Sociology 309  
Criminology

Fall 2013  11-12:15  TR COMM 203  
9:30-10:45  TR  
Instructor:  Dr. William Lugo  
Office:  424 Webb  
E-mail:  lugow@easternct.edu  
Phone:  860.465.0163  
Office Hours:  
1 pm - 5 pm Tuesday  
1 pm - 5 pm Wednesday  
2 pm - 3 pm Thursday  
class website:  www.easternct.edu/~lugow/courses/crim

Course Overview: This course will look at crime from a sociological perspective and try and answer some of society’s most pressing questions: Why do people commit crime? Why do we send people to prison? What are effective methods of crime control?

Requirements and Grading:

Student Participation: Participation is expected and will be configured into the student’s final grade.

Attendance: Regular attendance is required and will be figured into the student’s final grade.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and one final. Review sessions will be held before each exam.

Term Paper: A term paper (approx. 10-15 pages in length), is due on the last day of class. A rough draft will also be due (see dates below). Guidelines for the rough draft and final paper will be provided.

Grading:

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<td>Student participation</td>
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<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>Paper Final Draft</td>
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<td>Exam one</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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Grading Scale:

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Schedule of lectures and readings

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

- What is Criminology? What makes it unique?
  - Chapter 1- *Criminology*

CLASSICAL, DETERRENCE THEORIES OF CRIME

- How did early criminologists define crime? Have opinions changed much over time?
  - Chapter 5- *Criminology*
  - Chs. 16, 18, 48 *Classics*

SOCIAL STRUCTURE THEORIES OF CRIME

- How do social pressures affect crime rates and people’s propensity to commit crime?
  - Chapter 7- *Criminology*
  - Chs. 26, 27, 61 *Classics*
- Marginalized groups, rioting, and criminal behavior (the case of France, Mexico, and the United States)

Thursday, September 12- (research class: library user ed room)

Draft OF PAPER DUE (Thursday, October 3)

SOCIAL PROCESS THEORIES OF CRIME

- How do people become criminals in the first place? What impact do different social groups have, e.g. peers and family?
  - Chapter 8- *Criminology*
  - Chs. 34, 36 *Classics*

Review (Tuesday, October 8)

Exam 1 (Thursday, October 10)

SOCIAL REACTION THEORIES OF CRIME

- How might the responses of others affect one’s likelihood of committing crime?
  - Chapter 9- *Criminology*
- Economic Crime- the case of Enron
  - Chapter 12- *Criminology*
  - Chs. 19, 20 *Classics*
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY

- Can different theories of crime be integrated? Which ones offer greater explanatory power when combined?
  - Chapter 10 - Criminology

CRIMES WITHOUT VICTIMS

- Should all victimless crimes be made legal, as some propose? Are victimless crimes truly victimless?
  - Chapter 13 - Criminology

Review (Tuesday, November 12)

Exam II (Thursday, November 14)

Thanksgiving Recess November 27-Dec 1

PRODUCTION OF CRIME STATISTICS

- Where do crime statistics come from? What are the strengths and weaknesses of using national crime statistics?
  - Chapter 3 - Criminology

DISTRIBUTION OF CRIME

- Which are the most common types of crimes? Where are they occurring? What is the profile of the typical offender?
  - Chapter 4 - Criminology

VIOLENT CRIME

- What is a violent crime? Has our conception of what constitutes a violent crime changed over time?
  - Chapter 11 - Criminology
  - Chs. 51, 52 Classics

Final Paper Due (Thursday, December 5) - last day of class
Final Exam Tuesday, December 12-11 am

Required Readings:


Students are responsible for all course content listed on the class website at [http://www.easternct.edu/~lugow/courses](http://www.easternct.edu/~lugow/courses)

Please check the website for class policies regarding plagiarism, rules of conduct, as well as course assignments and readings.

Schedule of readings and requirements may change, so be vigilant, come to class, and check your e-mail.

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of AccessAbility Services at 465-5573. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the Office of AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Office of AccessAbility Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.