday 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm or by appointment

TEXTBOOK(S):

Conklin, J.E. (2013) Criminology, Prentice Hall. (ISBN 978-0132764445). 11<sup>th</sup> Edition

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Criminology, the study of crime, looks to understand the nature and causes of criminal behavior, as well as the causes and responses to crime. This course will introduce students to the different tools used to measure crime and victimization. We will then discuss the different explanations of criminal behavior focusing on 1) biological and psychological explanations 2) situational elements and 3) structural causes. Students will critically analyze the theories, highlighting strengths and limitations of each theory in understanding the cause of crime and the development of policy measures. Lastly, theories will be applied to crimes in order to discuss crime control responses and the relationship between theory and practice.

Many of the topics we will cover are sensitive, controversial, and emotional. During class or while reading assignments, you may find some of the material uncomfortable or unsettling. Moreover, students may find topics uncomfortable because of past experiences or the experience of loved ones. Please show respect for your classmates.

If the material brings up these feelings, or you are in a relationship you think is abusive, I urge you to:

- Talk to a trusted family member, friend, or mentor
- Seek help and support from: SHSU Counseling Center, National Domestic Violence Hotline, 24 hour national suicide hotline, or contact SHSU Psychological Counseling Center

\*Please keep in mind I am a mandated reporter for sexual harassment, discrimination or sexual assault.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To garner an understanding of the **factual knowledge** of criminology, relating to knowing key terms, how to measure crime and research methods
2. To understand the **fundamental principles and theories** of criminology
3. To **apply course material** on criminological theory to crime, especially recent events
4. To **critically evaluate** other ideas, points of view, and arguments as they relate to the study of criminology

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance, class discussion, in-class exams and quizzes

**GRADING:**

Grades will be based on exams and online weekly quizzes administered through Blackboard. There will be three standard exams and a final exam. Exams will include multiple-choice questions. Once the first exam is submitted and the student leaves the class, no other exams will be distributed.

A syllabus quiz, worth 5% of your grade, will be administered through Blackboard.

Weekly quizzes will be administered through Blackboard. They will become available after class at 12:00 PM (noon) every Friday. Quizzes will cover topics from the text and class discussions.

Weekly Quizzes must then be completed before 10:00 am the following Friday. Students will have from Noon on Friday until 10 am the following Friday to complete the assignment. There will be 13 quizzes throughout the semester. **Your lowest 3 scores on these quizzes will be dropped.**

Event	Points of Final Grade	Date
Syllabus Quiz	5%	Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Exam 1	20%	Feb 11
Exam 2	20%	March 4
Exam 3	20%	April 10
Final Exam	20%	May 4
Online Quizzes	15%	Weekly (Every Friday by 10:00 am)

Percent of Points	Grade
89.5%-100%	A
79.5%-89.4%	B
69.5%-79.4%	C
59.5%-69.4%	D
59.4% and below	F

\*Grade verification forms MUST be brought to my office during office hours to be signed.

\*Grades are earned, not given. I highly encourage you to track your progress throughout the semester via Blackboard. Under no circumstance will requests for extra points or “grade-bargaining” be allowed.

### MAKE-UP EXAMS:

Make up exams are only possible where medical documentation indicates students were advised not to attend class because of a medical emergency. Such documentation must be provided BEFORE the exam.

Students will not be permitted to make-up weekly Blackboard quizzes once the exam period for the quiz has closed.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY:

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken regularly. Keep in mind, to be a successful college student not only must you attend class, you must also pay attention. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain the material you have missed. Do not email the Professor asking if you missed something important. Each and every class period covers material that is important. If you fall behind, possibly because of missing class, I am happy to meet with you during office hours to discuss concepts and material.

No more than **5 unexcused absences** are permitted. Absences will only be excused with proper documentation submitted in writing. More than **5 unexcused absences** may result in the loss of a letter grade or result in an F.

**Tardiness:** Tardiness or lateness is distracting and unfair to lecturers and fellow students. Two late arrivals for class will be considered the equivalent of one absence.

Further information concerning the attendance policy can be found at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Academic dishonesty of any kind (e.g. plagiarism, cheating) will not be tolerated. Students found to have plagiarized or cheated will receive a failing grade for the course. If a cell phone is visible during an exam, the student will receive a zero for that test. There will also be disciplinary actions at the university level.

Further information concerning academic honesty can be found at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### DISABLED STUDENT POLICY AND SERVICEES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS:

Any student with a disability that affects his/her academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the SHSU counseling center (Lee Drain Building North Annex, telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786) to request accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to students who have a documented disability. Please notify the Professor during the first week of classes. Failure to do so may result in the accommodations being unavailable. Further information regarding SHSU policy can be found at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY:

In accordance with SHSU policy, students who wish to be absent on a religious holy day must provide written documentation to the Professor prior to the day. If the religious holy day coincides with the date an assignment is due, the assignment will be due during the next class period. If the religious holy day coincides with an exam, the student and professor will agree upon a timely make-up date. Further information regarding this policy can be found at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### USE OF MOBILE AND HAND-HELD ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN ACADEMIC CLASSROOMS AND FACILITIES

Electronic devices are a distraction in the classroom, not only to the student using the devices but also to other students and the professor. Students are expected to refrain from any type of electronic communication while in class. This includes cell phones, blackberries, iPads, iPad minis, and email communication. Violation of this policy will result in an unexcused absence for the day and the student being asked to leave for the remainder of the class period.

If there is an emergency whereby you need access to your phone, please bring it to the Professor's attention at the beginning of class. In emergencies, the student is asked to sit by the door so not to disrupt the class.

Use of technology and/or any electronic device during exams is strictly prohibited. The visible presence of an electronic device during an exam period will result in a zero for that exam. Use of electronic devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty.

Further information regarding the cell phone policy can be found at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>

### EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Email should be sent in a formal style. Include a greeting (e.g. Dear Dr. Hayes), correct grammar, and full signature. Always put CRIJ 2362 or CRIMINOLOGY in your title line as this will help me respond to your emails promptly.

### CLASS CONDUCT POLICY

Students are expected to behave appropriately during class. The professor is the final arbiter of what behavior is appropriate and inappropriate. However, students should be guided by the following principle: Your behavior should not be disruptive or distracting to the instructor or your classmates. The following list of appropriate behaviors is not exhaustive.

1. Come to class on time. Your late entrance is distracting to everyone.
2. Stay for the entire class period. If you must leave early, sit near the exit and leave as quietly as possible.
3. Put the cell phone and electronic communication away. Even texting is distracting to others around you. You will be asked to leave the class if you are using a cell phone during class.
4. Talking with the people next to you is distracting to everyone, especially the people around you. If you are asking your neighbor a question about the course, it is likely that everyone will benefit if you raise your hand and ask your question of the instructor.

5. Be attentive. You may not realize it but it is distracting to the instructor and those around you if you read a magazine in the back of the classroom or doze off during class.
6. Be respectful.
7. Students may only use laptops for taking notes. Please check your Facebook or update your status after class. If you are using a laptop for any other reason besides note taking you will be asked to leave.
8. Complete readings prior to class and be prepared for discussion in class.
9. You are responsible for all readings whether or not they are covered in the lectures.

If the professor finds that you are behaving inappropriately, you will be given one warning. The second instance of inappropriate behavior will result in expulsion from the class for the remainder of the day. My expectation is that nothing more than a warning will be required. If the behavior continues, your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade and you will be referred to the Dean's Office.

ANNOTATED OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE COVERED FOR EACH CLASS MEETING\*

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Quiz Due by 10:00 AM</b>
1/14	Introduction		
1/16	The Study of Crime	Chapter 1	
1/19	<b>No Class - MLK Day</b>		
1/21	In-Class Survey		
1/23	Measuring Crime	Chapter 2	Syllabus Quiz
1/26	Measuring Crime		
1/28	Measuring Crime		
1/30	Crime and Its Costs	Chapter 3	Quiz 1 Due
2/2	Crime and Its Costs		
2/4	Dimensions of Crime	Chapter 4	
2/6	Dimensions of Crime		Quiz 2 Due
2/9	Dimensions of Crime		
2/11	<b>Exam 1</b>		
2/13	Biological and Psychological Explanations of Crime	Chapter 5	Quiz 3 Due
2/16	Biological and Psychological Explanations of Crime		
2/18	Biological and Psychological Explanations of Crime		
2/20	Biological and Psychological Explanations of Crime		Quiz 4 Due
2/23	Social, Cultural, and Economic Sources of Crime	Chapter 6	
2/25	Social, Cultural, and Economic Sources of Crime		
2/27	Social, Cultural, and Economic Sources of Crime		Quiz 5 Due
3/2	Social, Cultural, and Economic Sources of Crime		
3/4	<b>Exam 2</b>		
3/6	<b>No Class- ACJS</b>		Quiz 6 Due
3/9	<b>No Class - Spring Break</b>		
3/11	<b>No Class - Spring Break</b>		
3/13	<b>No Class - Spring Break</b>		
3/16	Social Control and Commitment to the Law	Chapter 7	
3/18	Social Control and Commitment to the Law		
3/20	Social Control and Commitment to the Law		Quiz 7 Due
3/23	Social Control and Commitment to the Law		
3/25	Learning to Commit Crime	Chapter 8	
3/27	Learning to Commit Crime		Quiz 8 Due
3/30	Learning to Commit Crime		
4/1	Learning to Commit Crime		

4/3	<b>No Class - Good Friday</b>	Chapter 10	Quiz 9 Due
4/6	Critical Theories	Posted to Blackboard	
4/8	Critical Theories		
4/10	<b>Exam 3</b>		Quiz 10 Due
4/13	Opportunities and Facilitating Factors	Chapter 9	
4/15	Opportunities and Facilitating Factors		
4/17	Opportunities and Facilitating Factors		Quiz 11 Due
4/20	Applying Theory to Crime		
4/22	Criminal Careers	Chapter 10	
4/24	Criminal Careers		Quiz 12 Due
4/27	Deterrence, Incapacitation, Retribution and Rehabilitation	Chapter 14	
4/29	Deterrence, Incapacitation, Retribution and Rehabilitation		
5/1	Deterrence, Incapacitation, Retribution and Rehabilitation Review		Quiz 13 Due
<b>Final</b>	<b>Final Exam Monday, May 4 10:30 am – 12:30 pm</b>		

\*Syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be announced in class, through email, and/or posted as an Announcement on Blackboard.