

CRIMINOLOGY
CRJU/SOCI 304, Section 010, Spring 2009

Professor Karen F. Parker

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Class Sessions: MWF 1:25pm-2:15pm

Location: 204 Gore Hall

Textbook (Req): *Criminological Theory* (Latest/4th Edition)- J. Robert Lilly, Francis T. Cullen, and Richard A. Ball

Recommended (Must choose at least one book from list below)

1. *Getting Played: African American Girls, Urban Inequality and Gendered Violence*- Miller
2. *Code of the Street: Decency, Violence and the Moral Life of the Inner City*- Anderson
3. *Crime and the American Dream*- Messner and Rosenfeld
4. *Pockets of Crime: Broken Windows, Collective Efficacy, & the Criminal Point of View*- St. Jean
5. *All God's Children*- Butterfield
6. *Unequal Crime Decline*- Parker

Course Description: The nature, kinds and causes of crime. PREREQ: SOCI201 or SOCI209

Course Requirements:

1- Two Exams: No comprehensive exams are given. Make-up exams are typically not given. The student must provide documentation to be considered for a make-up exam within one week of the exam date. If a medical situation, the documentation must be official with dates of service stated. The make-up exam will not be in the same format as the in-class exam; however, it will cover the same material.

2- Book-Based Assignments: There will be two written assignments pertaining to the book you choose for your book review (See schedule below for specific due dates). Essentially students will be given a handout that poses specific questions that must be covered in the written assignment. Bring in two copies of your assignment on the due date. One copy will be turned into me for grading. The other copy will be used by you during the book-based group discussion sessions. More details to follow.

3- Topical Paper: Identify a specific topic in which to explore in this short paper. The topic you choose should be relevant to the recommended book. Your paper should include: 1) an introduction to the topic (your topic, not the author's thesis); 2) relevance of the author's book to the subject being investigated; 3) a review of other scholarly literature on the topic and 4) conclusions. This paper should be approximately 1000-1500 words (4-6 pages). {Note: Keep quotations as few and short as possible.} If you are having trouble with writing (and we all do from time to time), go to the writing center, always run a spell checker and check out books like Strunk & White's *The Element of Style* or Provost's *100 Ways to Improve Your Writing*.

4- Attendance: In compliance with Departmental and University Policies, attendance is required. Poor attendance (defined as 3 or more absences) may lead to points being taken off your final course grade. Entering the classroom after lecture has begun constitutes class misconduct and it will be counted as an absence.

5- Participation: We may do various exercises in class—both individual and group. The book-based group discussion sessions in class also influence this grade. Contributing to class discussion in general, asking questions about the reading or lecture material, being courteous and respectful of the opinions and ideas of classmates, etc. are all considered as, and thus impact, participation.

Grading: Midterm 25%, Final Exam 25%, Two Assignments 20%; Book Review 20%; Attendance/Participation 10%

Disclaimers:

1- Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is not acceptable. It is considered a VERY serious matter. If you are unsure what constitutes academic dishonesty, refer to the Student Handbook and/or Student Guide to University Policies.

2- Class Conduct: Students are expected to be courteous to others in the class including the professor. Cell phones (or ringers) and pagers should be off before entering the classroom. If you bring a laptop/computer to class, it may be used for class purposes only. If you are leaving the classroom before class is over, you need to tell me at the beginning of class.

3- Student Services: I am happy to accommodate students requesting classroom accommodations. Students requesting accommodation must notify me, typically providing documentation in the form of a letter. If you need more information, contact 413 Academy Street, Room 165.

The University Grading System is: 100-93=A; 92-90=A-; 89-88=B+; 87-83=B; 82-80=B-; 79-78=C+; 77-73=C; 72-70=C-; 69-68=D+; 67-63=D; 62-60=D-; 59- 0=F

SCHEDULE OF READINGS*

Feb 11	Introduction
Feb 13- Mar 25	Key Terms & Concepts Three Paradigms of Theoretical Thought—Chapter 1 & 2 Theories: Deterrence & Rational Choice-- Chapter 12 Routine Activities Approach- Chapter 12 Differential Association and Social Learning Theories-- Chapter 3 (pgs 41-50) Control Theories—Chapters 5 & 6 Social Control Theory Self Control Theory Life Course Explanations of Crime- Chapter 14
Feb 27	No Class
Mar 9	Book Assignment#1 Due (Book Based Group Discussion Session- In Class)
Mar 23	Review for MIDTERM EXAM
Mar 25	MIDTERM EXAM
Mar 27- May 20	Measuring Crime and Data Sources Theories: Labeling or Social Reaction Theories of Crime—Chapter 7 Social Disorganization and Crime---Chapter 3 (pgs 33-40) Anomic/Strain Theories—Chapter 4 Conflict Theories- Chapter 8 Feminist Theories of Crime—Chapter 10 Racial Stratification Theories
Mar 30-Apr 3	SPRING BREAK—UD Class Suspended
Apr 17	No Class
Apr 22	Book Assignment #2 Due (Book Based Group Discussion Session—In Class)
May 13	Book Review Due
May 18	Review of FINAL EXAM
May 20	FINAL EXAM (Alternative Date#1)
TBA	Final Exam Scheduled Day (Alternative Date #2)

*** The schedule of readings and exam dates are tentative. Modification may be made as needed.**