

University of Hawaii at Manoa
Soc 333- Survey in Criminology
Summer 2015

Instructor- Nick Chagnon- MA University of North Carolina Wilmington

Email- chagnon@hawaii.edu

Office/Hours- Saunders 721M TBD

Phone- (808) 956-6966

Course Description- This introductory class in criminology will illuminate contemporary topics in criminology and criminal justice as well as providing historical background and context. This course will take a participatory, flexible approach that offers students the opportunity to negotiate many elements of the class with the instructor. The course will concentrate on critical criminological study, examining topics such as racism in the justice system; mass incarceration; alternative justice processes; and feminist theory.

Learning Objectives- At the end of the class each student should...

- have basic knowledge of theories concerning the causes of crime.
- understand how criminologists gather data and study crime.
- understand how crime and criminology fit into society as a whole.
- understand types of crime, their differences, and interrelations.
- be able to critically assess issues relating to crime and criminal justice.

Ultimately this class should serve as a first step in preparation for a student's career in criminology and/or criminal justice.

Textbook-

Siegel, Larry. *Criminology: Theories, Patterns, and Typologies* (10th ed.)
Thompson Wadsworth. Belmont, CA.-Available through the bookstore or online
at sites such as Half.com or Amazon.com.

Additional Readings will be provided on Lulima

Classroom Etiquette-

- Classroom discussions may touch on a number of sensitive topics. While students are encouraged to share their views, all views must be respected. Interruptions of or insults directed at other students will not be tolerated.

Schedule/Assignments disclaimer- The following assignments and course schedule is tentative. Students will negotiate assignments and the schedule with the instructor during the first week of class, and perhaps modify the syllabus to better fit students' learning styles and/or interests.

Assignments*-

1. Exams- Two multiple choice and/or short answer exams will be given, one at the midpoint of the semester and one final exam at the end of the semester. Make-up exams will be arranged under exceptional circumstances (death in the family, serious illness, etc.).
2. Article Summaries- Students will complete one (2-3 page) paper summarizing an empirical journal article. Each paper will summarize an empirical study published in a peer-reviewed journal, such as *Justice Quarterly* or *Criminology*. Papers should summarize the study's research question or topic, theoretical foundation, research method, hypotheses, dependent and independent variables, results, conclusions, and limitations. Additionally students should provide their own reflections on the article, applying class concepts, materials, etc. General writing guidelines are provided at the end of this syllabus. Explicit paper guidelines will be provided on Laulima.
3. Topical essay- Students will write one topical essay during the semester. For this assignment students will pick one topic from class discussions and build upon the material we have covered and discussed. Though all of these need not be included in any one essay, students should consider why the topic is important; what the central debates are regarding the topic; what current policies relate to the topic; and what criminologists have argued about it. Students should feel free to personally reflect on this issue, and comment on its importance and/or significance to them. This essay should include citations from at least five academic sources such as journal articles or scholarly books. Though there is no required length, 3-5 pages is the recommended length.
4. Discussion Board Posts- Each student will do one discussion board (DB) post each week. However, there will be no DB posts due for the weeks on which article summaries or topical papers are due. Each student will construct either an original post commenting on course material from that week or one commenting on another student's original post by Thursday at 11:55 pm. Posts should be about 250-500 words. These posts are an informal writing assignment. However, students are expected to write comprehensibly, maintain appropriate tone, and use citations. This means using clear writing, proper grammar, and proper citations. Furthermore, DB posts should not merely be opinion, but use course material to substantiate comments and claims. Finally, students should take as much care as possible to be respectful when responding to others.
5. Final Reflection Essay- For a final paper, students will write a short (3-5 page) paper reflecting on what they have learned throughout the course, and what they find important. Though they need not address all these topics in the essay, students should consider the importance of crime and crime control in American society; the major issues faced by the criminal justice system; how crime and

crime control impacts them; and/or what might be done to alleviate concerns with the system and/or decrease crime.

6. Online chat sessions- The instructor will conduct a live chat session via the Laulima course chat room each week to discuss course material with students. These sessions will be negotiated and scheduled according to students' and the instructor's availability. Participating in every session is not mandatory, but students' participation grades will be derived from chat sessions, among other measures**. There will be a transcript of each chat session available on Laulima for students to review afterwards.
7. Student conferences- This is an online course, so face-to-face interaction with classmates or the instructor is not required. However, I strongly encourage each student to come meet with me in my office, or schedule a phone meeting at some point during the semester. This meeting will function to discuss each student's progress in the course, their opinions about the course, and their educational goals and interests.
8. Extra Credit- Students who wish to do so will be given an opportunity to earn extra credit. Extra credit may be earned in two ways. First students may write a persuasive letter to a public official, company executive, political candidate, etc. on a matter relevant to criminal justice. For example, a student might choose to write a persuasive letter to the governor making an argument about the state's juvenile justice policies. Students who do not wish to earn extra credit this way will be given the opportunity to complete a similar alternative writing assignment that will be determined by the instructor at a later point. Extra credit may add up to 5% to a student's final grade.
9. Late Assignments- Late assignments will be penalized 5% for each day they are late. If a student can provide a reasonable excuse, the late penalty will be waived.

*- Assignments and readings in this syllabus are provisional. During the first week of class, students and the instructor will negotiate the class structure, requirements, and goals to tailor the course to students' educational goals and interests.

** - Participation will be evaluated according to students' interaction with the instructor and participation on discussion boards and during chat sessions.

Grading Summary-

Two exams- 10% each
Article Summary- 10%
Topical Essay- 10%
Discussion Board Posts- 25%
Final Essay- 15%
Participation- 20%

Grading Scale-

94 – 100%= A	80-82%= B-	67 – 69%= D+
90-93%= A-	76 – 79%= C+	64-66%= D
86 – 89%= B+	73-75%= C	60-63%= D-
83-85%= B	70-72%= C-	59% or lower= F

Accommodation Requests:

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at 808-956-7511 or 808-956-7612 (voice/text) and is located in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the UH-Manoa Student Conduct Code. In it, plagiarism is defined as follows: “Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms” (University of Hawai'i at Manoa Student Conduct Code (1992: 6).

Furthermore, It is ultimately each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules, saying "I forgot about that" or "I made a mistake," are not considered valid excuses when it comes to plagiarism.

A brief summary of the American Sociological Association's Style Guide, which explains the rules clearly, can be found at: www.buffalostate.edu/library/docs/asa.pdf. Any other forms of academic dishonesty, such as cheating on exams will not be tolerated. Any student caught engaging in academic dishonesty will be referred to Office of Judicial Affairs.

Course Schedule

Week	Reading	Topics/assignments
Week 1 (6/8)	Chapters 1-2	Class Intro, Criminological

		<p>Foundations, and the Justice System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguishing criminology, criminal justice, and deviance • Structure of the criminal justice system and criminal law • Historical roots of criminology • Differing perspectives on crime • Sources of crime data • Patterns in crime- class, gender, and race • Consequences of crime- economic, physical, psychological, and social
Week 2 (6/15)	Chapters 3-4 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>Victims/Victimization & Rational Choice Theories of Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of victimization • Victim's rights and victim services • Rational choice theory, its role in the justice system, and criticisms • Mass incarceration
Week 3 (6/22)	Chapters 5-6 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>Trait Theories and Social Structure Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The origins of trait theories • Genetics, biology, and crime • Biosocial theories • Race and criminological theory • Social structure and crime- strain, social disorganization, differential opportunity • Article Summary Due Friday 11:55 pm
Week 4 (6/29)	Chapters 7 & 9 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>Social Process & Developmental Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social process- families, education, institutions, peers, and their relation to crime • Social learning theories • Hirschi's Social Bond Theory • Labeling Theory, consequences of labeling, • Life course perspective, pathways

		<p>to crime, and aging out of crime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gendered pathways to crime • General Theory of Crime •
Week 5 (7/6)	Chapter 8 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>Critical Issues in Criminology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and media • Marxist view of crime • Instrumental vs. structural perspectives • Race and the justice system • Feminism and crime • Restorative Justice • Exam #1- Open Friday 12 am- Sunday 11:55pm
Week 6 (7/13)	Readings on Laulima	Critical Issues in Criminology (cont.)
Week 7 (7/20)	Chapters 10 & 12	<p>Interpersonal Violence and Property Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes of violence • Expressive vs. instrumental crime • Types of rape • Victim/offender relations • Violence against women • Theft and burglary • Arson • Topical Essay due Friday 11:55 pm
Week 8 (7/27)	Chapter 13 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>White-collar and Organized Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer fraud • Corporate violence • Drug enterprise • The Great Recession
Week 9 (8/3)	Chapter 14	<p>Public Order Crimes: Sex and Substance Abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human trafficking • Prostitution • Pornography • Drug use and addiction • The War on Drugs • Final Reflection Paper Due Friday 11:55pm
Week 10 (8/10)	Readings on Laulima	<p>Course wrap-up and review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam TBD

General Writing Guidelines-

-All writing will be graded on content, overall writing quality, grammar, and proper format.

-Content-

-Content should be relevant to the paper topic.

-The paper must demonstrate adequate comprehension of subject matter.

-Any arguments should be supported with evidence, not opinion.

-The paper should not merely regurgitate class materials but expand upon them.

-Writing Quality-

-Writing should be simple, clear, and concise.

-Use vocabulary properly.

-Paper must be clearly organized.

-Ideas in the paper should follow a logical progression.

-Grammar and Spelling-

-All words, especially proper nouns, should be spelled correctly.

-All sentences should make sense.

-Proper punctuation must be used throughout the paper.

-Papers must demonstrate proper verb usage, especially in terms of subject/verb agreement.

-Format-

-Papers must be double-spaced, using 12-point, Times New Roman font.

-Papers should be in ASA format. I have provided a link to an accessible online ASA format guide on Lualima.

-Sources should be properly cited.

-Papers must have a references page.

-All quotes should be attributed properly.

-Be extremely careful not to plagiarize. Self-monitoring for plagiarism is not a passive activity; you must be vigilant, actively examining your writing to make sure you haven't plagiarized.

* I strongly encourage any students who have trouble with or are unsure of their writing to utilize the **writing center**. More information is available on their website at <http://www.english.hawaii.edu/writingcenter/>