Administration of Criminal Justice 271

CRIMINOLOGY

Winter 2008
Instructor: Dr. Michael Caldero
Office: D-100-C
Phone:425-564-5297
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursdays 10:30a to 11:30a
Email: mcaldero@bcc.ctc.edu

NOTE: This class is taught in a **HYBRID** learning mode. This means that class physically (in the classroom) meets "ONLY" on Tuesdays and Thursday(**SEE SPECIAL NOTE)** During the remainder of the week you will be assigned special projects and web based assignments. I will explain in class.

SPECIAL NOTE: SEE THE "SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS" SHEET FOR DETAILS AS TO WHEN THE CLASS WILL MEET IN THE CLASSROOM AND WHEN IT WILL NOT. THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT:

The course is designed to make students aware that the objective of Criminology is the development of a body of general and verified principles and of other types of knowledge regarding the process of law, crime, and treatment or prevention. These bodies of knowledge are constructed from study and analysis conducted in accordance with the scientific principles of research methodology.

To accomplish these broad objectives, the course will be divided into three parts. Each part is necessary in order to adequately study crime and the theories that explain it.

> 1. The first part of the course will be dedicated to understanding what criminology is and how it came to be something that we study.
>
> 2. Second, we will examine all of the major theories in criminology. These theories explain crime as a social phenomena and individual criminal behavior in many different ways. Some theories explain criminal behavior as a deficiency in the individual, while others explain that crime occurs because of inadequacies within society.
>
> 3. The course will end with a more applied approach to study of crime. We will discuss different types of crime, and how these types can be explained using our theories from the previous section.

At the end of the course, you should have a good understanding of crime and criminology and how these factors influence the political, social and economic elements of our society. This knowledge will enable you to view the relevant issues surrounding the question of criminal behavior from a multitude of perspectives.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

"Criminology", Adler, Mueller, Laufer, McGraw-Hill, Sixth Edition,

"Sense and Nonsense about Crime and Drugs", Samuel Walker,
     Wadsworth Publishing.

ASSIGNED READINGS:

Readings for this course will be assigned from chapters in the texts. Reading assignments will be discussed extensively in class as the course develops. In addition, assignments will be indicated on the website Bulletin Board.

EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS: There are two ways to earn extra credit points in this class. One way is to earn "Big L" points. Big L's are earned when you respond to a question in class and the Big L bean bag is tossed to you. (this usually means you read the class material and/or have researched new material on the internet or through the library). If you receive the bag take a small piece of paper and print your first and last name on it, slide is under the rubber band on the bag and then toss the bag back to me (preferably when I am looking). The second was to earn extra credit is to respond to one of the extra credit topics I announce in class (a good reason to pay attention). In order to receive credit for the information you have researched here is the format you must follow. Write a paragraph or two describing the material you found and give you opinion of it. Post the paragraph **and** the link or article or other information you found, on the Vista Bulletin Board in the class web site. If the information is relevant to the assignment and done according to format I will respond to you in the class email and give you instructions to "print and bring" the posting to class. At this time you will print a hard copy of your posting **and write your name clearly across the top.** You will then bring the posting to class and turn it in to me. That's it… Each extra credit point you earn is a cumulative grade point. This means that after your exams are averaged the extra credit points are then added to your total score. Yes, this means that it is possible to score only C's on your exams and still earn an A for the class. PLEASE ALSO BE ADVISED OF THE FOLLOWING. I will only give credit to the first three postings for any extra credit assignment and will not give credit for duplicate postings. I will not give credit for postings which do not follow this format, in detail.

EXTRA CREDIT AGAIN: For those of you who really want to hedge your grade I will be giving assignments from the Walker text. You will be required to read assigned chapters and post what you have learned on the website. Just another way to earn that grade. I will be posting these reading assignments on the website and/or giving them out in class.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

All exams will be based on the Adler text. The first exam will cover chapters 1, 2, 3, and will be held on **Thursday, January 24th,** the second exam will cover chapters 4, 5, 6, and will be held on **Thursday, February 14th,**. The third exam will cover chapters 7, 8, and 9 and will be held on **Thursday, March 13th.**

SPECIAL NOTE **You will be required to write several "assignment" papers, the topics of these papers and the exact number of them will be listed on the vista website. **WARNING each of these 3 page papers (typed, double spaced, stabled) **must be completed in order for you to complete this course. If you fail to do even one paper you will NOT pass this course. These papers are quite simple to do but it is very important that you do them. Be sure to read the next section "Assignment Papers".**

ASSIGNMENT PAPERS:

There will be **six (6) THREE (3, page assignments for this class**. **You must do at least five (5) of them and each of those must be submitted by their due date and time.** If you fail to do **at least five of these** assignments, which are short THREE page papers, **you will be given a grade of F regardless of how you scored on your exams or your mid-term paper. THE ASSIGNMENTS AND THEIR DUE DATES AND TIMES ARE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE UNDER THE "FIVE PAGE ASSIGNMENTS" ICON BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THEM, HERE THEY ARE. EACH ASSIGNMENT MUST BE POSTED BY MIDNIGHT ON THE FOLLOWING THURSDAYS: January 24th and 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th** I highly recommend that you take these assignments seriously. If you are not sure about these instructions ask me in class. If your assignment does not meet the class standards, meaning it is not written properly or doesn't cover the material or is plagiarized, you will not be given credit for the submittal… Yes, this means you can only afford to mess up ONE PAPER. However, they are relatively simple papers to do and I do not expect you will have much trouble. The computer keeps score of these papers and will automatically fail you if you do not attend to them in a regular and timely fashion.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAPER SUBMISSION:

Please note that I cannot open papers you submit if the attachment is not correct. I can only view in Vista documents that end in .DOC (Word Document) or .RTF (Rich Text Format). **Do not use the**

format .docx or .wps

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING PAPER SUBMISSIONS: For submission of an assignment, complete the following directions:

1. Save your paper to a file.
2. The file must be in .doc or .rtf format only
3. In VISTA, select "ADD ATTACHMENTS"
4. Select the "COMPUTER ICON" to attach file.
5. Select the file you need to attach.
6. Select "ATTACH FILE"
7. Select "SUBMIT."

GRADING PROCEDURE:

Your final grade for this course will be developed in the following manner. Three examinations will be administered, each of which will account for a total of 100 points.

In addition, a project (MID TERM) paper will be required which will have a possible value of plus or minus FIVE (5)cumulative points. The format and content of this paper will be discussed in detail as class progresses, **and posted on the website bulletin board.** THE PAPER WILL BE DUE ON **Thursday February 28th** and **must be turned in BEFORE or by the end of classtime (9:20am) on that date. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Your paper generates a score that can either take your cumulative test average up FIVE points or down ten points. That's right, if you fail to do the paper, or, if you do an unsatisfactory job, as much as **TEN** points will be deducted from your cumulative score after all three exams are added up and the total divided by three. On the other hand, if you do a good job as much as FIVE points could be **added to** your cumulative score. If you want more information regarding this process please raise your hand or see me after class. Do not underestimate the impact of this writing assignment upon your course grade. And remember, any extra credit points or Big L points are also added to your grade.

For the project paper do the following: Find a movie that depicts criminal behavior. Utilize as many theories of criminal behavior as you can to explain the crime that takes place. Be creative, you may even make up a theory of your own if you can justify it, (that means explain it logically). Your paper can be as long as you wish but must be at least five (5) pages, typed and double spaced. I suggest you use the first page or two explaining the entire story line, then explain the criminal behavior you wish to address and describe the theory that explains it. This paper will give you some real life understanding of how theory works and a better feel for it's relevancy to the body of knowledge called Criminology.

PAPER (MID TERM) REQUIREMENTS:

Your project paper is scored according to the following criteria: Content (does it cover the subject matter as directed), Structure, (grammar, spelling, sentence construction, etc.,) AND timeliness (papers will not be accepted after the classroom lecture on **Thursday, February 28th**).

Topic of MID TERM paper:

You paper will cover "your solution to the crime problem in America". You will draw from the theories and perspectives covered in class and your text. You **must** use other theories to explain the rationale behind your theory. You may also draw from biographical and statistical data you discovered on your own or that was utilized or discussed in class. In other words, you must justify your theoretical perspective from the statistics and criminological literature.

Special note:

WITHOUT PRIOR "PERSONAL" NOTIFICATION (at least 24 hours prior to the exam) THERE WILL BE NO MAKE UP EXAMINATIONS GIVEN. Please do not leave messages regarding exam absences on my voice mail.

ONE MORE VALUABLE SUGGESTION: Pay special attention to the "Helpful Hints" that will appear on the website Bulletin Board; they will prove very helpful in preparing you for the three exams. In addition, construct a group to study with well before the exam time; it will pay great rewards in the final result.

GRADING POLICY:

A	=	100-97%	C+	=	80-77%
A-	=	96-93%	C	=	76-73%
B+	=	92-89%	C-	=	72-69%
B	=	88-85%	D+	=	68-65%
B-	=	84-81%	D	=	64-61%
			F	**=**	**60% OR LESS**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS CLASS PLEASE ASK THEM NOW OR SEE ME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE