

General Education Course Proposal

Proposed Course: Crim 10 Crime, Criminology and Justice **Units** 3.0
Prefix No. Title

Department: Criminology **School:** Social Science

GE Category (Indicate one category only):

Foundation: A1___; A2___; A3___; B4___
 Breadth: B1___; B2___; C1___; C2___; D X; E___
 Integration: B___; C___; D___; International/Multicultural___

Existing Course X; **Revised Course** ___; **New Course** ___

Course Included in Current GE Program ___

New courses require the Undergraduate Course Proposal form in addition to this form.

Revised courses require the Undergraduate Course Change Request in addition to this form.

Proposed catalog description: Limit course description to 40 words using succinct phrases. Include prerequisites, limitations, lecture/lab hours. Indicate former course number, e.g., (Former Biol 105)
 An introduction to the concept of crime, emphasizing its contextual foundations as the product of evolving criminal laws and the institutions that shape them. A survey of the methodological approaches used to measure and study crime. Patterns of crime and victimization in relation to their impact on society's response in its quest for justice.

Enrollment limit per section: 50

Expected number of sections per semester – Year 1 3; **Year 3** 3

Attachments:

1. A statement presenting the ways in which this course meets the Specifications provided in the appropriate section of the General Education Policy as well as in the Policies for Inclusion and Evaluation of General Education Courses.
2. A statement of elements common to all sections of this course, identifying content, objectives, required student activities, grading policy, representative texts, and an approximate schedule for the course. Required student activities include such things as papers, research projects, homework, laboratory and/or studio performance, recitations, participation, attendance, and exams.
3. A typical syllabus for a particular offering of the course.
4. Any special cost factors associated with this course.

Approval for Inclusion in General Education

Hawley Kellow 13/16/98
 Department Chair Date

J. Scherer 3/18/98
 School Curriculum Committee Date

Ellen Greenbaum 3/25/98
 School Dean Date

Peter Linn 12/15/98
 General Education Subcommittee Date

Brandt Kehoe 12/22/98
 Associate Provost Date

1/14/98

ATTACHMENT 2

COMMON ELEMENTS TO ALL SECTIONS

A statement of elements common to all sections of Criminology 10, identifying content, objectives, required student activities, grading policy, representative texts, and an approximate schedule for the course. Required student activities include such things as papers, research projects, homework, participation, attendance, and exams.

“1. Course Goals and Objectives.

The primary goal of this course is that the students will emerge from this experience with a broad level of knowledge about crime to which they will be able to apply critical analysis to problems presented by crime in our society. There are a number of specific objectives to achieving our overall course goal. These objectives include:

1. To provide the basis for the conceptual understanding the criminalization of specific behaviors as a dynamic process (see Topics I & II).
2. To gain an understanding of how crime and our justice system impacts upon quality of life (see Topics II & III).
3. To acquaint the students with contemporary criminological issues that can impact upon every aspect of one's life (see Topics I & IV).
4. To introduce the students to the key issues confronting the justice system in the new millennium (see Topics I, III & IV).
5. To give the student the tools to critically analyze criminological issues and enable him or her to seek out solutions to crime in society (see Topics II & III).
6. To encourage the student to make critical assessments of problems within the justice system (see Topics I, II, III & IV).

“2. Writing Requirement.”

Criminology 10 will require students to complete a multi-draft 2,000-2,500 word research paper which specifies and analyzes a current issue in criminology. A single-page outline of the proposed topic (to include at least three of the references that will be used to develop the paper) must be submitted during the sixth week of classes for approval by the instructor. The students will turn in a rough draft copy of the paper by the tenth week. The final research paper will be due during the fourteenth week of classes. Students will be required to include some primary sources in this research. Students will be encouraged to use electronic data based resources (e.g., Lexis/Nexis).

“3. Representative Texts.”

Criminology 10 will use two different types of texts. The first will be an Annual Edition criminological topic text, such as, Mark Fisch's edited *Criminology 97/98* by Dushkin Publishing. The second text will be an issue oriented debate style, such as, Winter's (1995) *Crime and Criminals: Opposing Viewpoints*.

“4. Exams and Grading Policy.”

It is recommended that Criminology 10 require three examinations, each worth 25% of the final course grade. The first examination will be administered approximately 1/3 of the way through the semester (week 5), the second examination will be administered approximately 2/3 of the way through the semester (week 10), and the third examination at the end of the semester as scheduled by the Registrar. The final is not comprehensive and each exam covers approximately 1/3 of the course material. The format of these examinations should include a combination of essay, short-answer, and multiple-choice items. Each exam does not have to utilize all three types of questions. The remaining 25% of the final course grade will be met by a research paper which specifies and analyzes a current issue in Criminology. The students' final course grade will be as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89 %	B
70-79 %	C
60-69 %	D
below 60%	F

“5. Common Topical Outline”

Criminology 10 will be presented in primarily a lecture-discussion/debate format, supplemented with films, videotapes, and guest speakers.

- I. Concept of Crime: Conceptual Foundations and Its Relationship to Criminal Law
 - A. Understanding of Criminalization [Objective 1]
 - B. Introduction to the Criminal Justice System [Objective 4]
 - C. Introduction to the Dynamic Process of Crime and Society [Objective 1]
 - D. Introduction to Specific Criminal Behavior [Objective 1]
 - E. The Impact of Contemporary Criminological Issues [Objective 3]
 - F. Critical Assessment of Problems in the Justice System [Objective 6]

- II. Survey of the Methodological Approaches Used to Measure and Study Crime
 - A. Operationalizing the Criminalization of Specific Behaviors [Objective 1]
 - B. Analysis of Major Data Bases to Measure the Impact of the Justice System and Quality of Life [Objective 2]
 - C. Introduction to the Statistical Analysis of the Qualitative and Quantitative Tools Used in Measurement [Objective 5]
 - D. Strengths and Weaknesses of Survey Methodology [Objective 6]

III. The Crime Picture: Data in Terms of Patterns and Trends of Criminal Behavior and Typologies

- A. Presentation, Interpretation, and Discussion of Crime in America [Objective 2]
- B. Key Issues Regarding Gender, Race, Ethnicity, Age & SES Confronting the Criminal Justice System in the New Millenium [Objective 4]
- C. Analysis, Synthesis, and Integration of Crime Data [Objective 5]
- D. Critical Assessments of Problems within the Justice System [Objective 6]
- E. Profiling Criminal Typologies [Objective 4]

IV. Identification of Issues Related to Crime and Justice

- A. Historical Underpinnings of the Contemporary Criminological Issues [Objective 3]
- B. Futurism of Crime and Justice [Objective 4]
- C. Assessment of Contemporary and Futuristic Issues Relating to Crime, Criminology and Justice [Objective 6]

ATTACHMENT 3

TYPICAL SYLLABUS FOR CRIMINOLOGY 10

CRIMINOLOGY 10
CRIME, CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE

Syllabus

Description:

Criminology 10 introduces students to the phenomenology of crime: What it is, how it is studied, and how we respond – as a society – to our experience with it. This course analyzes the concept of crime, emphasizing its contextual foundations, as the product of evolving criminal laws and the institutions, which shape them. A survey of the various methodological approaches used to measure and study crime is presented in a manner, which permits students to compare and contrast the different strategies regarding their relative strengths and limitations. This segment of the course will familiarize students with the main sources of information about crime in terms of both official and unofficial statistics. Crime data are presented and patterns of crime and victimization examined. Students will also be introduced to crime typologies – those classifications used to differentiate offenders. Finally, society's response to criminal behavior – the quest for justice – is analyzed in terms of our collective view of and experience with crime.

Objectives:

Crime is very much a part of the world in which we live. Public opinion polls consistently show that most Americans rank crime at or near the top among society's major social problems. Criminology 10 is a course designed to acquaint students with the concepts and methodologies in criminology that are necessary to evaluate the problems that crime presents to society today. It seeks to achieve this through the following objectives:

1. To provide the basis for the conceptual understanding the criminalization of specific behaviors as a dynamic process **(see Topics I & II)**.
2. To gain an understanding of how crime and our justice system impacts upon quality of life **(see Topics II & III)**.
3. To acquaint the student with contemporary criminological issues that can impact upon every aspect of one's life **(see Topics I & IV)**.
4. To introduce the student to the key issues confronting the justice system today **(see Topics I, III & IV)**.
5. To give the student the tools to critically analyze criminological issues and enable him or her to seek out solutions to crime in society **(see Topics II & III)**.
6. To encourage the student to make critical assessments of problems within the justice system **(see Topics I, II, III & IV)**.

Required Readings:

Fisch, Mark. (ed.). (1997). *Criminology 97/98*. Guilford, CT.: Dushkin Publishing Group/Brown & Benchmark Publishers.

Winters, Paul. (1995). *Crime and Criminals: Opposing Viewpoints*. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, Inc.

Handouts of excerpted materials from primary sources as topically appropriate (such as from the annual *Sourcebook in Criminal Justice Statistics*, the annual *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Report*, and the annual *Criminal Victimization in the United States: National Crime Victimization Survey*).

Grading:

There will be three examinations, each worth 25% of the final course grade. The first examination will be administered during the fifth week of classes, the second examination during the tenth week of classes, and the third examination at the end of the semester as scheduled by the Registrar. The format of these examinations will be a combination of essay and short-answer responses, as well as multiple choice items.

The remaining 25% of the final course grade will be met by a research paper (2000 to 2500 words in length) which specifies and analyzes a current issue in Criminology. Students will be required to work with primary sources in this assignment and will be encouraged to refer to electronic database resources (such as LEXIS-NEXIS). A single-page outline of the proposed topic (to include at least three of the references that will be used to develop the paper) must be submitted during the sixth week of classes for approval by the instructor. The instructor will respond to the draft, in as timely a manner as possible, by providing the students with written feedback about aspects of the developing paper. The final research paper will be due during the fourteenth week of classes. Grading will focus on assessing the research paper for appropriate content, and the application of critical thinking.

Grading:

The final grade scheme is as follows:

- A: 90 – 100%
- B: 80 – 89
- C: 70 – 79
- D: 60 – 69
- F: below 60

Course Format:

Criminology 10 will be presented in primarily a lecture-discussion/debate format, supplemented with films, videos, and guest speakers.

Topic Outline:

I. Concept of Crime: Conceptual Foundations and Its Relationship to Criminal Law

- A. Understanding of Criminalization [Objective 1]
- B. Introduction to the Criminal Justice System [Objective 4]
- C. Introduction to the Dynamic Process of Crime and Society [Objective 1]
- D. Introduction to Specific Criminal Behavior [Objective 1]
- E. The Impact of Contemporary Criminological Issues [Objective 3]
- F. Critical Assessment of Problems in the Justice System [Objective 6]

II. Survey of the Methodological Approaches Used to Measure and Study Crime

- A. Operationalizing the Criminalization of Specific Behaviors [Objective 1]
- B. Analysis of Major Data Bases to Measure the Impact of the Justice System and Quality of Life [Objective 2]
- C. Introduction to the Statistical Analysis of the Qualitative and Quantitative Tools Used in Measurement [Objective 5]
- D. Strengths and Weaknesses of Survey Methodology [Objective 6]

III. The Crime Picture: Data in Terms of Patterns and Trends of Criminal Behavior and Typologies

- A. Presentation, Interpretation, and Discussion of Crime in America [Objective 2]
- B. Key Issues Regarding Gender, Race, Ethnicity, Age & SES Confronting the Criminal Justice System in the New Millennium [Objective 4]
- C. Analysis, Synthesis, and Integration of Crime Data [Objective 5]
- D. Critical Assessments of Problems within the Justice System [Objective 6]
- E. Profiling Criminal Typologies [Objective 4]

IV. Identification of Issues Related to Crime and Justice

- A. Historical Underpinnings of the Contemporary Criminological Issues [Objective 3]
- B. Futurism of Crime and Justice [Objective 4]
- C. Assessment of Contemporary and Futuristic Issues Relating to Crime, Criminology and Justice [Objective 6]

Suggested Reading List

- Albanese, Jay. (1989). *Organized Crime in America* (2nd ed.). Cincinnati: Anderson Publishing.
- Albanese, Jay. (1983). *Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice*. New York: Apocalypse.
- Black, Donald. (1976). *The Behavior of Law*. New York: Academic Press.
- Challeen, Dennis. (1986). *Making It Right*. Aberdeen, MD.: Melves and Peterson.
- Conklin, John. (ed.). (1996). *New Perspectives in Criminology*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Geis, Gilbert. (1984). White-Collar and Corporate Crime. In R.Meier (ed.), *Major Forms of Crime*. Beverly Hills: Sage.
- Greek, Cecil. (1999). The Definitive Guide to Criminal Justice and Criminology on the World Wide Web. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Jerin, Robert and Moriarity, Laura. (1997). *Victims of Crime: Issues, Programs and Policies*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall Publishers.
- Maxfield, Michael & Babbie, Earl. (1995). *Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology*. Belmont CA.: Wadsworth.
- Morawetz, Thomas. (1989). Crime and Moral Conundrums. *Criminal Justice Ethics*, 8, 40.
- Nettler, Gwynn. (1982). *Responding to Crime*. Cincinnati: Anderson Publishing.
- Reiss, Albert, Jr. & Roth, Jeffrey. (eds.). *Understanding and Preventing Violence*. Washington, D.C.: National Research Council.
- Silberman, Charles. (1980). *Criminal Violence, Criminal Justice*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Sutherland, Edwin. (1937). *The Professional Thief*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Voigt, Lydia, Thornton, William, Jr., Barrile, Leo, & Seaman, Jerrol. (1994). *Criminology and Justice*. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc.
- Wilson, James T. & Petersilia, Joan. (eds.). *Crime*. San Francisco: ICS Press.
- Wolfgang, Marvin, Figlio, Robert, & Sellin, Thorsten. (1972). *Delinquency in a Birth Cohort*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.