

SOCIOLOGY 371 – CRIMINOLOGY

Spring Quarter 2018

SYLLABUS

LECTURES: TTR 3:30-4:50pm Kane Hall 110

QUIZ SECTIONS:

19429 AB Mon 9:30-10:20	CDH 110A	Francisca Gomez Baeza
19430 AC Mon 12:30-1:20	CDH 110A	Francisca Gomez Baeza
19431 AD Mon 1:30-2:20	DEM 004	Francisca Gomez Baeza

INSTRUCTORS:

Name:	Ross L. Matsueda	Francisca J. Gomez Baeza	Bernd Wurpts
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Office Hours:	Mon, 2-3, Tue 5-5:30	Tue, 1-2pm & by Appt.	TBA
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course seeks to develop a *sociological* framework for examining crime. Consequently, we will spend most of our time presenting and evaluating sociological theories of criminal behavior. We will begin by developing a definition of crime and law, show how these ideas are rooted in the classical school, and then discuss methods and causality. This will set up our discussion of sociological theories of crime at the structural level, neighborhood level, and individual level. Finally, we will discuss punitive methods for controlling crime. Throughout the course, we will emphasize developing *critical thinking skills* when evaluating policy, theory, and research pertaining to crime. This means going beyond memorizing theory and research, and being able to critique and evaluate ideas. Students will have opportunities to apply critical thinking skills in discussions and writing assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Provide you with an appreciation of a sociological perspective on the study of crime.
- Provide you with an understanding of basic theories, concepts, and research methods used by criminologists.
- Show you the connection between sociological theories and ideas and real-world phenomena.
- Allow you to simulate the work of social scientists by applying theoretical tools to case studies and other data.
- Make you a critical consumer of media reports and politicians' claims about crime and crime policies.
- Develop your critical and analytical skills through oral participation and written assignments.

MARKETABLE SKILLS:

This course is designed not only to teach about crime and the study of crime, but is also intended to assist students in building marketable skills to use in their careers of choice, particularly those related to crime, law, and justice. Be aware of such skills and the possibility of building them throughout the quarter. The following skills are crucial for such careers:

1. Understanding criminological theory and research for practice in law and criminal justice.
2. Understanding the relationship between theories of crime and public policy for criminal justice practitioners.
3. Acquiring methodological skills to evaluate studies and conduct research in law, marketing, research and development.
4. Honing critical thinking and writing skills for work in legal settings, industry, and government.
5. Developing oral argumentative skills for law, government, and policy.
6. Working together with others to develop social and team skills for industry and government.

COURSE WEBPAGE: <http://faculty.washington.edu/matsueda/courses/371/web371s18.htm>

Check here weekly for readings, assignments, course notes, exam reviews, and other information.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Hagan, John, and Wenona Raymond-Richmond. 2009. *Darfur and the Crime of Genocide*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
2. Peterson, Ruth D., and Lauren J. Krivo. 2010. *Divergent Social Worlds: Neighborhood Crime and the Racial-Spatial Divide*. New York, NY: Russell Sage Publications.

3. Other readings are available on-line from the course webpage.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Active participation in the course, which means completing readings and homework assignments on time and contributing positively to discussion in lecture. Credit will be given for *positive participation* in lectures.
2. Active participation in discussion sections, which means completing discussion section assignments on time, attending discussion sections, and participating fully in section activities.
3. Two in-class mid-term examinations, each of which will be equally-weighted and non-cumulative. The exams will consist of objective questions. The exams are scheduled for **Thursday April 12th** and **Tuesday, May 8th** in lecture. *We are not planning make-ups* for exams; plan accordingly now.
4. A final exam, taken in class during the final exam period, which is **cumulative**, but weighted heavily toward the material since the second exam. The final will be held on **Thursday, June 7, 4:30-6:20pm**.
5. A **three-page essay** comparing an aspect of the two books, Peterson and Krivo’s *Divergent Social Worlds* and Hagan and Rymond-Richmond, *Darfur and the Crime of Genocde*. It is due **Thursday, May 31** in lecture, and will be graded credit/nocredit. Late essays will be penalized severely: one point will be taken off per day late. For assistance on writing, consult the Sociology Writing Center (<https://soc.washington.edu/sociology-writing-center>) the Odegaard Writing Center (<http://depts.washington.edu/owrc>), and CLUE (<http://depts.washington.edu/clue/index.php>). We also highly recommend the little book, *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White (<http://www.bartleby.com/141>).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Papers and tests are to be original work. It is a breach of academic honesty to hand in work that is not your own or to use parts of another student’s work. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: copying of phrases, sentences, or paragraphs without proper citation, paraphrasing another person’s ideas or words without proper attribution, replicating the overall presentation structure from another source. Sources include textbooks, journal articles, newspaper articles, published or unpublished text, the World Wide Web (e.g., Wikipedia), verbal communication, paper writing “services” or any other source or person, regardless of whether you know him/her. Any form of plagiarism is grounds for failure in the class and removal from the University.

A lack of familiarity with the rules of plagiarism or the student conduct code in no way constitutes an excuse for acts of misconduct. Knowledge of these rules is your responsibility. A clear definition of plagiarism and other types of academic misconduct is provided at <http://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>. For detailed information about other forms of academic misconduct and information about disciplinary sanctions for academic misconduct read the University’s Student Conduct Code <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=478-120>.

GRADING:

Grades are based on points. Each mid-term exam is worth 50 points. Positive contribution to lecture discussion is worth 5 points. Participation in discussion sections is worth 15 points. The three-page essay is worth 15 points. The final exam is worth 65 points.

Two Exams:	100 points
Lecture Discussion:	5 points
Discussion Section:	15 points
Essay on Books	15 points
<u>Final Exam:</u>	<u>65 points</u>
Total:	200 points

Final grades will be based in part on a curve, in part on my expectations. To give you an idea of how grades are *typically* distributed, here is approximately what previous distributions have looked like for this course (using the UW’s grading scale):

% of Class	Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
8%	A	4.0-3.9
12%	A-	3.8-3.5
12%	B+	3.4-3.2
16%	B	3.1-2.9

16%	B-	2.8-2.5	Median = 2.8 (50% percent are above this grade; 50% below)
12%	C+	2.4-2.2	
8%	C	2.1-1.9	
5%	C-	1.8-1.5	
4%	D+	1.4-1.2	
2%	D	1.1-0.9	
2%	D-	0.8-0.7	Lowest passing grade
3%	E	0.0	Failure
100%			

All grades are final and, with the exception of errors, non-negotiable.

COURSE TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Required readings are either available for purchase at the University Bookstore or available from the course website. The following is a list of topics and *approximate* dates:

I. PRELIMINARIES AND DEFINITIONS

- Mar 27 **Course Syllabus**
Readings: None.
- Mar 31 **The Classical School**
Readings:
Trevino, A. Javier. 1996. "Cesare Beccaria: Legal Reformer." Pp. 13-20 in *The Sociology of Law: Classical and Contemporary Perspectives*. New York: St. Martin's Press.*
Radzinowitz, Sir Leon. 1966. *Ideology and Crime*. New York: Columbia University.*
- Apr 3-5 **Definition of Crime and Criminal Law**
Readings:
Kauzlarich, David, and David O. Friedrichs. 2005. "Definitions of Crime." Pp. 273-275 in *Encyclopedia of Criminology*. Edited by Richard Wright and J. Mitchell Miller. New York: Routledge.*
Hemmens, Craig. 2005. "Defenses to Criminal Liability: Justifications and Excuses;" Pp. 377-380 in *Encyclopedia of Criminology*. Edited by Richard Wright and J. Mitchell Miller. New York: Routledge.*
- Apr 10 **Trends in Crime, Violence, and Incarceration**
Readings:
Rosenfeld, Richard. 2002. "Crime Decline in Context." *Contexts* 1:25-34.*
Western, Bruce, and Becky Pettit. 2002. "Beyond Crime and Punishment: Prisons and Inequality." *Contexts* 1:37-43.*

APRIL 12, THURSDAY: FIRST EXAMINATION

II. PUNITIVE CRIME POLICIES

- Apr 17-19 **Rational Choice and Deterrence**
Readings:
Marshall, Chris E. 2002. "Deterrence Theory." Pp. 512-515 in *Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment*. Edited by D. Levinson. Beverly Hills: Sage.*
Levitt, Steven D. 2002. "Deterrence." Pp. 435-450 in *Crime: Public Policies for Crime Control*. Edited by J.Q. Wilson and J. Petersilia. Oakland, CA: ICS press.*
Berk, Richard A. 1984. "The Specific Deterrent Effect of Arrest for Domestic Assault." Pp. 357-361 in *Classics of Criminology*. Edited by J. E. Jacoby. Prospect Heights: Waveland. *
- Apr 24-26 **Criminal Careers and Selective Incapacitation**
Readings:
Blumstein, Alfred, and Jacqueline Cohen. 1987. "Characterizing Criminal Careers." *Science*, 237:985-991.*

III. NEIGHBORHOOD AND URBAN CRIME RATES: STRUCTURAL EXPLANATION**7. May 1-3 Neighborhoods: Social Disorganization and Cultural Transmission***Readings:*

Shaw and McKay, "Juvenile Delinquency and Urban Areas." Pp. 13-19 in *Classics of Criminology*. Edited by J. E. Jacoby. Prospect Heights: Waveland.*

Shaw and McKay, "Differential Systems of Values." Pp. 193-200 in *Classics of Criminology*. Edited by J. E. Jacoby. Prospect Heights: Waveland.*

Peterson, Ruth D., and Lauren J. Krivo. 2010. *Divergent Social Worlds*. Pp. 1-70.

*****MAY 8, TUESDAY: SECOND EXAMINATION*****

8. May 10-15 Urban Underclass, Social Capital, and Collective Efficacy*Readings:*

Sampson, Robert J., and William J. Wilson. 1994. "Race, Crime and Urban Inequality." In *Crime and Inequality*. Edited by J. Hagan and R. Peterson. Stanford: Stanford University Press.*

Sampson, Robert J. 2006. "Social Ecology and Collective Efficacy Theory." Pp. 132-140 in *The Essential Criminology Reader*. Edited by S. Henry and M.M. Lanier. Boulder, CO: Westview.*

Peterson, Ruth D., and Lauren J. Krivo. 2010. *Divergent Social Worlds*. Pp. 71-125.

9. May 17 Broken Windows and Collective Efficacy*Readings:*

Wilson and Kelling, "Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety."*

Sampson, Robert J. and Stephen W. Raudenbush. 1999. "Systematic Social Observation of Public Spaces: A New Look at Disorder in Urban Neighborhoods." *American Journal of Sociology* 105(3): 603-651.*

Keizer, Kees, Siegwart Lindenberg, and Linda Steg. 2008. "The Spreading of Disorder." *Science* 322:1681-1685.*

IV. INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTS OF CRIME**10. May 22-24 Peers and Subcultures: Differential Association and the Code of the Street***Readings:*

Matsueda, Ross L. 2001. "Differential Association Theory," In *Encyclopedia of Criminology and Deviant Behavior, Vol. 1*, edited by Clifton D. Bryant. New York: Taylor and Francis.*

Anderson, Elijah. 1998. "The Social Ecology of Youth Violence." Pp. 79-104 in *Youth Violence*. Edited by M. Tonry and M.H. Moore. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.*

Matsueda, Ross L, Kevin Drakulich and Charis E. Kubrin. 2006. "Race and Neighborhood Codes of Violence." Pp. 334-336 in *The Many Colors of Crime: Inequalities of Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America*, edited by Peterson, Krivo, and Hagan. New York: NYU Press.*

Hagan, John, and Wenona Rymond-Richmond. 2009. *Darfur and the Crime of Genocide*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-103.

11. May 29-31 Collective Violence: Differential Social Organization, Collective Action, and Genocide*Readings:*

Matsueda, "Differential Social Organization, Collective Action, and Crime."*

Hagan, John, and Wenona Rymond-Richmond. 2009. *Darfur and the Crime of Genocide*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, pp. 103-218.

****May 31st THURSDAY, Three-page essay on the two books is due****

***** JUNE 7, THURSDAY, 4:30-6:20PM FINAL EXAMINATION Kane Hall 110 *****

Final grades are due by instructors on Tuesday, 5pm, June 12, 2018

*reading is available on the course web page.