

Syllabus

CJ 262.8 Criminology
Fall 2007

Instructor: Jim Mabry
Email: jem006@shsu.edu
Home Telephone: 291-1511
Adjunct Office: CL-01
Office Hours: (Before and After class, or by appointment)
(conference)
Classroom: C110
Class Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
1:00-2:00 pm

Required Textbook: Criminology (Siegel, L. 9th edition)

Course Description:

Criminology comprises the body of knowledge dealing with the causes and consequences of crime as a social phenomenon. It also involves the study of criminal behavior, and the impact of laws on human behavior (and vice versa).

This course will provide an overview of the major criminological theories (that explain why laws are broken) in conjunction with their application to various forms of criminality and types of crime. The primary emphasis will be on crime, criminals and society's reaction to criminal behavior.

A portion of the class will be conducted in a seminar format involving individual assignments, reports, presentations and discussions.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide a learning foundation of valid and basic information.
2. Strive to bring criminology into the lives of students and invite students into the world of criminologists.
3. To introduce the student to research and theories that are relevant to understanding crime and deviant behavior.
4. To understand the different types of criminal acts.
5. To acquire knowledge and understanding of the organization and operation of the criminal justice system.
6. To understand the flow of offenders through the criminal justice process.
7. To understand the major purposes of punishment in our system of justice.
8. To promote maximizing student success in the classroom atmosphere that develops active participation, critical thinking skills, effective communication and recognition of the role of values in criminology.
9. To provide a forum for students to express their ideas and feelings regarding the criminal justice system and how it responds to people.
10. To make the study of criminology enjoyable, understandable and worthwhile.

Attendance Policy:

1. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student.
2. Students are expected to remain in each class session for the full time period.
3. Individuals not officially enrolled in our class are not permitted to be present (except guest speakers selected and authorized by the instructor).
4. The instructor is required to take regular class attendance and maintain a record of student attendance.
5. Class attendance will be recorded and counted from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in this specific class.
6. A student may be penalized for more than three (3) hours of absence.

7. For each additional absence five (5) points shall be deducted from the final grade average.
8. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying assignments or examinations.
9. Students are expected to personally meet with the instructor to arrange for accepting late work or making-up tests, prior to the next class period. Failure to accept this responsibility by the student results in receiving a zero grade.
10. Students are expected to perform assigned reading and acquire class information for any class sessions missed due to absences.
11. A personal telephone call to the instructor, prior to any class, concerning attendance and assignments is appropriate and encouraged.

Grading Policy:

1. There will be three (3) tests scheduled and administered during this class. Tests will be based on any material from lectures, required textbook reading and specific assigned materials. Each test will have the value of 100 possible points.
2. To demonstrate acquired knowledge and utilize personal skills, each student will be assigned two (2) research projects. Each completed project will require a defined written report and oral presentation to the class. Specific information will be provided when this assignment is made. Completion of each project will have a grade value of 100 possible points.
3. The final examination will be given according to the university schedule and will have a grade value of 100 possible points.
4. Failure to complete any assignment which earns a grade will result in a zero for that particular assessment.
5. To promote the importance of assigned textbook reading, students answer in writing a single question each week. The correct answer to each question can be derived from the assigned reading. Each question has the value of five (5) points. The total points possible from this assignment will equal 100 points (from 20 questions on random weeks). Questions will have a simple right or wrong answer. You either make a 5 or a 0 for each question. Failure to turn in the assignment for any reason results in a grade of zero (0).

Evaluation:

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|----|------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Test #1 | 0-100 possible points |
| 2. | Test #2 | 0-100 possible points |
| 3. | Test #3 | 0-100 possible points |
| 4. | Project #1 | 0-100 possible points |
| 5. | Project #2 | 0-100 possible points |

- 6. Weekly Questions 0-100 possible points
 - 7. Final 0-100 possible points
- All grades accrued will be totaled and averaged by number of acquired assessments to reflect acquired grade average.

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F below 60

Additional information:

- 1. Students must complete all required textbook reading assignments prior to each class meeting.
- 2. Students are expected to bring materials necessary to take notes and complete written assignments.
- 3. Students are encouraged to have an inquiring mind and actively participate in discussion, appropriate to the course material.
- 4. Students are responsible for any material or information missed during a class absence.
- 5. Students should feel free to contact the instructor for appointments to provide needed assistance with course material. Please know that your individual success in this course is important to both of us.
- 6. There will be no use of any tobacco products allowed in the classroom.
- 7. No use of cell phones allowed during class. If you have an emergency or on "duty status" bring this situation to the instructors attention prior to class.
- 8. Any use of recording devices must have prior approval of the instructor. If such devices distract others their use must be eliminated.
- 9. All tests and examinations will be taken without assisting materials in sight. Sorry, but caps are not allowed on testing days.
- 10. You are certainly encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussions, but remember to respect others present. Please avoid bringing up personal situations unless called upon by the instructor to do so.
- 11. If we go on scheduled field trips, a specific dress code will be required and certain items cannot be in your possession. Confidentiality will be explained prior to any such trips.
- 12. Individuals not enrolled in this course (children, friends, etc.) are simply not allowed to be present.
- 13. Sleeping and distractions are not considered appropriate behaviors in our classroom.
- 14. Acts of dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in consequences (university policy).

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

15. Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired (university policy).

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html

SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

16. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor concerning excuses to observe religious holy days.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

17. Failure to attend class and perform required assignments and assessments will be reported to the Dean.
18. Exams turned in with the answers Typed will not be graded.
19. You are university students but please remember to make certain you have your name readable on all work submitted for a grade.

Expectations:

- I expect your presence.
- I expect your participation and preparation.
- I expect your very best behavior.
- I expect your very best efforts to learn.

Please don't leave class confused or not knowing something.
Sometimes during our class I'll ask your input on how we are doing and how we can do better for you.
Also you will be asked to evaluate the course and the instructor with this confidential information going to the Dean.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT CLASS.

Course Calendar:

Please note: the following schedule is subject to some change at the instructors discretion to accommodate more discussion, speakers, films, field trips, activities, etc. You will be notified in advance of any significant changes.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Required Textbook Reading</u>
8/20	Syllabus and Preview	
8/22	Project Assignments	
8/24	Terminology	
8/27	What is Criminology	Chapter 1
8/29	What Criminologist Do	Chapter 1
8/31	Overview of Criminal Law	Chapter 1
9/3	<u>Holiday—Labor Day</u>	
9/5	How Criminologists Study Crime	Chapter 2
9/7	Crime Patterns	Chapter 2
9/10	Victims and Victimization	Chapter 3
9/12	Victims and Victimization	Chapter 3
9/14	Prevention and Safety	Chapter 4
9/17	REVIEW	
9/19	<u>TEST #1</u>	
9/21	Choice Theories	Chapter 4
9/24	Choice Theories	Chapter 4
9/26	Trait Theories	Chapter 5
9/28	Trait Theories	Chapter 5
10/1	Social Structure Theories	Chapter 6
10/3	Social Process Theories	Chapter 7
10/5	Social Conflict Theories	Chapter 8
10/8	REVIEW	

10/10	<u>TEST #2</u>	
10/12	Overview of Crime	
10/15	Violent Crime	Chapter 10
10/17	Violent Crime	Chapter 10
10/19	Serial Killers/Mass Murder	
10/22	Property Crime	Chapter 11
10/24	Enterprise Crime	Chapter 12
10/26	Public Order Crime	Chapter 13
10/29	Bill of Rights	
10/31	Bill of Rights	
11/2	REVIEW	
11/5	<u>TEST #3</u>	
11/7	Criminal Justice System	Chapter 14
11/9	Criminal Justice System	Chapter 14
11/12	Overview of Law Enforcement	Chapter 15
11/14	Overview of Law Enforcement	Chapter 15
11/16	Overview of Courts	Chapter 16
11/19	Overview of Courts	Chapter 16
11/21-23	(Holiday-Thanksgiving)	
11/26	Criminal Justice Process	Chapter 14
11/28	Criminal Justice Process	Chapter 14
11/30	Overview of Corrections	Chapter 17
12/3	Overview of Corrections	Chapter 17
12/5	Overview of Corrections	Chapter 17
12/7	STUDY DAY—REVIEW	
12/10	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	