

**University of Hawaii at Manoa**  
**Soc 333- Survey in Criminology**  
**Summer 2011**

**Instructor-** Nick Chagnon, PhD University of Hawaii at Manoa  
MA University of North Carolina Wilmington  
**Email-** [chagnon@hawaii.edu](mailto: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* (12<sup>th</sup> 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 Laulima

**Classroom Etiquette:**

- Students should make all efforts possible to arrive to class on time. However, we live in a city with significant traffic issues. As well, our campus has parking issues. The instructor understands that students may be late from time to time. This is okay, but students making a habit of being late to class will be addressed by the instructor.

- Cell phones should be turned to silent or off before class begins. If students urgently need to make or take a call, they can leave class quietly to do so.
- Please do not text in class.
- Please do not use your phone as a note-taking, or reading device. Use a laptop, tablet, or paper for those purposes.
- When emailing the instructor or TAs maintain a professional tone and take time to write clearly and explain your questions and/or needs fully. Include a greeting, body, and ending in your emails. Do not send emails that are simply attachments without any explanatory text.
- Classroom discussions may touch on 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. **Quizzes:** Students will be required to complete weekly online quizzes. These quizzes are designed to be low-stakes assessments of student comprehension of course readings. Many of the questions on these quizzes will not test rote memory, but require students to demonstrate their comprehension of course material by applying concepts, themes, and theories to short scenarios or vignettes.
2. **Article Summary:** 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 Lulima.
3. **Topical essay-** Students will write one topical essay during the semester. The purpose of this assignment is for students to deepen their interest in a topic that appeals to them. Further, students are expected to not only summarize an issue, but also construct a clear thesis about the issue. For this assignment students will pick one topic from class discussions and build upon the material we have covered and discussed. For example, students might dedicate papers to theoretical debates, policy controversies, or issues of social justice that apply to crime and deviance. 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, but this is not required. 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. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

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

**Grading Summary-**

- Quizzes: 40%
- Article Summary- 10%
- Topical Essay- 10%
- Final Essay- 20%
- 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](http://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  |
|---------------|--------------|---|
| <b>Week 1</b> | Chapters 1-3 | <b>Class Intro, Criminological Foundations, and the Justice System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distinguishing criminology, criminal justice, and deviance</li> <li>• Structure of the criminal justice system and criminal law</li> <li>• Historical roots of criminology</li> <li>• Differing perspectives on crime</li> <li>• Sources of crime data</li> <li>• Patterns in crime- class, gender, and race</li> </ul> |

|               |                                 |   |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|
|               |                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consequences of crime- economic, physical, psychological, and social</li> <li>• Theories of victimization</li> <li>• Victim's rights and victim services</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 2</b> | Chapters 4, 5, and 6            | <b>Rational Choice and Structural Theories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rational choice theory, its role in the justice system, and criticisms</li> <li>• Social structure and crime- strain, social disorganization, differential opportunity</li> <li>• <b>Article Summary due Friday</b></li> </ul>  |
| <b>Week 3</b> | Chapters 7 & 9                  | <b>Social Processes and Labeling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social process- families, education, institutions, peers, and their relation to crime</li> <li>• Social learning theories- differential association, differential reinforcement, and neutralization</li> <li>• Hirschi's Social Bond Theory</li> <li>• Labeling Theory, consequences of labeling, primary and secondary deviance</li> <li>• Life course perspective, pathways to crime, and aging out of crime.</li> <li>• Age-Graded Theory of Crime</li> <li>• General Theory of Crime</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 4</b> | Chapter 8; Online Readings      | <b>Critical Issues in Criminology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime and media</li> <li>• Marxist view of crime</li> <li>• Instrumental vs. structural perspectives</li> <li>• Globalization and crime</li> <li>• Left Realism</li> <li>• Feminism and crime</li> <li>• Restorative Justice</li> <li>• <b>Topical Essay due Friday</b></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 5</b> | Chapters 10-12; Online Readings | <b>Types of Crime Pt. 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causes of violence</li> <li>• Expressive vs. instrumental crime</li> <li>• Types of rape</li> <li>• Victim/offender relations</li> <li>• Violence against women</li> <li>• State crimes and torture</li> <li>• Types of terrorism and responses</li> <li>• Professional criminals</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 6</b> | Chapter 13-15; Online Readings  | <b>Types of Crime Pt. 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causes of white-collar crime</li> <li>• Corporate violence</li> <li>• Costs of white-collar crime</li> </ul>   |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to white-collar crime</li> <li>• Characteristics of organized crime</li> <li>• Prostitution and human trafficking</li> <li>• <b>Final Reflection Essays due Friday</b></li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|

### **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/>