

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY

COURSE: CRIJ 2362 CRIMINOLOGY

CRIJ 2362.10 (Main Campus – CJ Center – Classroom A201)

Semester/Year: Spring 2018 Credit Hours: 3

Professor: Diana Kukua

Office: C204

Phone: 936-577-4210

Class Hours/Classroom:

Hours: Before or After Class or via Email/Phone

Email: dxk009@shsu.edu

12:30pm – 1:50pm, Tues/Thurs, CJC, Room A201

Required Textbook

Schram, P., & Tibbetts, S.G. (2014). *Introduction to Criminology: Why Do They Do It?* Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Course Description

This course will provide a basic introduction of criminology theories, and how these apply to the realities of crime and criminal behavior. It will include discussions on crime statistics, social settings of crime, crime prevention and deterrence, and policy trends and implications. In the end, it is hoped that students will come away with a better understanding of criminology, criminal psychology, and of how criminology theories are applied to crime.

Course Objectives

1. Define criminology, and identify key concepts of criminology.
2. Explore criminology theories and methodology.
3. Apply criminology theories and methodology to realistic crime and criminal behavior.
4. Discuss and evaluate criminology in relation to criminal justice.
5. Discuss and evaluate current issues or trends impacting criminology theories and methods.

Course Requirement – Group Projects (5 x 20 Points = 100 Possible Points)

There will be at least five group projects related to the course content during this semester. These projects will usually be conducted in class, or a computer lab (when applicable). Each student is expected to actively participate as part of a group/team. The projects will usually result in at least one of the group members reporting the team's findings. Each member of the team will receive 20 points upon completion of the group project. Individual project points will be deducted for non-participation, up to and including a grade of zero. These assignments will be completed in class on selected days, and there will **NOT** be a make-up for an unexcused absence. These assignments *may* or *may not* be announced prior to the selected days.

Course Requirement – Short Paper (1 x 100 Points = 100 Possible Points):

There is one short writing assignment related to the course content. This assignment will involve a review of a recent or past high-profile crime incident (local, state, or national). Students will be expected to summarize the who, what, when, where, and how of the crime, and to also apply criminology theory as a possible explanation as to why the crime was committed, and possible deterrence methods to prevent crimes of this type. The body of the paper should be two pages, typed, double spaced, using Times New Roman or similar 12-point font, and APA (6th ed. or later) or MLA format for citations. A cover page and reference or works cited page should also be included (for a total of four pages).

Course Requirement – Exams (3 x 100 Points = 300 Possible Points):

There will be two regular exams and one final exam during this course.

Course Grading

Possible Points (500):

1. Group Projects – 100 Points (5 Projects x 20 Points Each = 100 Points)
2. Crime Incident Paper - (Short Paper – 100 Points)
3. Exams = 300 points (3 exams to include the final exam worth 100 points each)**

**Exams (including the final) may consist of short answer questions, to include true/false, and/or multiple-choice responses. Exams may include information from textbook reading assignments, power points, lectures, and/or pre-exam reviews (when applicable).

A = 450-500 B = 400-449 C = 350-399 D = 300-349 F = 299 and Below

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend class as required by University policy. This policy will be adhered to and enforced. Students will not be allowed to submit missed assignments, without an excused absence. Review the University attendance policy at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>.

Make up Exams/ Illness

Make up exams will be given only if a student has [1] contacted the instructor prior to the exam; and [2] has a University recognized absence which includes illness documented by a physician, religious observance, and participation in University activities at the request of University authorities. Official documentation must be provided.

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments and exams, unless otherwise noted. Some of your written coursework submitted may be evaluated for signs of plagiarism. Violations of academic integrity will result in a grade of “F” on parts of the course, a failure of the entire course, or a recommendation for suspension from the University. See policy at Dean of Student’s Office at: http://www.shsu.edu/~slo_www/.

Student Academic Policies

Student Academic Policies concerning Attendance, Academic Honesty, Disabled Students and Services for Disabled Students, and Absences on Religious Holy days may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities which may affect their performance in class, may contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office at 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, by email disability@shsu.edu, or visit website at www.shsu.edu/disability for information. Advisors and/or the instructor should be notified as soon as possible so that provisions may be made to better ensure that students will have an equal opportunity to meet the requirements of the class. Also see <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student who is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>

Email

Emails regarding this course will be sent to your SHSU student email account. Please respond via your SHSU student email account. It is YOUR responsibility to check your emails regularly, and to make sure you are receiving messages. Always place your full name, class number, and section number in the subject line, when sending an email to the instructor.

Cell Phones/Text Messages in Academic Classrooms/Facilities

Cell phone or other electronic use during class may only be for purposes related to the course, unless otherwise approved by the instructor. Please review <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>.

Academic Success Center Services/Writing Center

You may contact the Academic Success Center or Writing Center at asc@shsu.edu or call 936-294-3680 to schedule an appointment or inquire about services. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate, organize, or revise a draft of any assignment in any subject. Students are responsible for abiding by all published rules and regulations as printed in the "Undergraduate Catalogue, Student Guidelines," and in other official university publications.

COURSE TOPICS/SCHEDULE:

***Subject to change at the discretion of the professor to keep up with pace of the class.**

****Students are responsible for completion of all assignments and exams.**

****Course may be supplemented with journals, news articles, or other available media.**

****May include prison tour, guest speakers, computer lab, or library. Dates TBD.**

Week 1 (01/18): Chapter 1 – Introduction to Criminology

Syllabus/Carry on Campus Policy/Emergency Procedures/Current Events/Feedback

Read Chapter 1

Week 2 (01/23 and 01/25): Chapter 1 – Introduction to Criminology

Week 3 (01/30 and 02/01): Chapter 2 – Classical School of Criminological Thought

Week 4 (02/06 and 02/08): Chapter 2 – Classical School of Criminological Thought

Week 5 (02/13 and 02/15): Chapter 3 – Contemporary Classical and Deterrence Research

Week 6 (02/20 and 02/22): Chapter 4 – Early Positivism: Biological Theories of Crime

Review for Exam I

EXAM I – Week 6

Week 7 (02/27 and 03/01): Chapter 5 – Modern Biosocial Perspectives of Criminal Behavior

Week 8 (03/06 and 03/08): Chapter 6 – Psychological/Trait Theories of Crime

*****WEEK OF MARCH 12-16 - NO CLASS - SHSU SPRING BREAK*****

Week 9 (03/20 and 03/22): Chapter 7 – Social Structure Theories of Crime 1

Week 10 (03/27 and 03/29): Chapter 8 – Social Structure Theories of Crime 2

Week 11 (04/03 and 04/05): Chapter 9 – Social Process and Control Theories of Crime

Week 12 (04/10 and 04/12): Chapter 10 – Labeling Theory and Conflict/Marxist/Radical...

Review for Exam II and Assignment of the Short Paper (Crime Incident)

EXAM II – Week 12

Week 13 (04/17 and 04/19): Chapter 11 – Feminist Theories of Crime

Chapter 12 – Developmental/Life-Course Perspectives...

Week 14 (04/24 and 04/26): Chapter 13 – White-Collar Crime

Chapter 14 – Hate Crimes, Terrorism, Homeland Security

Week 15 (May 01 and May 03): Chapter 15 – Drugs and Crime

Review for Final Exam / Short Paper Due This Week

****May 03**

Last Regular Class Day

****May 04**

Last Day to Resign with Registrar's Office

*****Week 16 : FINAL EXAM – Tuesday – May 08 - (1:00pm to 3:00pm), Rm A201*****