

CRIJ 2362
Introduction to Methods of Research (Online)
Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Spring 2018

Professor: Richard Lewis
Office: CL 35 Criminal Justice Building
E-mail: Rlewis@shsu.edu
Class Hours: Online
Classroom: Online
Office Hours: By appointment

Required Textbook

Schram, P., and Tibbetts, S. G. (2014). *Introduction to Criminology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. ISBN 978-1-4522-5648-1

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

This semester we will focus on accomplishing a few particular goals:

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

Course Requirements and Grading

Quizzes (15 @ 4% each)	60% of final grade
Writing Assignments (4 @ 10% each)	40% of final grade

Your grade will be based on four writing assignments and 15 chapter quizzes. Each quiz will cover material assigned in course readings, online videos, and information discussed in the PowerPoint lectures.

There are *NO* extra credit opportunities in this class.

QUIZZES

There are 15 quizzes in this course. Each quiz is worth 4% of your final grade and will include multiple choice and true/false questions. The quizzes will close at 11:59pm on the day that it is due (see schedule below).

- There is a 30 minute time limit for each quiz.
- 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 (i.e., do not take the quiz using a smartphone or other handheld device).
- 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.*

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

There are 4 writing assignments in this course. Each writing assignment is worth 10% of your final grade. The writing assignments are due at 11:59pm on the day specified in the schedule below.

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.

Class Attendance and Other Policies

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 very likely be more difficult to learn the material in this class if you devoted only a single day to the class and tried to cram a week's worth of material into a single day. Please make a strong attempt to work on the class material and to log into the class throughout the week. You'll probably learn the material more effectively and you may have a more enjoyable experience with the class.

Regular and ongoing participation in this course is *required*. You are expected to check the course throughout the week. Among other things, this means that exams must be completed during the scheduled time and that assignments must be completed within the specified time. Makeup exams and quizzes will NOT be given unless the student notifies the professor *prior* to the absence. Assignments will not be accepted after the due date unless the student notifies the professor *prior* to the absence. Rare situations arise in which it is impossible to notify the instructor in advance. If this occurs the student must provide the instructor with a typed description of the reason for the absence. This must be provided to the professor within five school days of the absence. Verbal excuses will not be accepted. Furthermore, if a student wishes to dispute a grade on any assignment or exam, the student must provide the instructor with a typed description of the dispute within five school days of the date on which the assignment was returned to the class.

Attendance is required and critical to your performance in this class. Class attendance requirements will be followed in accordance with Academic Policy Statement 800401 <http://shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

In all other matters, such as course additions and withdrawals, assignment of "incomplete" grades, and plagiarism, the policies of Sam Houston State University will be followed.

Please refer to the following on-line resources for:

Student Code of Conduct, including Academic Honesty

Disabled Student Policy:

Services for Disabled Students

Student absences on religious holy day policy:

<http://shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK	TOPICS	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	DUE DATE
01/17/18- 01/21/18	Introduction to Criminology	Chapter 1	Quiz #1	11:59pm on Sunday, February 11 th
01/22/18- 01/28/18	Classical School of Criminological Thought	Chapter 2	Quiz #2	11:59pm on Sunday, February 11 th
01/29/18- 02/04/18	Contemporary Classical and Deterrence Research	Chapter 3	Quiz #3	11:59pm on Sunday, February 11 th
02/05/18- 02/11/18	Early Positivism: Biological Theories of Crime	Chapter 4	Quiz #4 & Writing Assignment #1	11:59pm on Sunday, February 11 th
02/12/18- 02/18/18	Modern Biosocial Perspectives of Criminal Behavior	Chapter 5	Quiz #5	11:59pm on Sunday, February 18 th
02/19/18- 02/25/18	Psychological/Trait Theories of Crime	Chapter 6	Quiz #6	11:59pm on Sunday, February 25 th
02/26/18- 03/04/18	Social Structure Theories of Crime I: Early Development and Strain Models of Crime	Chapter 7	Quiz #7	11:59pm on Sunday, March 3 rd
03/05/18- 03/11/18	Social Structure Theories of Crime II: Social Disorganization and Subcultures	Chapter 8	Quiz #8 & Writing Assignment #2	11:59pm on Sunday, March 11 th
03/12/18- 03/18/18	Work on writing assignment		Spring Break!	
03/19/18- 03/25/18	Social Process and Control Theories of Crime	Chapter 9	Quiz #9	11:59pm on Sunday, March 25 th
03/26/18- 04/01/18	Labeling Theory and Conflict/Marxist/Radical Theories of Crime	Chapter 10	Quiz #10	11:59pm on Sunday, April 1 st
04/02/18- 04/08/18	Feminist Theories of Crime	Chapter 11	Quiz #11& Writing Assignment #3	11:59pm on Sunday, April 8 th
04/09/18- 04/15/18	Developmental/Life-Course Perspectives of Criminality	Chapter 12	Quiz #12	11:59pm on Sunday, April 15 th

04/16/18- 04/22/18	White Collar Crime, Organized Crime, and Cybercrime	Chapter 13	Quiz #13	11:59pm on Sunday, April 22 nd
04/23/18- 04/29/18	Hate Crimes, Terrorism, and Homeland Security	Chapter 14	Quiz #14 & Writing Assignment #4	11:59pm on Sunday, April 29 th
04/30/18- 05/06/18	Drugs and Crime	Chapter 15	Quiz #15	11:59pm on <i>Thursday</i> , May 6 th

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.