

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
Criminal Justice 201 - **Foundation** in Criminology
Spring Semester 2000
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Instructor: Vickie V. Paramore, M. A.
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Office Hours: T & TH 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the American criminal justice system, the social systems in which criminal deviance occurs, and the theoretical perspectives developed to explain and predict the causes of crime. It will focus on major criminal justice actors, institutions, practices, and problems. In conjunction with assessing the major components of the system to include its functions, students will examine the nature and types of crime, offenders, and victims. The course is designed to help students understand the interconnectedness of crime, criminals, the criminal justice system, and criminological theory.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will have knowledge of and able to:

- the history of criminological thought and the major schools;
- the major components and functions of the criminal justice system;
- assess the role of the criminal justice system and its impact on society;
- critically evaluate crime causation and the relevance of existing theory;
- pursue a career within the criminology and criminal justice discipline.

Required Textbook & Additional Course Materials

Adler, F., G. Mueller, and W. Laufer (1997). *Criminology*, 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Course Requirements

Attendance/Participation: Attendance and class participation are expected and necessary requirements of this course. Each student is expected to read and *offer* critical evaluations of such readings. In the case of attendance, advanced notification is always best. In the event of an unforeseen emergency advise the instructor as soon as possible. However, legitimate documentation acceptable to the dean will be required prior to awarding any excuses. Missing class is not an excuse for not completing reading assignments or other projects. Exams will be

rescheduled at the instructor's discretion. Failure to adhere to these requirements will adversely impact the student's final grade.

Reading Assignments:

Students are expected to complete reading assignments prior to class. Steady participation in class lecture will evidence each student's completion of assigned readings.

Current Events Journal:

Each week students are required to collect one crime and/or criminal justice related article. In our *effort* to develop an understanding of the interrelationship of crime and theory, students are asked to (1) briefly record the main points discussed in the article and (2) the article's relationship to on-going class discussions. Journal entries and articles will be collected for grade during the ninth week of class.

Examinations:

All exams will be administered during the first section of class instructions. The semester consists of two exams; mid-term and final exam. Exams will be closed book consisting of objective and subjective questions.

Grading Policy

Course Work

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|-----------------------------|------------|
| Mid-term examination | 25% |
| Final examination | 35% |
| Journals | 15% |
| Class Attendance | 15% |
| Class Participation | 10% |

Grading Scale

A = 90 and above

B = 80 thru 89

C = 70 thru 79

D = 65 thru 69

F = 64 and below

Course Outline

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| January 11 | Introduction to the Course Chapter 1 | An Overview of Criminology An Overview of the Criminal Justice System |
| | Chapter 2 | Measuring Crime and Criminal Behavior |
| January 18 | Chapter 3 Chapter 4 | Schools of Thought Throughout History Psychological and Biological Perspectives Film: <i>Nature vs. Nurture</i> |
| January 25 | Chapter 5 Chapter 6 Chapter 7 | Strain and Cultural Deviance Theories The Formation of Subcultures Social Control Theory Class Project** |
| February 1 | Chapter 8 Chapter 9 | Targets and Victims of Crime Alternative Explanations of Crime -Review for Midterm Examination |
| February 8 | | Mid-Term Examination Film: <i>Violence an American Tradition</i> |
| February 15 | Chapter 10 Chapter 11 | The Concepts of Crime Violent Crimes Film: <i>Defending Our Lives</i> |
| February 22 | Chapter 13 Chapter 14 | Organizational Criminality Substance Abuse & Sex-Related Crimes Presentation: <i>"The War on Drugs: Does Race Matter?"</i> * * |
| February 29 | Chapter 16 Chapter 17 | Processes and Decisions Enforcing the Law |
| March 7 | Chapter 18 Chapter 19 | The Nature and Functioning of the Court A Research Focus on Corrections -Review for Final Examination Journal Entries and Articles due |
| March 14 | | Final Examination |