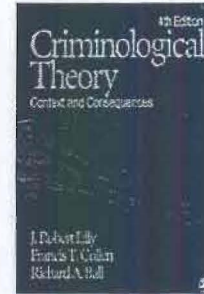


Fall 2007
Course Syllabus
CJ532: Perspectives in
Criminology



Instructor: Brian A. Lawton

Telephone: (936) 294-4772

Class Hours: Wednesday 6-8:50pm

Office Hours: Wednesday 5-5:50pm or by appointment

Office: C127

Email: brian.lawton@shsu.edu

Classroom: University Center TUC 116

Required Texts:

Lilly, Robert J., Francis T. Cullen and Richard A. Ball. (2007). *Criminological Theory: Context and Consequences (4th Edition)*. Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, California.

Cullen, Francis T. and Robert Agnew. (2006). *Criminological Theory: Past to Present (3^d Edition)*. Roxbury Publishing Company: Los Angeles, California.

Course Description: The goal of this course is to provide the graduate student with a comprehensive understanding of theories related to offenders and offending in the 20th and 21st century. This will include theories associated with both offenders at an individual level as well as theories related to place based offending. Topics for the course will cover psychological theories, biological theories and sociological theories with an emphasis on the latter.

Course Objectives:

1. To examine and understand the role of theory in modern society.
2. To understand the construction and change in current theories as they have developed.
3. To understand the benefit of theory in current research.
4. To be critical of theory and understand the limitations of any body of research that purports to explain individual behavior en masse.
5. To be a better, more responsible, social science researcher.

Attendance Policy: In accordance with Academic Policy Statement 800401 (2004)

- 1.01 *Regular and Punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University.*
- 1.02 *It is expected that each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance.*

Students will be excused for no more than 1 missed class without documentation.

Grading Policy:

Final Exam	30%	A=90-100
Midterm	30%	B=80-89
Response Papers	25%	C=70-79
Theory Proposal	15%	F=69 and below

Make-up Exam: A make-up exam will only be considered when a student can demonstrate appropriate cause for missing an exam. The student must inform me prior to missing the exam, or following when the situation is warranted. Students who cannot demonstrate appropriate cause will receive a failing grade for the exam.

Midterm & Final Exam: Each exam will require students to answer multiple essay questions. Questions will include material from all texts as well as class discussions. The midterm will be a traditional closed book exam, while the final will be a cumulative open book test. *Note: I will keep all exams following the class. If you wish to see your test and discuss your grade please make an appointment.*

Response Papers: The response papers will require that students compare and contrast the work presented by the authors of the articles in the Cullen and Agnew text as well as some outside reading. They will require students to understand the major points of each reading requiring a comprehension of the material that the Lilly et al. text alone cannot provide. Papers should be typed and no more than 2-3 pages double spaced. These papers will be turned in at the beginning of the class and will be returned at the beginning of the following class. The lowest response paper grade will be dropped for calculating the final class grade.

Class Participation: As a graduate class it is expected that the students will have opinions and knowledge that they would like and be willing to share. While an open discussion is strongly encouraged, it must be done in a respectful manner.

Theory Proposal: Students will end the semester by presenting their own efforts on how they might go about testing a theory as presented in our texts. Students will not test the theory, but instead outline a proposal to test the theory.

Academic Honesty: In accordance with Academic Policy Statement 810213(1990)

- 5.3 Academic Honesty. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 5.31 The University and its official representatives, acting in accordance with Subsection 5.32, may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Disabled Student Policy:

"Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired". The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by telephone (x-1720). Students are also encouraged to discuss any concerns with the instructor.

Services for Disabled Students:

Information on a variety of services available to disabled students can be found at: www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html

Student Absences on Religious Holiday Policy: In accordance with Academic Policy Statement 861001(2004)

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student who is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

Students should meet with the instructor in the first two weeks of the course to discuss appropriate times to make up any work to be missed.

Schedule

Week 1	August 22nd	Introduction and Review of Syllabus
Week 2	August 29th	Excerpt from Hobbes- Nicomachean Ethics Book III Excerpt from Aristotle- Leviathan Chapters XIV and XV
Week 3	September 5th	LCB Chapters 1-2 CA Chapters 1,2,3,6
Week 4	September 12th	LCB Chapter 3 CA Chapters 7-13
Week 5	September 19th	LCB Chapter 4 CA Chapters 15-19
Week 6	September 26th	LCB Chapters 5-6 CA Chapters 20-23
Week 7	October 3rd	LCB Chapter 7 CA Chapters 24-26
Week 8	October 10th	Midterm
Week 9	October 17th	LCB Chapters 8-9 CA Chapters 27-31
Week 10	October 24th	LCB Chapter 10 CA Chapters 32-36
Week 11	October 31st	LCB Chapters 11 & 13 CA Chapters 41,42,45
Week 12	November 7th	LCB Chapter 12 CA Chapters 37-40
Week 13	November 14th	<i>No Class</i>
Week 14	November 21st	<i>No Class</i>
Week 15	November 28th	LCB Chapter 14 CA Chapters 44,45,47,50
Week 16	December 5th	Class Presentations

The Final Exam is scheduled for 12/12 8-10pm.