

## SOCJ 402: Criminology

**Catalog Description:** Crime is a major social problem that increasingly continues not only to undermine and stifle individual liberties, but also is having a tremendous draining effect on the already burdened valuable resources of the American society. This course provides an understanding of the historical development and definition of the concepts of crime and the criminal justice system; the volume and extent of crime; and the nature and processes of the criminal justice system and correction. The course will also explore various factors (biological, psychological, and sociological) associated with crime.

**Detailed Description:** This course is a survey of the patterns and trends in adult criminal behavior and juvenile delinquency analyzed in terms of various theories of such behavior. Students will also examine types of crime and the administration of justice

**Required Textbook:** Bohm, Robert M. and Brenda L. Vogel. 2011. "A Primer on Crime and Delinquency Theory" (third edition). ISBN-13: 978-0-495-80750-6.

**Schedule of Course Assignments:** Over the course of the semester, all assignments are submitted in Sakai on the dates listed below. The instructions are available in Sakai. There will be no late submissions for missed assignments except under dire and documented circumstances and at the instructor's discretion.

DUE DATE	ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE	COURSE ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
		<b>DISCUSSION POST (on Forum)</b>	
7/11	Homework 1	Lesson 1: Student introductions	20
		<b>ASSIGNMENTS (on "Assignments" link)</b>	
7/12	Homework 2	Lesson 1: Crime and theory	40
7/13	Homework 3	Lesson 1: Article summary on usefulness of Criminology	60
7/17	Homework 4	Lesson 2: Critical Thinking essay on the death penalty	60
7/26	Homework 5	Lesson 4: Critical Thinking and Psychological Theory	40
8/2	Homework 7	Lesson 6: Women and Crime	40
8/5	Homework 9	Lesson 7: Juvenile Justice Systems	60
		<b>EXAMS (on "Assignments" link)</b>	
7/19	Exam 1	Lesson 2: Exam 1 on Theory	100
7/23	Exam 2	Lesson 3: Biology Vocabulary Exam	100
7/30	Exam 3	Lesson 5: Essay Exam on Micro and Macro Theory	100
		<b>EXTRA CREDIT (on "Assignments" link)</b>	
7/28	Homework 6	Essay: Labeling and Interactionist theory	50

8/4	Homework 8	Lesson 7: Video Assessment on Juvenile Delinquency	15
		PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE	
7/8 - 7/31	Participation	20 pts. per class session * 8	160

**Grading:** All assessments are submitted in Sakai. All scores for one discussion post, six assignments, three exams, and one final paper will be based out of a possible **780** points, which are based on exams and assignments listed above. There are specific deadlines for each assignment, which there should be no submissions of late work or last minute work. There are also **65** optional extra credit points.

A = 90-100+% = 702-780+ points  
 B = 80-89% = 624-701 points  
 C = 70-79% = 546-623 points  
 D = 60-69% = 468-545 points  
 F = below 60 = less than 467 points

**Exams:** Three exams covering selected textbook chapters and class materials are available on Sakai. Each exam is worth 100 points. There will be no make-up exams for missed exams except under dire and documented circumstances and at the instructor's discretion. Make-up exams must be completed within one week of the scheduled exam date.

**Extra Credit:** Please note the requirements for receiving credit for "Extra Credit" Assignments. If a student has more than "2" unexcused class absences, the student is NOT eligible to receive credit for extra credit assignments. If a student fails to submit 2 or more assignments, the student is NOT eligible to receive credit for extra credit assignments. The assigned required work allows each student to meet the course objectives. Extra credit assignments CAN NOT replace those required components.

**Learning Outcomes:** Following the completion of this course, the students will:

- discuss the concept of crime;
- identify the basic research methods and data resources used by criminologists;
- identify a variety of crime patterns and trends and describe their relationship to such variables as culture, gender, age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status;
- identify the basic biological, psychological, and sociological explanations for criminal behavior and apply them to a variety of fact patterns; and
- describe effective strategies for preventing and controlling crime.

**Areas of Blooms Taxonomy:**

Knowledge	Describe the science of criminology
Comprehension	Identify the nature and extent of various types of crime

Application	Analyze informed positions with respect to controversial criminal justice issues
Analysis	Apply theory to understand the criminal world
Synthesis	Design a comprehensive overview of crime patterns
Evaluation	Formulate theoretical perspectives

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to log into Sakai daily and to know and understand the specific policies established. Students will receive 20 points per in-class session (8 classes = 160pts.), which will be held on Tuesday and Thursday (7/8 to 7/31) from 10:20am-12:25pm in room 112 of White Hall. The instructor will make reasonable accommodations for occasional, unavoidable circumstances based on highly legitimate grounds. The instructor will determine the most appropriate means of compensating for work unavoidably and legitimately missed in their classes. To be eligible for such substitute evaluation, students are responsible for discussing any absences with the instructors: such discussions must occur in advance of foreseeable absences and as soon as possible following unpredictable ones. Students are also expected to plan their class, work, and personal schedules to avoid potential conflicts. You must attend your classes regularly and engage in the requirements for each class; otherwise, your financial aid may be revoked either partially or in full. This would result in an amount due to the university immediately. Please refer to [shepherd.edu/faoweb](http://shepherd.edu/faoweb) for more details.

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating in all its forms, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, is considered an academic matter to be controlled and acted upon by the instructor of this course. Students in this course are expected to abide by the university's Academic Integrity Procedures found in the *Shepherd University Student Handbook* (<http://www.shepherd.edu/students/studenthandbook.pdf>). Cheating in any form (including copying other students' answers, using unauthorized materials during exams, and submitting someone else's work as your own) will result in an "F" in the course and referral to the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs/Judicial Coordinator Manager for disciplinary action.

**Disability Support Services:** Disability Support Services at Shepherd University believes that every student should succeed, and works closely with students to meet their needs. Students requesting any disability related accommodation should contact the Disability Coordinator at 304-876-5453. This includes students with learning disabilities needing classroom accommodations, students requesting specific housing accommodations for health-related reasons, and all other disability accommodations. Accommodations need to be documented and provided to instructors. Please see <http://www.shepherd.edu/mcssweb/dss/default.html> for more information.

**Tentative Schedule of Lessons and Course Readings:** SOCI 402: Criminology consists of seven lessons: (1) Introduction to Criminological theory, (2) Classical theory, Neoclassical theory, and the Positivist approach, (3) Biological explanations, (4) Psychological Explanations, (5) Macro and Micro theory, (6) Women and Crime, and (7) The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems.

<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>LESSON</b>	<b>REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS</b>
7/7-7/13	Lesson 1: Introduction to Criminological Theory	Lesson Plan 1; Bohm and Vogel text (p.1-11); Lawrence PDF (p.24-32); PowerPoint 1- Social Construction of Crime; YouTube: Implementing Criminological Theories (1:14); Lecture Notes 1
7/14-7/18	Lesson 2: Classical theory, Neoclassical theory, and Positivist approach	Lesson Plan 3; Bohm and Vogel text (p.14-19; 20-34); PowerPoint 2- Classical and Neoclassical Schools; PowerPoint 3- Theoretical Analysis: The Anthony Porter Case; Conklin PDF (p.25-28); Hickey PDF (p.217-238); Howard-Bostic PDF (p.1-4); YouTube: A Death Penalty Documentary (10:34); Lecture Notes 2
7/19-7/23	Lesson 3: Biological Explanations	Lesson Plan 3; Bohm and Vogel text (p.33-47); Ellis PDF (p.307-315); Lecture Notes 3
7/24-7/26	Lesson 4: Psychological Explanations	Lesson Plan 4; Bohm and Vogel text (p.51-65); YouTube: The Human Genome (10:30) Overview: Freud's Psychosexual Stages; Lecture Notes 4
7/28 <i>Extra Credit</i>	Labeling and Interactionist Theory	Overview: Essay (Extra Credit); Bohm and Vogel text (p.116-120; 120-132; 132-137); Hickey PDF (p.87-111); Wise PDF (p.65-67); APA Formatted Paper PDF
7/27-7/30	Lesson 5: Macro and Micro Theory	Lesson Plan 5; Bohm and Vogel text (p.51-65); Hickey PDF (p.4-7); Brunson and Miller PDF (p.44-56); Lecture Notes 5
7/31-8/2	Lesson 6: Women and Crime	Lesson Plan 6; Naughton PDF (p.32-34); Steffensmeier and Brody PDF (p.111-130); YouTube: Gendercide Awareness Project; Lecture Notes 6
8/3-8/5	Lesson 7: The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems	Lesson Plan 7; Peters and Myrick PDF (p.32-34); "Criminal Courts" PDF (p.334-338); Naughton PDF (p.2-7); Rosen (p.158-161); Lecture Notes 7

**THIS SYLLABUS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS LISTED ON SAKAI MAY BE ALTERED AT ANY TIME AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR**