# **CJA605:** CRIMINOLOGY

Instructor: Joe Allen, Ph.D. Winter 2021

Online

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Office Hours: By appt. (easy, just email to set up)

Course Pre-req: None. Open to non-majors.

#### CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The multiple factors associated with crime and criminality, as organized and integrated by explanatory scientific theories.

#### READING MATERIALS:

Akers, Ronald L. & Christine S. Sellers. <u>Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application</u>, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2017. Oxford. ISBN: 9780190455163. Additional reading materials will be assigned throughout the term; when required, these will be posted for students to access

# Course Website Address: https://chaminade.instructure.com/

HARDWARE EQUIPMENT: Cavas is accessible from both PC and Mac computers with a reliable internet connection. You will also need to be able to access video and/or materials from some external websites, and files posted within this course in the document sharing section. You should have access to audio equipment (speakers or headphones) so you can hear audio. You should not take this class if you do not have reliable internet access.

**SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS**: You will need to have some ability to listen to audio in MP3 format, watch visual material in MP4 format, and be able to read .pdf files. If you encounter issues with your software for any of these during the term, let me know and I can let you know alternatives (e.g., VLC Player). In terms of web browsers, Google Chrome and FireFox are usually the most seamless (e.g., sometimes Safari may be incompatible with some video files).

## **Technical Assistance For Canvas Users:**

- Search for help on specific topics or get tips in Canvas Students
- Live chat with Canvas Support for students
- Canvas Support Hotline for students: +1-833-209-6111
- Watch this video to get you started
- Online tutorials: click on "Students" role to access tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade IT Helpdesk for technical issues: helpdesk@chaminade.edu or call (808) 735-4855

#### Course Approach:

Learning in an online environment is definitely different from an in-class one. Most notably, things are 'asynchronous' -- we are not all together and in each other's presence at the same time. This makes things very convenient for students, but presents challenges for instructors. This structure does not always allow for the easy flow of information that one expects from a traditional classroom setting. Interactions and exchanges of ideas are less spontaneous and more formalized, and when these things do happen, there are lag times between being recognized/heard and then interacted with/responded to. Study habits and staying 'on track' come out a bit more in an online course. I will give you all of the support and resources I can in order for you to learn and to add to your pedagogical toolbox (learning to learn/critical thinking), though you must read materials and do assignments in a responsible manner in order to succeed in the traditional sense (grades). Online courses require a bit more planning and pacing on the student's part.

## **Alignment of Learning Outcomes:**

## Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- 1. Explain the process and nature of the social construction of crime and crime as a social problem.
- 2. Critically apply criminological theory and the correlates of crime in relation to understanding the current nature and extent of crime and societal responses to criminal behavior.
- 3. Identify and assess the major historical and contemporary criminological theories, understanding their place in current crime research and dialogue.
- 4. Describe and place the role of criminological theory and the correlates of crime as related to the evolution and derivation of social policy related to crime prevention and treatment of criminals.
- 5. Provide a systematic review and evaluation of contemporary theoretical research.

# **Program Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the M.S. in Criminal Justice Studies, students will be able to:

- 1. Apply the primary concepts and assumptions of the traditional and contemporary theories of addressing crime.
- 2. Identify and critique efficient criminal justice standards while recognizing basic rights guaranteed to each individual both by state and federal constitutions and laws.
- 3. Examine the problems associated with ethical administrative decision-making.
- 4. Integrate issues of race, ethnicity, gender, age, and social class and identify how they affect the criminal justice system in terms of understanding social causes of crime.
- 5. Develop and apply research methods as used in the social sciences, with a particular emphasis on the basic skills necessary to conduct (and direct) research in criminal justice agencies.
- 6. Engage the Marianist tradition of education for service, peace, and justice as it pertains to local and national social justice, injustices, and inequities in the criminal justice field.

#### ASSESSMENT/COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Written Assignments: Students will complete written assignments that will coincide with
  reading material and/or online videos/media. These assignments will be based on
  contemporary criminological issues. If well-written, the assignments should be able to be
  accomplished in 1-3 single-spaced pages each, depending on the assignment. Assignments
  will be graded based on completion, addressing all aspects of the assignment, organization of
  thoughts/ideas, critical assessment of the material, readability, grammar, etc.
- **Final Paper:** This paper will be a literature review of a handful of topics selected by your instructor. Topics are selected based on contemporary influence/presence on a national and/or local level. The paper should be approximately 5-6 <u>single-spaced pages</u> in length and should incorporate a minimum of 6 outside resources (scholarly works). You will need to use original sources, as in any research paper. We will discuss topics and angles once the class is underway but, generally speaking, your paper will be related to correlates of criminal behavior with some connections to criminological theory.
- Reading Homework: Instead of doing exams, there will be two reading homework
  assignments. This will take some pressure off you and will emphasize retention and
  understanding a bit more than testing performance, though they will cover larger chunks of
  material instead of chapter-by-chapter. These will be administered in exam format and will
  consist of objective questions (e.g., true/false, multiple-choice, etc.). The first section of reading
  homework will focus on ch. 1-7 of the textbook while the second section of reading homework
  will be cumulative, but will focus more heavily on materials covered in ch. 8-14. There will be a

deadline to complete these homework assignments, but there will be no time limit (but once opened, it will need to be completed in that session or must remain open and returned to without closing in order to complete).

## GRADING SYSTEM:

The class will be graded on a curve. For this curve, a standardized grading system will be used:

A = 100-90%

B= <90-80%

C = <80-70%

F = <70%

## Point Distribution & Scoring System:

Course Item	% of Final Grade
Written Assignments (6)	30%
Reading Homework	20%
Final Paper	40%

Based on overall class performance, the instructor will adjust the curve accordingly if anomalies occur.

## LOGGING IN & COMMUNICATION:

- Regular Class Login. As a policy, if a student misses materials due to not logging in when necessary, this is not excusable. For those with extenuating circumstances, documentation will be required for any level of excusal. "Extenuating circumstances" will be determined on a case-by-case basis, but the standard for this sort of exception is considered as 'circumstances beyond one's control' (e.g., medical illness, family emergency). Federal regulations require continued attendance for continuing payment of financial aid. If attendance is not seen, financial aid may be terminated. When illness or personal reasons necessitate continued absence, the student should officially withdraw from all affected courses. Anyone who stops attending a course without official withdrawal may receive a failing grade.
- Communication. Email through Canvas is the best way to reach me with questions about the course. If you would like to talk with me online (webcam) or via phone, I'm happy to do so; for this, it is probably best to email me and then we can set up a day/time. For email, I will answer all emails as soon as I can (usually very quickly if I am on the computer, but always within 24 hours unless I am traveling for work or at a conference). If you have a question about something in the course, do NOT send out group emails to all other students; this is not their burden to share -- send your questions directly to me.

## TERMS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Late assignments/projects will be discounted an initial 30% and 10% per day after the due date.
   All late assignments must be turned in within 1 week, otherwise, loss of all credit will occur. Late assignments will unlikely to be accepted if assignments for other students have already been graded and returned.
- 2. Exam/Quiz materials are to be completed within the timeframe that they are made available. Exceptions are to be granted only in extenuating circumstances, otherwise, loss of all credit will occur.
- 3. Logging into the course regularly is a must, taking into consideration the amount of material covered in the course.
- 4. Students will be expected to read the assigned materials as these materials provide the pedagogical basis for the course. Students will be unlikely to pass, much less perform well, if they do not read the assigned materials.
- 5. I have an open-door approach when it comes to helping students understand the material and do well in the course. DON'T HESITATE to talk to, call, or email me!

- 6. Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in an "FD" (failure for dishonesty) grade for the course and will be subject to the policies and procedures for the college. If you are at all unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, refer to cataloged materials.
- 7. As a policy, opportunities for extra credit WILL NOT be available. All students begin the course with perfect scores and will have every opportunity to maintain this score.
- 8. The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule of the syllabus when deemed necessary.

#### ADA Policy

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Kōkua 'Ike Coordinator at (808) 739-8305 for further information (ada@chaminade.edu).

#### TUTORING AND WRITING SERVICES

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua `lke: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to: biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors.

Please check Kōkua `lke's website (<a href="https://chaminade.edu/advising/kokua-ike/">https://chaminade.edu/advising/kokua-ike/</a>) for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via Smarthinking. Smarthinking can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click Account – Notifications – Smarthinking. For more information, please contact Kōkua `lke at tutoring@chaminade.edu or 808-739-8305.

#### University Statement on Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of the Academic Division and may range from an 'F' grade for the work in question to an 'F' for the course to suspension or dismissal from the University.

#### TITLE IX COMPLIANCE

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone

you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.

## **Academic Conduct Policy**

From the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Academic Catalog (p. 39): Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

For further information, please refer to the Student Handbook:

https://chaminade.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/NEW-STUDENT-HANDBOOK-19-20-Final-8.20.1 9.pdf

## **Credit Hour Policy**

The unit of semester credit is defined as university-level credit that is awarded for the completion of coursework. One credit hour reflects the amount of work represented in the intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement for those learning outcomes. Each credit hour earned at Chaminade University should result in 37.5 hours of engagement. For example, in a one credit hour traditional face to face course, students spend 50 minutes in class per week for 15 weeks, resulting in a minimum of 12.5 instructional hours for the semester. Students are expected to engage in reading and other assignments outside of class for at least 2 additional hours per week, which equals an additional 25 hours. These two sums result in a total student engagement time of 37.5 hours for the course, the total engagement time expected for each one credit course at Chaminade.

The minimum 37.5 hours of engagement per credit hour can be satisfied in fully online, internship, or other specialized courses through several means, including (a) regular online instruction or interaction with the faculty member and fellow students and (b) academic engagement through extensive reading, research, online discussion, online quizzes or exams; instruction, collaborative group work, internships, laboratory work, practica, studio work, and preparation of papers, presentations, or other forms of assessment. This policy is in accordance with federal regulations and regional accrediting agencies.

#### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Allen is a full-time faculty member, Associate Professor, in the C&CJ Department. He is an advisor to CJ majors and oversees the CJ Club. His usual repertoire of courses includes criminology, juvenile delinquency, behavioral sciences statistics, survey research methods & statistics, seminar in criminal justice agencies, and sex crimes. He has been a full-time faculty member in the Department since 2004 and began teaching at Chaminade in a part-time capacity in 1994. He has also taught courses in Sociology at the University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University. Prior to Chaminade, he worked with the Corrections Population Management Commission (through the Department of Public Safety), the Department of the Attorney General, and the Social Science Research Institute (University of

Hawaii). Throughout the years, he has been involved in various research and evaluation projects, including the topics of: victim compensation/restitution, probation and parole recidivism, sentencing simulation modeling and policy analysis, juvenile delinquency and youth gangs, community crime prevention, restorative justice, domestic violence and anger management, substance abuse treatment, ecstasy, prostitution, runaway and missing children, uniform crime reporting, victimization surveys, and crime trends and law enforcement/correctional policy analysis. Dr. Allen received his Ph.D. from the Sociology Department at the University of Hawaii with an emphasis in Criminology. Before transferring to the University of Hawaii, he attended the University of Minnesota (he was born in Minnesota and spent his earlier formative years there).

## **Course Schedule: Due Dates & Timeframes**

Below are the due dates for homework/assignments and timeframes for exam completion. Do not wait until the last minute to complete things as they may take longer than anticipated.

Date	Details	
Sun Jan 17, 2021	Writing Assignment #1 - Dear Zachary	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 24, 2021	Writing Assignment #2 - Social Construction of Crime & Crime Statistics	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 4, 2021	Writing Assignment #3 - Social Construction of Crime & Moral Panics	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 11, 2021	Writing Assignment #4 - Inside Deep Throat	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 21, 2021	Reading Homework (Ch. 1-7)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 28, 2021	Writing Assignment #5 - Crime + Punishment	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 7, 2021	Writing Assignment #6 - The Legacy	due by 11:59pm
Thu Mar 18, 2021	Reading Homework (cumulative)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 28, 2021	Final Paper Literature Review	due by 11:59pm

## **Chapters & Topics**

- Chapter 1. Introduction to Criminological Theory
- Chapter 2. Deterrence and Rational Choice Theories
- Chapter 3. Biological and Biosocial Theories
- Chapter 4. Psychological Theories
- Chapter 5. Social Learning Theory
- Chapter 6. Social Bonding and Control Theories
- Chapter 7. Labeling and Reintegrative Shaming Theory
- Chapter 8. Social Disorganization Theory
- Chapter 9. Anomie and Strain Theories
- Chapter 10. Conflict Theory
- Chapter 11. Marxist Theories
- Chapter 12. Radical and Critical Theories
- Chapter 13. Feminist Theories
- Chapter 14. Developmental and Life-Course Theories
- Chapter 15. Integrating Criminological Theories