

CRIJ 2362
Criminology (Online)
Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Fall 2017

Professor: Dr. Wyatt Brown
Office: XXX Criminal Justice Building
E-mail: XXX@shsu.edu
Class Hours: Online
Classroom: Online
Office Hours: By appointment

Textbook

Schram, P., and Tibbetts, S. G. (2014). Introduction to Criminology. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Course Description

This course will familiarize students with the issues surrounding concepts of crime, criminals, crime typologies, and societal responses to crime. Students will examine the theoretical, methodological, and policy issues in criminology.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will:

- walk away from this course with a good understanding of the factual knowledge of criminology
- walk away from this course having learned about the basic fundamental principles and theories in the study of criminology
- have learned how to use and apply course material as you think about crime, criminals, and criminality.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to read the required reading, complete assignments, and participate in online discussions. Your grade will be based on one discussion, six writing assignments and 15 chapter quizzes. Each quiz will cover material assigned in course readings, online videos, and information discussed in the PowerPoint lectures.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

This course requires regular, dependable access to the Internet as well as Microsoft Word, and Adobe PDF files. If you do not know how to use Blackboard or if you encounter technical difficulties with the course website, contact the SHSU technical team ASAP. They are staffed

Monday through Saturday (except for Holidays) from 7am to Midnight. They can be reached by email (delta@shsu.edu) or phone (936-294-2780). Updated information can be found in the “Need Help” link on the left navigation bar on Blackboard.

GRADING SCALE

Discussion: 10 points (Initial post, two response posts)

Quizzes: 300 points (15 exams worth 20 points each)

Writing Assignments: 120 points (Six assignments worth 20 points each)

Total Possible: 430 points

A = 89.5 – 100%

B = 79.5 – 89.4 %

C = 69.5 – 79.4%

D = 59.5 – 69.4%

F = 59.4 % or less

MANDATORY REPORTING FOR TITLE IX

As a professor at SHSU, I am under federal obligation to relay information regarding victimization disclosure to our University’s Title IX Coordinator for the purpose of ensuring appropriate services and accommodations are provided to anyone who has disclosed victimization. It is important that you know, should you disclose ongoing or past victimization in writing assignments, during class, or to me personally, I am legally obliged to relay this information to the Dean of Students’ Office.

MANDATORY REPORTING OF KNOWN OR SUSPECTED ABUSE OF OTHERS

Texas law* says anyone who thinks a child, or person 65 years or older, or an adult with disabilities is being abused, neglected, or exploited must report it to DFPS. A person who reports abuse in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) keeps the name of the person making the report confidential. Anyone who does not report suspected abuse can be held liable for a misdemeanor or felony. Time frames for investigating reports are based on the severity of the allegations. Reporting suspected abuse makes it possible for a family to get help. Here is a link to allow for such reporting and for further information: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Contact_Us/report_abuse.asp

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is important to understand that this is not an entirely self-paced class. There are important deadlines and students are expected to make routine progress. It will be very likely MORE difficult to learn the material in this class if you have only devoted a short time to the class and try to cram a week's worth of material into a single day. Please make a strong attempt to work on the class material and log into the class throughout the semester. You will probably learn the material more effectively and you may have a more enjoyable experience with the class.

Regular and ongoing participation is *required* in this course. You are expected to check the course throughout each week. Among other things, this means that exams **MUST** be completed during the scheduled time and that assignments/discussion board posts must be completed within the specified time. Make up exams and assignments will **NOT** be given unless the student notifies the professor *prior to* the absence. Rare situations arise when it is impossible to notify the professor in advance. If this occurs, the student must provide the professor with a typed description of the reason for the absence. This must be provided to the professor within five school days of the absence. The professor may request documentation (e.g., a doctor's note, police report, etc.) to excuse an absence that has conflicted with a scheduled test or assignment/discussion post. Attendance is required and critical to your performance in this class. Class attendance requirements will be followed in accordance with Academic Policy Statement 8004001 http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/800401_001.pdf

QUIZ POLICY

There are 15 quizzes in this course. Each quiz is worth 20 points and will include multiple choice and true/false questions. There are a total of 300 available points for these 15 quizzes. The quizzes will close at 11:59pm on the day that it is due (see schedule below).

- There is a 10 minute time limit for each exam.
- The clock starts once you begin the test.
- The exams are set to force completion so if you log out or lose your Internet connection, the clock keeps ticking and will submit your test when the time is up.
- Make sure to have a dependable, hardwired Internet connection when taking exams.
- If you use a wireless internet connection and you get kicked out of the exam, special considerations and make-up exams will not be granted. Therefore, it is important that you schedule time to take the tests in a location where your computer is connected to the internet through a hard wire. There will be NO make-up quizzes unless there is an

extreme documented medical or personal emergency. In the case of such an emergency, the professor must be notified *prior to* the absence. If early notification is not possible, students must make sure that they contact the professor as soon as they are safely able to do so. Early notification and/or proper documentation will not necessarily guarantee that a make-up quiz will be granted. *If the student misses the make-up quiz, they will receive a zero for that quiz without exception.*

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY POLICY In accordance with SHSU policy 861001, students who wish to be absent from class on a religious holy day may provide a written statement to the professor concerning their absence. For a complete list of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

ACADEMIC (ONLINE) ETIQUETTE In this class, you are required to conduct yourself in an appropriate, responsible, and professional manner. The objective in an online discussion is to be collaborative, *not* combative. Be sure to proofread your responses carefully before you post them to make sure that they will not be offensive to others. Use discussions to develop your skills in collaboration and teamwork. Treat the discussion areas as a creative environment where you and your classmates can ask questions, express opinions, revise opinions, and take positions just as you would in a more “traditional” classroom setting. Do not use “text” shorthand or any other inappropriate abbreviations – as stated earlier, I expect properly composed, grammatically correct discussion posts. Discussion responses will be graded for content, but spelling/grammatical errors will result in point reductions. **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION** SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For a complete listing of the University policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf For information on services provided, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/HONESTY

Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating, falsification, fabrication, multiple submissions, plagiarism, and abuse of academic materials will not be tolerated. Students caught exhibiting such behavior will receive a **failing grade in the course**. If you have any questions with regard to what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., what is plagiarism/cheating?), please see me. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

For each assignment, you will be provided with an article to read/review, followed by a description and a set of instructions. In order to get full credit, you must follow the assignment guidelines (these can be found on Blackboard where each assignment is explained). In preparing your assignment responses, make sure that you are writing in academic voice, are thorough in your points, and are making an intellectual contribution. Cite your work and do not make assertions that you cannot provide evidence for. **Your responses must address each question in order to get credit.** Assignments will be graded for content AND grammar/spelling errors. This means that you may be able to answer the questions entirely appropriately, but if you do not edit your response before your completed assignment has been submitted, points will be deducted for errors. **You must use APA citation in order to get full credit.** LATE ASSIGNMENTS will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

1. **ALL** emails to the professor must be written in a formal style to receive a response. This means that you must include a greeting and sign the email.
2. Class grades are **NOT** negotiable. Any attempt to negotiate grades (e.g., coaxing, bargaining) will be considered a violation of academic integrity.
3. As this is an online class, all communication will take place online. This means that if you have questions/concerns or I need to contact you, I will do so via email.
4. I am obviously available via email, but if you contact me electronically after 5:00pm, on the weekend or a University holiday, except a response the next working business day after 8:00am.

DISCLAIMER: The class schedule in this syllabus is subject to change. Announcements of any changes to the schedule will be made via email and/or posted in Blackboard. These announcements are considered proper notice of change.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK	TOPICS	READ	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	DUE DATE
08/23/17-08/27/17	Course Introductions	Syllabus, Professor information	"Meet and Greet" - Discussion 1	Self-introduction post for Discussion 1 due by Friday at 11:59p. Two Response posts for Discussion 1 due by Sunday at 11:59p
08/28/17-09/03/17	Introduction to Criminology	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 1	Quiz 1	Quiz 1: Opens Friday, 1/27 and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, September 3rd
09/04/17-09/10/17	Classical School of Criminology	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 2	Assignment 1. Quiz 2	Assignment 1: "Crime in the News: Three-Strikes" (Opens Monday, 9/4 and closes Friday, 9/8 at 11:59p.) Quiz 2 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, September 10th
09/11/17-09/17/17	Contemporary Classical and Deterrence Research	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 3	Quiz 3	Quiz 3 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, September 17th
09/18/17-09/24/17	Early Positivism: Biological Theories of Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 4	Assignment 2 Quiz 4	Assignment 2: "Crime in the News: Sterilization" (Opens Monday, 9/18 and closes Friday, 9/22 at by 11:59p) Quiz 4 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, September 24th
09/25/17-10/01/17	Modern Biological Perspectives of Criminal Behavior	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 5	Assignment 3 Quiz 5	Assignment 3: "Crime in the News: ADHD and Behavior" (Opens Monday, 9/25 and closes Friday, 9/29 by 11:59p) Quiz 5 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 1st
10/02/17-10/08/17	Psychological/Trait Theories of Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 6	Quiz 6	Quiz 6 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 8th
10/09/17-10/15/17	Structural Theories of Crime I: Early Development/Strain Theory	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 7	Quiz 7	Quiz 7 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 15th
10/16/17-10/22/17	Structural Theories of Crime II: Social Disorganization and Subcultures	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 8	Assignment 4 Quiz 8	Assignment 4: "Crime in the News: Homicide Rates in New York and Chicago." (Opens Monday, 10/16 and closes Friday, 10/20 by 11:59p) Quiz 8 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 22nd
10/23/17-10/29/17	Social Process and Control Theories of Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 9	Quiz 9	Quiz 8 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 29th
10/30/17-11/05/17	Labeling Theory and Conflict Theories	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 10	Assignment 5 Quiz 10	Assignment 5: "Crime in the News: Manifestos" (Opens Monday, 10/30 and closes Friday 11/3 by 11:59p.) Quiz 10 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, November 5th
11/06/17-11/12/17	Feminist Theories of Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 11	Quiz 11	Quiz 11 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, November 11th

11/13/17- 11/19/17	Developmental/Life -Course Perspectives of Criminology	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 12	Quiz 12	Quiz 12 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, November 19th
11/20/17- 11/26/17	White Collar Crime, Organized Crime and Cyber Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 13	Quiz 13	Quiz 13 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, November 26th
11/27/17- 12/03/17	Hate Crimes, Terrorism, and Homeland Security	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 14	Assignment 6 Quiz 14	Assignment 6: “Crime in the News: National Counterterrorism Center” (opens Monday, 11/27 and closes Friday, 12/1 at 11:59p) Quiz 14 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, December 03
12/04/17- 12/07/17	Drugs and Crime	Schram & Tibbetts, Ch. 15	Quiz 15	Quiz 15 Opens Friday and closes at 11:59pm on Sunday, December 07