

## Course Syllabus

Administration of Criminal Justice 271 Criminology

Winter 2008

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Textbook: Criminology by Freda Adler, Gerhard Mueller and William Laufer

### 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. This knowledge will enable you to view the relevant issues surrounding the question of criminal behavior from more than one perspective.

1. Assigned textbook reading (About 1 chapter a week)
2. Weekly Discussion Board
3. One (1) Mid-term (timed)
4. One (1) Final Exam (timed)
5. One Final Paper (5 pages in length)
6. Ten (10) 2 page Written Papers (must be turned in to pass this class)

### Weekly Discussions:

You will apply principles you are learning and participate in discussion with the online class on the information covered in the assigned reading. You must participate in each discussion and must respond to at least two (2) discussions.

Research Projects: Service Learning.... (To be determined)

### Your Requirements:

You are responsible for writing (10) TEN 2 page papers, double spaced, and no more than a 12 font, on topics we will be covering. You must submit these papers on to the ASSIGNMENT ATTACHMENT or to my BCC email ([dwilson@bcc.ctc.edu](mailto:dwilson@bcc.ctc.edu)) if you can not download the attachment.

You must submit these assignment papers each week or you will not pass this class. These papers are pass/fail only.

#### Grading:

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. Your course grade will be calculated in the following way:

- Mid-Term: 20%
- Final Exam: 25%
- (10) Ten 2 page papers 20%
- Discussion Board (10) 20%
- Final Paper: 15%

Grades on assignments are calculated using a 100-point scale:

|        |       |       |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| A      | A-    | B+    | B     | B-    |
| 100-95 | 94-90 | 89-85 | 84-80 | 79-75 |
| C+     | C     | C-    | D     | F     |
| 74-70  | 69-65 | 64-60 | 59-51 | 50-0  |

#### Due Dates:

All assignments are due on the dates listed in the course schedule:

All assignments must reach me through Assignment drop box or email by midnight on the due date.

#### Exceptions:

You may turn in your Papers late only if issues arise are out of your control and by arranging it with me on or before the due dates.

The following is an estimated sample of each Quarter's schedule:

## Module One

### Introduce yourself

**In this module, you will be expected to create discussion of who you are and why you are taking this class. This module is taking place of introductions you would normally discuss in the classroom.**

- Etiquette and Netiquette

### Netiquette:

Threaded discussion posts in online course spaces are an integral part of online learning environments. A feeling of safety is basic for any collaborative dialogue. An overview of the process of creating and participating in a safe discussion environment is provided in the online course space.

### Critical Engagement Criteria:

In addition to the netiquette guidelines for online collaboration, you will be expected to participate in the online discussions in a way that engages with the topic and with the other participants. An overview of the criteria used in this course to evaluate your participation through your original and response posts is provided in the online course space. You will be required to respond to at least two (2) other students postings in each discussion.

## **Module Two**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 1
- Assignment 1.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 1.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Three**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 2
- Assignment 2.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 2.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Four**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 3
- Assignment 3.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 3.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Five**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 4
- Assignment 4.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 4.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Six**

### **Readings:**

- Study Chapters 1-4 along with “Helpful Hints”
- Mid-Term - Exam 1
- No Assignments will be given in this module.
- You will be able to study as a group in the “Discussions” forum or in the “Chat” room.

## **Module Seven**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 5
- Assignment 5.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 5.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Eight**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 6
- Assignment 6.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 6.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Nine**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 7
- Assignment 7.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 7.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Ten**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 8
- Assignment 8.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 8.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Eleven**

### **Readings:**

- Chapter 9
- Assignment 9.1 (1) 2 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- Assignment 9.2 gradable discussion topic with a minimum of two responses.

## **Module Twelve**

### **Readings:**

- Study chapters 5-9 along with “Helpful Hints”
- Final Exam – Exam #2
- Final Paper: (1) 5 Page Paper to be submitted via assignment drop-box.
- You will be able to study as a group in the “Discussions” forum or in the “Chat” room.

For all modules there are indeed chapter readings consisting of about 1 chapter a week. All of the necessary material is contained in the "lectures" and demonstrations in each week's module.

## **Course Work**

### **Assignments:**

General breakdown and basic description of assignments. Refer to full description of assignments in each week's module.

## Exams:

The course is set up so that each exam covers one-half of the course. There will be two exams which will cover roughly one-half of the course material. The exams are in multiple-choice or short answer format. For each, your score on the exam will be the percentage of questions you answered correctly. Grading follows a straight-scale format. In extraordinary situations a make-up exam will be made available to a student who misses a regularly-scheduled exam. This exam must be completed within one week of the original deadline date.

The exams are 60 minutes in duration, and are administered such that each question is shown on the screen. You can go on or return to a previous if needed. **Further, should you not complete all questions before the 60-minute deadline, any unanswered questions will be counted as incorrect.** This format makes it imperative that you begin the exam well-prepared.

## Critical Thinking

The ability to think and write critically are essential skills in many walks of life. Critical thinking skills are developed and refined through practice, self-reflection, and the critique and support of peers and instructors. Throughout this course you will have many opportunities to exercise your analytical thinking, synthesize information, and apply knowledge to real-life situations.

## Library Support

All students enrolled in Bellevue Community College distance courses (VISTA) can use the BCC Libraries online databases and receive reference and research assistance from the Library Services. Enrolled students can also borrow books and other circulating material and receive photocopies of journal articles. Visit the Web page <http://www.bcc.ctc.edu/lmc/info.html> for links to the BCC online database and library support information, including specific information and resources for select courses.

## BCC Technical Support

### Troubleshooting for WebCT or Vista

- **First:** Check the [WebCT Server Status page](#) to find out if there are reported problems
- **Second:** If the problem is with your class, not the system, contact your instructor to report the problem
- **Third:** If you cannot reach your instructor, contact the [Distance Education office](#) at (425) 564-2438 or [landerso@bcc.ctc.edu](mailto:landerso@bcc.ctc.edu)

### Plagiarism

The BCC Student Code is also very clear about the seriousness of cheating and the actions that faculty members are required to take in cases of plagiarizing: The BCC Student Code prohibits cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, knowingly furnishing false information to the college, or submitting to a faculty member any work product that the student fraudulently represents as his or her own work for the purpose of fulfilling or partially fulfilling any assignment or task required as part of a program of instruction. All forms of cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing will be reported to the Dean of Instruction.