Criminological Theory

CJ 404/504

CRN 2686/2696

Spring 2018

Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Smith Hall 416

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| **Required Texts** |
| 1. American Psychological Association [APA] (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC. (\*Required for both undergraduate and graduate students.)
2. Lanier, M, & Henry, S. (2018). Essential Criminology (4th. Edition). Boulder, CO: Westview Press. (\*Required for both undergraduate and graduate students).
3. Other readings as announced, assigned, and POSTED on blackboard.
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| **Instructor: Darrell L. Legg** |
| Office: SH 731 Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:00 to 1:00 PM, Tuesday 12:30 to 4:00 PM & Thursday 12:30 to 3:00 PM, or by appointment. |
| Office Phone: 696-3196 Cell Phone: 304-521-5983 |
| E-mail: dlegg@marshall.edu |

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| **Course Description & Objectives** |
| This course focuses on a critical analysis of the major criminological theories and their empirical foundations. The majority of the course will focus on current theories and research. However, historical development and more critically framed theories will be examined. |
| **Computer Requirements** |
| Students will be required to have e-mail and web access. If you use an email address other than your MU email address, please ensure that your Marshall email is set to forward to your alternate email address.   |
|  **Evaluation of Learner Objectives** |
| Evaluation of this objective will be through classroom observation, in-class assignments, written assignments, and testing. All tests will be comprised of questions designed to stimulate thought, assess learning, and contribute to the intellectual growth of the student. In-class assignments will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Such in-class assignments will be completed during class time, and will be turned in prior to the end of class. Additionally, student participation will be an important component of the student's overall grade. Tests & Quizzes will consist of a combination of Multiple Choice, Fill –in – the blank, definitions, short answer and essays. Tests & Quizzes will normally be held on Thursdays. |
|  **Participation** |
| Ten percent of the course grade will be based on class participation.  During the semester, students can earn from zero to one hundred class participation points.  **To receive credit for class participation students must BE PRESENT and make meaningful contributions to class discussions.**  **There will be a three point deduction from your participation grade for each absence.**  There are a total of 30 class periods this semester. Students will receive the maximum credit when they demonstrate their understanding of the assigned readings, make relevant and thought-provoking contributions to class discussions, and show respect for the views of others.  Students will receive less than maximum credit when they must be prompted to contribute.  Students who do not contribute, or participate in a problematic way (e.g., dominate the conversation, make rambling comments, interrupt the instructor with tangential contributions, try to bluff their way through a discussion) will receive zero points.  I reserve the right to give special consideration to students who tend to be very shy, so long as they make an unambiguous effort to overcome their shyness. **TEXTING during class will result in zero participation points earned for that class meeting.**  |
| Course Student Learning Outcomes |
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| **Course Learning Outcomes**  | **How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course**  | **How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course**  |
| (A) Students will articulate principles and concepts of various criminological perspectives, which include deterrence, rational choice, biological, psychological, social learning, social control, conflict, labeling, social disorganization, anomie, strain, critical, postmodern, feminist, and integrated theories.  | In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions  | Theoretical analysis, mid-term exam, final exam  |
| (B) Students will develop basic scientific inquiry skills, particularly the link between theory, research, and policy implications.  | In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions  | Theoretical analysis and criminal profile (term paper)  |
| (C) Students will examine the utility of criminological theory by conducting a criminal profile and analysis.  | In-class examples and assignments, readings, and discussions  | Term paper, mid-term exam, final exam  |
| (D) Students will conduct research using the library databases and incorporate scholarly sources into a professional paper.  | Library database research for term paper  | Draft of theoretical analysis, term paper  |
| (E) Students will develop and enhance professional writing skills by using APA publication guidelines for a term paper.  | APA presentation and review sessions, APA practice quiz, and draft of term paper  |

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|  **Course Schedule (Important dates in “bold”)** |
| Week | Reading Material | Subject |
| **January 9 & 11** | Chapter 1 & 2 | What is Criminology? The study of crime; What is Crime? Defining the Problem **(Syllabus Quiz)** |
| **January 16 & 18** | Chapter 3 | Classical, Neoclassical, and Rational Choice Theories 1st paper (Thinking About Crime) due (Jan 16). |
| **January 23 & 25** | Chapter 4 | Biological, Physiological, and Biosocial Theories (quiz 1) |
| **January 30 & February 1** | Chapter 5 | Psychiatric & Psychological Explanations of Crime |
| **February 6 & 8** | Chapter 6 | Social Process Theories |
| **February 13 & 15** | Chapter 6 | Social Process Theories**; Test 1** |
| **February 20 & 22** | Chapter 7 | Control, Social Bonds, and Labeling |
| **February 27 & March 1** | Chapter 8 |  Social Ecology & Cultural Theories of Crime (quiz 2) |
| **March 6 & 8** | Chapter 9 | Anomie, Strain, and Subculture Theory |
| **March 13 & 15** | Chapter 9 | Anomie, Strain, and Subculture Theory (quiz 3) |
| **March 20 & 22** |  | **Spring Break** |
| **March 27 & 29** | Chapter 10 | Conflict & Radical Theories of Crime |
| **April 3 & 5** | Chapter 10 | Conflict & Radical Theories of Crime (quiz 4) |
| **April 10 & 12** | Chapter 11 | Feminist Criminological Theory (2nd Paper Due – April 12) |
| **April 17 & 19** | Chapter 12 | Critical Theories |
| **April 24 & 26** | Chapter 13 | Integrated Theories |
| **Thursday, May 3rd**  |  |  **Final Examination (Comprehensive) (10:15 – SH416)**  |
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| **\*Class presentations may vary from the schedule due to student interest or comprehension.** |
|  **Grading Policy** |
| **Grading Criteria** | **Points** | **Grading Scale** |
| Test 1  | 300 |
| Test 2  | 300 | A = 900-1000 |
| Papers (2) | Major Paper – 150 pointsMinor paper – 50 pointsTotal = 200 | B = 800-899 |
| Quizzes | 25 points each = 100 Points | C = 700-799 |
| Participation (includes in-class activities) | 100 (3 points deducted per absence) | D = 600 -699 |
|  |  | F = 599 or less |
| **GRADUATE STUDENTS** |
| Paper (3rd paper) | 500  | Same as above +500 points |
|  **Paper/Project Guidelines** |
| All papers will be evaluated as follows: **Not in APA Format – 50 point deduction automatic.** First 10 spelling/typographical errors will result in a 1 point deduction each, each subsequent error will result in a 1/2-point deduction. Failure to submit a paper of the proper length will result in an automatic 10-point deduction for each page short. Failure to cite sources properly will result in an automatic 10 point deduction. Failure to have the proper number and/or type of sources will also result in a 10 point deduction. Late papers, **if accepted**, will have an automatic 10 point deduction for each class-day late. Paper requirements will be distributed separately. |
|  **Class Schedule** **Notes & Group Information** |
| Classroom work will consist of traditional lecture, group activities, and sharing of information between students and instructor. While the majority of time will be spent in traditional lecture, students may also meet in groups to discuss topics and work on in-class projects.  |
|  **Attendance Policy (Philosophy)** |
| 1. **Attendance is MANDATORY in this class.** **COME TO CLASS.** Attendance is taken each class meeting. A student should recognize that one of the most important aspects of a college education is classroom attendance & participation. The value of this part of the academic experience cannot be fully measured by the testing process.
2. **There will be a 3 point deduction from your participation grade for each absence.**
3. Absences such as those resulting from illness, death in the family, or institutional activities (Those approved by the academic deans, such as debates, artistic performances, class trips, and athletics) are to be excused when a student reports such and is subsequently verified by the instructor. For such absences, the student should not be penalized (MU Undergraduate catalog).
4. When students attend classes they are in a position to make significant contributions to their learning experiences and the learning experiences of others by asking pertinent questions, making pertinent observations, and sharing information. When students cut classes, they not only keep themselves from learning, but they keep other from learning all they possibly could. Students should participate, just not occupy a chair.
5. Students will be held accountable for all requirements and information covered in all classes. If it becomes necessary to give quizzes to spur attendance, the points gained on these quizzes will count toward test scores.
6. **Any materials due are due on the day stated.** If assignments or papers are late or not turned in, in class on the date stated, the paper or assignment will only be accepted with a minimum of a letter grade deduction for lateness.
7. In-class materials will not be available for “make-up.” However, in the event of an excused absence, an opportunity to make up the assignment will be offered.
8. All exams will be taken on the dates assigned. If an exam is missed, then this will result in a 0 (zero) being given for the exam. However, exams may be rescheduled by the instructor if he is given prior notice, or excuse as specified in the catalog and in the above tenets..
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|  **Academic Misconduct** |
| **Academic Dishonesty is defined as any act of a dishonorable nature which gives the student engaged in it an unfair advantage over others engaged in the same or similar course of study and which, if known to the classroom instructor in such course of study, would be prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: securing or giving unfair assistance during examinations or required work of any type; the improper use of books, notes, or other sources of information; submitting as one's own work or creation any oral, graphic, or written material wholly or in part created by another; securing all, or any part of assignments or examinations, in advance of their submission to the class by the instructor; altering of any grade or other academic record; conspiring with or knowingly helping or encouraging a student to engage in academic dishonesty; any other type of misconduct or activity which shows dishonesty or unfairness in academic work.** **Sanctions for academic dishonesty may range from a lower final grade or a failure of the course or exclusion from further participation in the class to dismissal from the institution.** **In those cases where the instructor imposes a sanction and does not refer the matter to the department chairperson for additional sanctions, the student may appeal the sanction in accordance with the procedures for a grade appeal**  |
| **Disclaimer** |
| This syllabus is a good faith effort to summarize information about the course.  However, some information provided here (e.g., exam dates, reading assignments, etc.) may be subject to change during the semester.  Additions, corrections, clarification, or other changes that may be announced in class will supersede the information presented here.   |
| **Grade Inquiries** |
| Student materials will be returned as soon as graded to the student. If the student has a question about a grade on an assignment, the student must bring the assignment to the professor. No grade inquiries about specific assignments will be explored without the questioned assignment. It is the student's responsibility to keep their materials. Final examinations and materials not picked up will be kept in my office for 30 days into the next semester. A student may pick up their final examination and other materials after grades are turned in for the semester until thirty days into the next semester. At that time, finals and all other material not claimed will be destroyed. |

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| **SPECIAL NOTES** |
| **Use of a computer or iPad to take notes is acceptable and encouraged. HOWEVER, I expect you to devote your class time to MY lecture and not assignments for other classes or leisure activities.** **Electronic recording of classes will not be permitted unless you are given expressed permission in order to satisfy a reasonable accommodation.** If you are absent, please ensure you get notes from a classmate.  |
| **Additional Special Notes & University Policy** |
| I WILL NOT TOLERATE TEXTING DURING CLASS. Texting during class will result in ZERO participation points for that class meeting. This is to rude me and your fellow students. **UNIVERSITY POLICIES** By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/• *Academic Dishonesty* • *Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates* • *Computing Services Acceptable Use* • *Inclement Weather* • *Dead Week* • *Students with Disabilities* • *Academic Forgiveness* • *Academic Probation and Suspension* • *Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students* • *Affirmative Action* • *Sexual Harassment* **Important Dates**

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| **January 8,**  Monday, 8:00 a.m. First day of classes | **March 19 – 24 Spring Break**  |
| **January 8-12,** Late registration/schedule adjustment (add-drop) | **March 26 – 30**, Advance registration for summer sessions (currently enrolled students) |
| **January 12, Friday** Last day to add a class | **March 26**, Classes Resume |
| **January 15, Martin Luther King Day Holiday – University Closed**  | **April 9 – April 20**, Advance registration for Fall semester (currently enrolled students). |
| **January 16, Tuesday**"W" Withdrawal period begins | **April 23 – 27**, Dead Week |
| **February 2, Friday** Application for May graduation due  | **April 30 – May 4, Finals Week** |
| **February 26, Monday, Noon** - Freshmen/Sophomore midterm grades due |  |
| **March 12, Monday** - Students should schedule appointments with advisors to prepare for advance registration. |  |
| **March 17, Monday** - Complete withdrawal only period commences |  |
| **Policy for Students with Disabilities:** Marshall University is committed to equal opportunity education for all students, including those with physical, learning and psychological disabilities. University policy states that it is the responsibility of students with disabilities to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) in Prichard Hall 117 (304.696.2467) to provide documentation of their disability. Following this, the ODS Coordinator will send a letter to each of the student’s instructors outlining the academic accommodation he/she will need to ensure equality in classroom experiences, outside assignment, testing, and grading. The instructor and student will meet to discuss how the accommodation(s) requested will be provided. For more information, access the website for the Office of Disabled Student Services: <http://www.marshall.edu/disabled> |

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