



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

CJCR 3310 - CRIMINOLOGY

Contact Information

Name: Dr. Chris Rush

Office: Rogers-Stout Hall 201H

Phone: (423) 439-5963, Fax (423) 439-4660

Email: rushc@etsu.edu

Course Information

Course Title: Criminology



Course Description

An analysis of the major sociological theories of crime causation, sociological aspects of types of offenders, and techniques of measuring crime. This is a writing intensive class, therefore you will be required to write a minimum of 12 pages and 50% of your grade will come from the writing assignments.

Course Goals and Objectives

This course is designed to introduce the student to criminological theories. The outcomes of this course are:

- 1.) Examination of the criminological theories including classical, positivism, social structure, social process, critical and life course theories;
- 2.) Apply criminological theories to deviant and criminal behavior; and,
- 3.) Evaluate criminological theories.

Course Materials

Required

Bernard, T. J., Snipes, J.B., & Gerould, A.L. (2010). *Vold's Theoretical Criminology*, 8th Edition. New York; Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-538641-7.

Supplemental

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the course of the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Assignments

This course will consist of:

- Weekly Discussion Posts – 20% of Final Grade
- Two papers constituting 40% of the final grade. The instructions for each paper are posted on D2L under the relevant folder in the content section. The due date for each assignment will be posted with the assignment and will appear in the calendar on D2L. All papers will be turned into the *dropbox* tab.
- Three exams constituting 40% of the final grade. Exams will be open for three days during which time students will be able to go online and take the exam. The exams will be timed meaning that students will have a set time limit in which they must complete the exam once they have started. For example, if the time limit is set at two hours the student must complete the exam within two hours of starting or the questions that they have not answered during the hour time period will be counted wrong. The exams can be accessed on D2L via the *assessments* tab.

Course Policies

It is the student's responsibility to:

- 1.) Log onto D2L once a day to check the status of the class and any announcements
- 2.) Read the assigned material and take comprehensive notes
- 3.) Watch the power point/lecture presentations and take comprehensive notes
- 4.) To complete papers by the due dates
- 5.) To be thoroughly prepared for exams
- 6.) Address technical problems immediately
- 7.) To come to the instructor with any questions and/or problems before they become unmanageable and begin to affect your grade.
- 8.) In regard to email:
 - a. Use your assigned university email address and not your personal email address for all correspondence regarding this class
 - b. Always include a subject line
 - c. Remember that since the medium for this class is online sometimes words and statements can be misunderstood. Make sure that you think about the words that you chose and that they convey exactly what you are trying to say.
 - d. Use Time New Roman 12 point font
 - e. Always sign your emails
- 9.) In regard to papers:
 - a. Papers are to be five pages and must be in **MS Word**. In order to get credit for five pages, the paper must cover **five complete** pages. To be safe, I would suggest at least having one sentence on the sixth page.
 - b. Only put your name in a running header at the top of the paper and nothing else. Use **double spacing, Time New Roman 12 point font, one inch margins** on all sides, black font color, and **no extra spaces after each paragraph** (this can be eliminated by going to the paragraph section of the header on Microsoft Word 2010 and clicking on the arrow in the bottom right corner, then clicking the box that states "Don't add space between paragraphs of same style").

- c. As stated in the academic integrity section of this syllabus, you **must cite everything within your paper that is not your own ideas or words**, according to APA style. Do not cite only quotations! Additionally, you must provide a Works Cited page, again according to APA style, for each paper. You will be docked one letter grade if you do not use APA in-text citations and references. You only need to follow APA format for the citations and Works Cited page and nothing else. **You do not need an abstract or title page for your paper.**
- d. You may only use **quotations** sparingly and they **may not be longer than one line on the page**. This means that **you may not use block quotations**. Additionally, you may have **no more than three quotations in each paper** and no more. **You will be docked one letter grade if you use block quotations or have more than three quotations in a paper.**
- e. Because these are formal papers you will be graded on **content, grammar, and spelling**. Additionally, you **may not use first person or contractions** when writing your papers unless noted otherwise in the assignment. **You will be docked one letter grade if you use first person or contractions.**

Academic Integrity:

“East Tennessee State University is committed to developing the intellect and moral character of its students. To that end, all instances of plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct shall be punished in accord with Tennessee Board of Regents policy. Any knowledge of conduct of this nature should be reported to the proper authorities. Not reporting instances of academic misconduct represents a fundamental break with honor code policy and, although this offense is not punishable, reflects a callous disregard for yourself, your classmates, and your professors.” –ETSU Student Handbook, 2011 – 2012.

“In other words, plagiarism involves using someone else’s words or ideas without giving proper credit to the original author. Even if one does not copy the words exactly or even if one copies only a small part of someone else’s work, one must cite the name of the original author and provide a reference to that person’s work (e.g., title of work, year of publication, and name of publisher) using a format based on the publication manual of a nationally recognized scholarly association, such as the American Psychological Association or the Modern Language Association. One should enclose an exact quotation in quotation marks or indent the quotation, depending upon the style manual used. A page number or numbers must be cited for each quoted passage. Even if one does not use an author’s exact words, if one uses an author’s ideas one must provide documentation to give credit to the author. These standards apply to print and nonprint media and include the Internet.” –ETSU Student Handbook, 2011 – 2012.

“Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed through the university’s academic misconduct policy as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a zero (“0”) for the exercise or examination, or to assign an “F” in the course.” –ETSU Student Handbook, 2011 – 2012.

All papers for this class may be submitted to Turnitin as a safeguard against plagiarism. Turnitin is an online plagiarism detection service that conducts textual similarity reviews of submitted papers. When papers are submitted to Turnitin, the service will retain a copy of the submitted work in the Turnitin database for the sole purpose of detecting plagiarism in future submitted

works. Students retain copyright on their original course work. The use of Turnitin is subject to the Terms of Use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Students with Additional Needs

It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University's commitment to equal educational access. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty accommodation forms are provided to students through Disability Services in the D.P. Culp center, telephone 439-8346.

Grading

Grade Meanings for Papers (Please see attached Rubric for more explanation):

- A** An A paper is well argued, well supported, well organized, and demonstrates a thorough engagement with the information/materials/readings and their relevant issues and/or concepts discussed in this course. A paper at this level contains strong prose and is generally free of typos and mechanical errors and is properly formatted.
- B** A B paper falls noticeably short in **one** of the above areas but still demonstrates a thorough engagement with the text and its relevant issues and/or concepts discussed in this course. A paper in this range needs minor revision but is otherwise stylistically and mechanically sound with few typos and mechanical errors and is properly formatted.
- C** A C paper falls noticeably short in **two or more** of the areas listed above. A paper in this range needs significant revision in terms of its content and organization and may contain several spelling and/or mechanical errors that disrupt reading.
- D** A D paper is generally disorganized, poorly argued, lacking in support, and simplistic in terms of its argument. A paper in this range is full of spelling and/or mechanical errors that disrupt reading and may not be properly formatted.
- F** An F paper falls short in **almost all** of the areas listed above OR may be incomplete or late. A paper in this range is full of spelling and mechanical errors and is unclear or close to unreadable. An F paper may also fail to follow the guidelines established by the instructor.

Late Work and Make-up Policy

- An assignment will be **docked a full letter grade for everyday that it is past the due date**. It will be counted late if it is not turned in by the online designated time. The dropbox will close at the designated time so you will be unable to submit it through D2L. You will have email me so that I can reopen the dropbox so that you will be able to submit the paper online in order for it to be run through Turnitin.com. Additionally, the remaining dropboxes for that paper will not open until you have turned in the previous assignment.
- Incomplete grades will not be given unless there is a legitimate reason why the student cannot complete the required work during the semester. A failing grade is not considered a legitimate excuse.
- Extra credit will not be offered.
- Students will not be allowed to take exams early.

Grading Scale

A = 94-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69
A- = 90-93	B = 83-86	C = 74-76	D = 64-66
	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-73	F = below 64

Tentative Calendar

Date	Topic	Readings	Assignment
Week 1	Syllabus, Introduction	Chapter 1	
Week 2	Theory and Crime, Classical Criminology	Chapter 1 & 3	
Week 3	Biological Factors and Criminal Behavior	Chapter 4	
Week 4	Psychological Factors and Criminal Behavior	Chapter 5	
Week 5	Test 1 (1-5)		
Week 6	Durkheim, Anomie,& Modernization; Strain Theory	Chapter 6 & 7	Paper Due
Week 7	Neighborhoods and Crime	Chapter 8	
Week 8	Learning Theory	Chapter 9	
Week 9	Test 2 (6-9)		
Week 10	Control Theory	Chapter 10	
Week 11	The Meaning of Crime,	Chapter 11	
Week 12	Conflict Criminology Gender & Crime	Chapter 12	
Week 13	Gender & Crime, Developmental Theories	Chapters 14, 15	Paper Due
Week 14	Thanksgiving		
Week 15	Test 3 (10 – 15)		

Rubric for Essays

	PURPOSE	DEVELOPMENT	ORGANIZATION	LANGUAGE	USAGE
<p>The A paper excels in all of the major areas: purpose, development, organization, language, and usage. It is a coherent, convincing piece of writing that reveals a writer in command of ideas and evidence and who chooses language and sentence structures that contribute to the meaning of the essay.</p>	<p>Thesis is strong, revealing some originality and insight in its expression.</p>	<p>Paper's central idea is supported with concrete, substantial, and consistently relevant details.</p>	<p>Paper presents a carefully planned organization that progresses by logical stages and is developed with originality and with consistent attention to the writing situation and to the audience.</p>	<p>Paragraphs have fresh, precise, economical, and idiomatic diction; the sentences are skillfully crafted. They are unified, coherent, forceful, and effectively varied.</p>	<p>Grammar and mechanics contribute to the overall purpose, even though the paper may exhibit an occasional error. In all, the writer commands language.</p>
<p>The B paper is competent in all the major areas. Although lapses may appear in the paper, they are usually minor and infrequent. Skill is displayed in organizing and supporting ideas, in selecting words, and in handling mechanics. Mere absence of errors does not merit a B.</p>	<p>Paper has a well-focused thesis or central idea.</p>	<p>Paper's central idea is solidly supported with relevant details</p>	<p>Paper progresses clearly and logically. Paragraphs are unified and coherent, and transitions, where necessary, are effective. The introduction and conclusion are significant parts of the essay.</p>	<p>Paragraphs have appropriate, clear, idiomatic diction, as well as effective and varied sentence structures.</p>	<p>Grammar and mechanics are generally correct. Errors, when they appear, do not distract from the overall effectiveness of the essay.</p>
<p>The C paper is a competent effort that exhibits no serious or frequent deficiencies. The C paper may be somewhat predictable or mechanical, but the content and language use are clearly college level.</p>	<p>Paper has a clear central idea. Thesis sentence is narrow enough to indicate the essay's scope but broad enough to allow for presentation of extraneous material.</p>	<p>Paper provides sufficient details to support its central idea; however, this support may be obvious or general.</p>	<p>Paper has an introduction, body, and conclusion. Paragraphs have topic sentences, transitions, and some sort of development. The paragraphs may be mechanical and monotonous.</p>	<p>Passages may contain a few lapses from good diction. Essay has a few idiomatic problems, but overall the sentences are correctly constructed. Sentences may be simple and lack variety.</p>	<p>Paper averages up to three errors per paragraph and six per page. Few of these errors may be serious.</p>
<p>The D paper is deficient in one or more of the major areas. The essay has numerous errors in mechanics, organization or paragraph development. It may fail to provide sufficient support for generalizations. Despite its deficiencies, this paper should exhibit some features that demonstrate an understanding of the essay, its components, and their functions.</p>	<p>Thesis or central idea is weak or general.</p>	<p>Paper exhibits weak support or drifts away from the central idea. Paragraphs have few details; often the details are inaccurate or irrelevant.</p>	<p>Paper has no clear method of development. Paragraphs follow no special order and often lack support or unity. Transition, if present, is ineffective.</p>	<p>Diction may be inappropriate, vague, or unidiomatic. Sentences may be poorly constructed or monotonous.</p>	<p>Errors in sentence structure, usage, and mechanics frequently interfere with the writer's ability to communicate purpose.</p>
<p>The F paper is deficient in two or more major areas. F papers often contain faulty logic and distracting grammatical problems, such as fused or comma-spliced sentences, fragments, or errors in agreement or tense. These</p>	<p>Thesis is vague, confusing, or absent.</p>	<p>Paragraphs lack support, are undeveloped, or drift from the topic. Introduction and conclusion are weak or absent.</p>	<p>Paper often contains numerous short paragraphs or one or two long ones; topic sentences are vague or absent. Transitions are inappropriate or missing.</p>	<p>Diction is frequently inappropriate; sentences are confusing and lack variety.</p>	<p>Errors in sentence structure, usage, and mechanics frequently interfere with the writer's ability to communicate purpose.</p>

papers also exhibit a poor grasp of the essay, its components, and their functions.

--	--	--	--	--	--

SAMPLE