

Criminology Program Course Syllabus

CRIM 3302 Section 001 (85481)

Advanced Criminology

Fall Semester 2016

MWF 10:00 am – 10:50 am

Room: GR 2.530

Syllabus revision date: 6/27/2016

I. Professor Contact Information: Dr. O. Elmer Polk, Green Hall, Office #2.208, elmer.polk@utdallas.edu, telephone 972-883-2983. Students are required to use the message tool within your eLearning homepage when asking about the course or assigned coursework.. Your professor checks messages several times per day and you can normally expect a response within 24 hours or sooner.

Office Hours: Students are welcome to contact the professor at any time before or after each class meeting, at the above telephone number or email address, or at any other time available to both the student and the professor. Posted office hours for the Fall are 11 am-12 pm on MWF.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Your teaching assistant for this class is not assigned at the time of the posting of this syllabus. Name and contact information for your TA, if any, will be provided during the first week of class.

II. Technical Support: If you experience difficulties with your UTD account you may send an email to assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

III. Course Description: This course provides students with an in-depth study of crime, criminals, and the reaction of the criminal justice system to both. It explores the interrelationships among law, policy, and societal conditions. The major focus of the course is theoretical explanations for crime and criminality.

IV. Learning Outcomes:

- a.** To provide the student with an advanced, theory-based vocabulary to enable informed analyses of the criminological literature.
- b.** To differentiate theory from religion and/or conjecture.
- c.** To provide the student with an understanding of theory construction and epistemic correlation.
- d.** Provide the student with an understanding of what constitutes crime, delinquency, and deviance.
- e.** Examine the history and evolution of criminological thought.
- f.** Examine the feasibility of theory integration and the relevance of theory to policy-making.

V. Required Textbook and course materials: Required Text: *Criminology: The Essentials, 2nd*. ed. (2015) by Anthony Walsh. Sage Publishing, ISBN#: 9781483350691. Additionally, students are required to read appropriate, current criminal justice journal articles and internet materials as assigned.

VI. Grades will be posted based on the following scale: A+=98-100, A=94-97, A-=90-93: B+=87-89, B=84-86, B-=80-83, C+=77-79, C=74-76, C-=70-73, D+=67-69, D=64-66, D-=60-63, F=0-59. Grades are based on the following events (due dates are in the course calendar and assignment schedule in Section VIII of this syllabus). **Please note that there is no extra credit work available in this class** and each student should strive to do his or her best work on each and every grading event. **The mathematical rule of rounding will apply to the computation of the final grade** in the course based on the grades received in the following events.

1. Examination 1 (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites
2. Examination 2 (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites
3. Examination 3 Final Examination. (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites.
4. Forum 1 Essays (100 points) Answers to five Essay questions must be submitted by the due date in this syllabus in essay format of 250 words minimum per answer with 3 references and the word count (references for all questions must be in standard APA formatting). References must be listed for each essay in a bibliography and internal cites must be used to show where each of the three references was used in the narrative of the answer.
5. Forum 2 Essays (100 points) Answers to five Essay questions must be submitted by the due date in this syllabus same as above.
6. Library research paper (100 points) Each student will choose a theory from the textbook and write an 8-10 page paper on it being sure to include its historical development. The paper must address how the theory has been researched in the literature and the variables used to test the concepts within the theory. Paper must be in APA format in font 11 or 12 with normal margins. Photos, tables and/or figures must be attached as an appendix and do not count in your page total. Bibliography must include a minimum of eight sources with all sources cited in correct APA format in the paper. There is a ten point per day late penalty for those papers submitted after the due date. Papers may be uploaded to the paper link on the eLearning homepage in the assignments folder or they may be submitted in hard copy in class on or before the due date.

All graded events have due dates as specified in Section VIII of this syllabus. Exams must be made up within two weeks of the original due date. All essays must be submitted within 10 calendar days of the original due date.

Incomplete Grade Policy: As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Examinations: There are three examinations that will consist of 50-100 objective items each with a maximum score of 100 points on each exam. Questions are taken from your textbook, powerpoints, lectures, and the internet sites identified in the course outline section of this syllabus. Your score will be posted in percentage scores in your gradebook with a maximum score of 100% on each. The professor will manually curve the class scores depending upon the highest grade made on each exam. The manual adjustments will be entered into your gradebook within one week of the due date for each exam.

Essay Questions: Ten of the questions posted on the discussion board must be answered with each item worth 20 points for a cumulative score of 100 on each forum. Five of the discussion questions must be posted from Forum 1 and five more posted from Forum 2 by the due dates in the course calendar & assignment section of this syllabus. Discussion Board items may be posted early and this is highly encouraged to avoid last minute problems. **Questions not posted by the due dates will be reduced in grade 10 percent per calendar day. Any questions not received by the last day of regular class will receive a score of zero.** Do not post your answers as an attached file because attached files will not receive a grade, ultimately resulting in a zero. Discussion question answers must be the student's own original work and must be 250 words or longer. Post the question number and repeat the question you are answering before writing your answer. Each answer must be followed by the bibliographic information on three sources of information including your textbook and the posting must be followed by a word count. The word count does not include the bibliographic information or the question. Be sure to indicate through internal citations where you use each source in your posting. The bibliographic information and word count must be repeated for each and every answer and you should strive to use as many different sources as possible other than your textbook. In other words, please treat each discussion question as a mini-paper with three references including your textbook and two additional sources. Answers that are simply blocked and moved from any other site that are not the original work of the student posting the answer will receive a grade of zero unless properly cited and the student will be referred for disciplinary action by the university.

Each essay posting should answer one and only one question and must have the following format:

1. Essay # (should be numbered with the number of the question being answered)
2. Repeat question verbatim.
3. Provide answer of 250 words or more (10 point penalty, or more, for not reaching the minimum word count or minimum number of references)

4. Include internal citations in your answer showing where each of your sources was used (no footnotes permitted)
5. Bibliography containing three references (one of which may be your textbook) for each and every essay.
6. Word count = ____.

Attention to proper writing and correct spelling is expected in the essays and is a part of the grade received for the assignment. Use proper grammar and spelling and do not use any type of abbreviations or jargon not found in a commonly accepted, standardized English dictionary.

VII. Students wishing information on the following topics and policies should visit the website following the list. Student Conduct & Discipline, Student Grievance Procedures, Incomplete Grade Policy, Disability Services, Religious Holy Days, Academic Integrity, Copyright Notice, Email Use, Withdrawal from Class, and Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Please note that all chapter reading assignments made in this assignment schedule refer to readings in the required textbook: *Criminology: The Essentials, 2nd ed.* (2015) by Anthony Walsh. Sage Publishing, Additional readings are required in the internet sites identified in the following assignment schedule. As per the UTD Academic Calendar, fall semester classes begin on August 22, 2016 and end on Dec. 7, 2016.

Monday, 8/22 Read chapter 1 in the text as well as the entire class syllabus available on the course website. Welcome to the class! These readings will introduce you to the course, the professor, and the expectations of you in the course. The topic this week is an overview of crime and criminology.

Wednesday, 8/24 Continue to read Chapter 1. Typology of criminological theories. The evolution of criminological thought

Friday, 8/26 Continue to read Chapter 1. What constitutes a good theory? Relationship of theory and social/criminal justice policy.

Monday, 8/29 Read chapter 2. Official data. The UCR and NIBRS.

Required Internet Site #1: Go to the FBI'S Uniform Crime Report at <http://www.fbi.gov> and click on the reports and publications link at the left of page. Then click on Crime in the U.S. link at bottom of page. What are the primary four crimes of violence reported? What are the primary four property crimes? Which property crime happens the most often?

Wednesday, 8/31 Continue to read chapter 2. Victim data, the NCVS.

Friday, 9/2 Continue to read chapter 2. Self-report data. Longitudinal v. cross-sectional data.

Monday, 9/5 Labor Day. University closed.

Wednesday, 9/7 Read chapter 3. Victimization: victim characteristics, workplace, schools, human trafficking

Friday, 9/9 Continue to read chapter 3. Theories of victimization

Monday, 9/12 Read chapter 4. Preclassical and classical schools of thought, positivism

Wednesday, 9/14 Read Chapter 5. Rational choice theory

Friday, 9/16 Read chapter 6. Social Structure theories – social disorganization

Monday, 9/19 Continue to read chapter 6. Durkheim and anomie, Merton and Agnew and strain theory

Wednesday, 9/21 Continue to read chapter 6. Subcultural theory and focal concerns

Friday, 9/23 **EXAMINATION 1 ON CHAPTERS 1-6, AND THE ACCOMPANYING CHAPTER OUTLINES, INTERNET SITE AND POWERPOINTS.**

Monday, 9/26 Read chapter 7. Differential Association and Sutherland

Wednesday, 9/28 Read chapter 7. Social learning theory

Friday, 9/30 Continue to read chapter 7. Social control tradition. Hirschi's social bonds and Gottfredson and Hirschi's low self-control.

Monday, 10/3 Continue to read chapter 7. Labeling theory

Wednesday, 10/5 Read chapter 8. Conflict perspective.

Friday, 10/7 Continue to read chapter 8. Marx and Bonger.

Monday, 10/10 Read chapter 8. Feminist criminology

Wednesday, 10/12 Read chapter 9. The IQ/Crime connection. Psychoanalytic theory.

Friday, 10/14 Continue to read chapter 9. Sociopathy, antisocial personalities

Forum1 →Essays # 1-5 due on 10/19 and must be posted on eLearning course discussion board by 11:59 pm.

Monday, 10/17 Read chapter 10. Biosocial approach, gene-environment interaction and correlation.

Wednesday, 10/19 Read chapter 10. Biosocial risk factors.

Friday, 10/21 Read chapter 11. **EXAMINATION 2 ON CHAPTERS 7-12 AND RELATED INTERNET SITES, POWERPOINTS AND CHAPTER OUTLINES.**

Monday, 10/24 Read chapter 11. From delinquency to desistence

Wednesday, 10/26 Continue to read chapter 11. Agnew's general or super traits theory.

Friday, 10/28 Continue to read chapter 11. Pathway developmental theory and age-graded theory.

Monday, 10/31 Read chapter 12. Crimes of violence.

Wednesday, 11/2 Read chapter 12. Murder

Friday, 11/4 Read chapter 12. Rape

Monday, 11/7 Continue to read chapter 12. Robbery

Wednesday, 11/9 Continue to read chapter 12. Assault

Friday, 11/11, Read chapter 13. Terrorism,

Library research paper due at 11:59 pm today. Upload paper as a single word document at the Paper link in the Assignments folder on the eLearning homepage.

Monday, 11/4 Continue to read chapter 13. Theories of terrorism

Wednesday, 11/16 Read chapter 14. Property crime, larceny-theft

Friday, 11/18 Continue to read chapter 14. Burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson

Monday, 11/21 University closed. **Fall break.**

Wednesday, 11/23 University closed. **Fall break.**

Friday, 11/25 **Thanksgiving Holiday.** University closed.

Monday, 11/28 Read chapter 15. Public order crime

Wednesday, 11/30 Read chapter 16. White collar crime

Forum 2 → Essays # 6-10 due on 11/30 and must be posted on eLearning course discussion board by 11:59 pm.

Friday, 12/2 Read chapter 17. Organized crime, structure and membership

Monday, 12/5 continue to read chapter 17. Types of gangs and related crime

Wednesday, 12/9. Last day of classes. **EXAMINATION 3 ON CHAPTERS 11-17 AND ACCOMPANYING CHAPTER POWERPOINTS.** Exam can be accessed on eLearning homepage in the Examination folder any time after 8:00 am on 12/2/16 . The Exam is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Exam is open-book and open note. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click "Begin Assessment". No time extensions permitted.

Exam MUST be submitted by 11:59 pm on Friday, 12/9. No extensions are possible. Please plan your schedule accordingly.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."