

## **CJ 201: Foundations in Criminology**

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**OFFICE:** Behavioral Sciences 109

**Fall 2005**  
**MWF 10:00a-10:50a**  
**Henry Hall 202**

**OFFICE HOURS:** MW (3p-4p), F (noon-1p)  
**Alternate times available by appointment only.**

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:** None.

### **COURSE/CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

The study of crime: nature, types, causation theories, crime statistics, criminal law, the victim, punishment and crime prevention. This course provides competencies to meet the program outcome to allow students to demonstrate an understanding of issues of race and ethnicity, gender and social class and the need to understand social causes of crime.

### **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will have a demonstrable understanding of:

1. The differences and similarities between crime and deviance.
2. The historical and sociological foundations of criminology as a discipline.
3. The nature and extent of criminal behavior in society and the measurement thereof.
4. The major theories underlying criminology.
5. The specific elements that comprise certain crimes (e.g., robbery) and the extent of these types of crimes in our society.

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### **MARIANIST EDUCATIONAL VALUES**

The five characteristics of a Marianist Education are:

#### **1. Educate for Formation in Faith**

Catholic Universities affirm an intricate relationship between reason and faith. As important as discursive and logical formulations and critical thinking are, they are not able to capture all that can be and ought to be learned. Intellectual rigor coupled with respectful humility provide a more profound preparation for both career and life. Intellectual rigor characterizes the pursuit of all that can be learned. Respectful humility reminds people of faith that they need to learn from those who are of other faiths and cultures, as well as from those who may have no religious faith at all.

#### **2. Provide an Excellent Education**

In the Marianist approach to education, "excellence" includes the whole person, not just the technician or rhetorician. Marianist universities educate whole persons, developing their physical, psychological, intellectual, moral, spiritual and social qualities. Faculty and students attend to fundamental moral attitudes, develop their personal talents and acquire skills that will help them learn all their lives. The Marianist approach to education links theory and practice, liberal and professional education. Our age has been deeply shaped by science and technology. Most recently, information and educational technologies have changed the way faculty and students research and teach. At Marianist Universities, two goals are pursued simultaneously: an appropriate use of information technology for learning, and the enhancement of interaction between students and teachers. As Catholic, Marianist Universities seek to embrace diverse peoples and understand diverse cultures, convinced that ultimately, when such people come together, one of the highest purposes of education is realized: a human community that respects every individual within it.

#### **3. Educate in Family Spirit**

Known for their strong sense of community, Marianists have traditionally spoken of this sense as "family spirit." Marianist educational experience fosters the development of a community characterized by a sense of family spirit that accepts each person with loving respect, and draws everyone in the university into the challenge of community building. Family spirit also enables Marianist universities to challenge their students, faculty and staff to excellence and maturity, because the acceptance and love of a community gives its members the courage to risk failure and the joy of sharing success.

#### 4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace

The Marianist approach to higher education is deeply committed to the common good. The intellectual life itself is undertaken as a form of service in the interest of justice and peace, and the university curriculum is designed to connect the classroom with the wider world. In addition, Marianist universities extend a special concern for the poor and marginalized and promote the dignity, rights and responsibilities of all people.

#### 5. Educate for Adaptation to Change

In the midst of rapid social and technological change, Marianist universities readily adapt and change their methods and structures so that the wisdom of their educational philosophy and spirituality may be transmitted even more fully. "New times call for new methods," Father Chaminade often repeated. The Marianist university faces the future confidently, on the one hand knowing that it draws on a rich educational philosophy, and on the other fully aware for that philosophy to remain vibrant in changing times, adaptations need to be made.

Selected from *Characteristics of Marianist Universities: A Resource Paper*, Published in 1999 by Chaminade University of Honolulu, St. Mary's University and University of Dayton

Each of these characteristics is integrated, to varying degrees, in this course.

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#### READING MATERIALS:

*Criminology*. Freda Adler, Gerhard O.W. Mueller, and William S. Laufer. McGraw-Hill, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. 2004.

Additional reading materials will be used in supplement to the text.

#### COURSE APPROACH:

This course will be presented using a variety of methods, primarily through lecture and group discussions and exercises, often employing instructional aids like PowerPoint and other audio/visual material.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Two (2) midterm examinations.** These exams are not cumulative and will include only materials covered in the specified sections. Items on the exam may come from the text, supplemental reading materials, classroom lecture and discussions, or other means used throughout the period. Exams may consist of questions in multiple choice, short answer, and essay formats. There will be a short review of the exam before it is administered.
- **One (1) final examination.** This exam is cumulative and will include materials covered during the entire class term. This exam will have a primary focus on the materials included in the last section of the term, but it will also include items from the entire class term. Exams may consist of questions in multiple choice, short answer, and essay formats. There will be a short review of the exam before it is administered.
- **One (1) group presentation.** You will be assigned a group and a selection of the readings to base your presentation on. For your group's presentation, you will be asked to create an outline of your discussion and to give this to the instructor at least the day before your class presentation is due. Each person in the group will go over parts of the outline and present it to the class.
- **Regular class attendance.** As a policy, if a student misses 4 classes throughout the term, a deficiency notice will be sent to the registrar's office. In cases where 4 absences occur, it will result in one of two consequences: (1) a grade deduction of, but not limited to, one full letter grade or (2) for those with extenuating circumstances, an incomplete (to be made up no later than 30 days after the final exam). "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). In such cases, you will be asked to provide appropriate documentation to support your absence(s).

- **Regular classroom participation.** Besides simply coming to class, students will be asked to contribute to lecture, group discussions and exercises, informal presentations, and to complete in-class and out-of-class assignments. Contributions to group and individual assignments will be assessed through participation (e.g., extent and depth of discussion), completeness of work turned in, etc. This also means that students will come to class prepared, being able to respond to questions posed from the instructor. Quizzes administered will also be figured into the classroom participation grade.

#### **TERMS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. *Late assignments/projects will be discounted 10% per day after the due date. All late assignments must be turned in within 1 week, otherwise loss of **all** credit will occur.*
2. *Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due at the beginning of class.*
3. *Exams are to be taken on the days that they are administered. Exceptions are to be granted only in extenuating circumstance, otherwise loss of all credit will occur. If you are given the opportunity to take an exam after given in class, you will be given a different exam which may be more comprehensive than the initial one given.*
4. *Regular attendance is a must given the amount of material covered in the course. Four absences or more, not including medical emergencies, etc., will incur a minimum letter-grade reduction (the more absences up and beyond four, will affect your grade further in terms of lost letter grade). If you know you will be missing a class in the future due to legitimate reasons, be sure to tell me in advance and provide any necessary paperwork; this will allow me to keep you up-to-date on material you will be missing.*
5. *Students will be expected to have read materials prior to each class session and completed appropriate assignments. It is especially important that students read and do work outside of the classroom due to the breadth of materials covered in such a relatively short period of time. In-class quizzes may be administered periodically in order to assess progress and attention given to weekly readings/exercises.*
6. *I have an open-door approach when it comes to helping students understand the material and do well in the course. If you would like to meet with me, visit me during my office hours or call/e-mail me to set up an appointment for an alternative time if those hours don't work for you. **DON'T HESITATE** to talk to, call, or e-mail me!*
7. *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 catalogued materials.*
8. *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.*
9. *Chaminade will provide assistance for any student with documented disabilities. Any student who believes he/she may need accommodations in this class must contact **Dr. Don Kopf, 735-4845** or **Dr. June Yasuhara, 739-4603**, at the Counseling Center (office next to Security) in order to determine if the student meets the requirements for documented disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is important to contact them as soon as possible so that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.*
10. *The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule of the syllabus when deemed necessary.*

## CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

In general, have respect for your fellow students, the instructor, guest speakers, and the learning process. All behaviors and actions are magnified in a small classroom environment. The following “rules of engagement” outlines some expected and unacceptable student conduct in this classroom:

1. **Disruptive Talking:** In addition to you, the person you are talking to, others around you, and I are also privy to conversations you have while class is going on. Believe me, I can hear talking all the way up at the front of the classroom. I am teflon and these things usually don't stick to me, but if I can hear it, the others around you will definitely hear it. Do not make me talk over you or be disrespectful of others who are trying to listen to lecture, watch videos, and/or present materials. Hint: if you are talking in class while I or one of your classmates is going over or watching class material and I look at you in an acknowledging way (raising my eyebrows or giving you a nod), this means that I can hear you or you are being disruptive. Don't get me wrong, processing materials with others around you is totally acceptable, but if you feel the need to share your ideas, write it down or do the quick **“lean, look, and whisper” method**. If you're not into the material on that day, remember that looking interested is the next best thing to actually being interested.
2. **Moaning & Groaning:** If I had a dollar for every time I heard someone sigh, roll their eyes, or ask “do we really have to do this?” when it came to doing some sort of classroom activity, I'd probably be ten years closer to retirement. I'm not telling you that you have to love every thing we do in class or how we go about doing it, but give it a chance. If you complain or are negative, you've set the wheels in motion for a self-fulfilling prophecy – that is, you say or think “I'm not going to like this” or “this is stupid”, and you ultimately end up not liking it or feeling that it was stupid. Your negativity will often rub off on others in the class and will make me really sad (okay, I'm exaggerating on the second part, but I honestly will probably be a little perturbed). Hint: Don't complain or be negative, give things a chance. At a minimum, don't let me hear you complain or be negative (see the above rule on the “lean, look, and whisper” method). One way to kind of complain while still looking positive is suggesting that we approach a certain classroom activity or exercise in a different manner – who knows, I might just take you up on your suggestion.
3. **Cell phones, Newspapers, MP3 players, PDAs, etc:** Before class – OK, after class – OK, but during class – NOT OK. If you're able to pull off some sort of James Bond-MacGyver trick, more power to you, but just remember that I am a former CIA operative and will usually root out and foil such attempts. As in the first rule, if I look at you in an acknowledging way while you're doing something like this, it means that you've been made and you'll either be arrested and imprisoned or turned into a snitch (not really, but don't make me think of something to do to address it). Hint: Don't do it.
4. **Tiredness, Exhaustion, & Sleepiness:** I'm a firm believer in being in class under any circumstances. But, understandably, some of us are burning the candle at both ends with other classes, work, family, boyfriends/girlfriends, and having a life outside of school. I will try to keep you up, but sometimes even myself or even an intravenous feed of caffeine wouldn't do the trick. Hint: Try to keep your head up – the **“concentrating hard on your notes” method** is a good approach. I don't want you to hurt yourself, so if you think you're going to fall over or knock yourself out on your desk, sit in the back of the room and rest your head (I do not suggest snoring or drooling though since it could lead to an embarrassing situation for you).
5. **Maid Service, Hunger & Thirst:** I won't say much about this except to clean up after yourself when you leave the classroom. Universities across the country, including Chaminade, have jumped on the latest fad of trash cans; they are your friend. Adhere to the famous words of Woodsy the Owl, “Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute.” And about food, bringing in something that you'd eat in a cafeteria or a restaurant probably isn't smart; you may be asked to share since we're all probably hungry (me especially) and your fragrant food could distract us enough to knock you down and take it from you.

6. Taking Exams & Doing Your Own Work: Employ the “**prison food**”, “**Seabiscuit**” and “**bobbing bird**” methods. Hint: Don’t test my secret CIA operative training. I’ve seen it all, so unless you’ve come up with some new technique, I’d suggest you not risk it. Take your own exam, write your own papers, and do your own work; don’t cheat yourself! Remember, too, as easy it is for someone to lift stuff off the internet, it’s just as easy for someone to check for originality off the same internet. I also keep copies of past papers, so don’t go there either.



## **8 QUESTIONS NOT TO ASK A PROFESSOR** (BORROWED AND ADAPTED FROM NATALIE GRINNELL, WOFFORD COLLEGE)

### **1. Did I miss anything important in class?**

The problem with this question is that it implies that classes aren't always "important." Please try to remember that professors plan and work hard when designing a course; if you want to have a productive relationship with them, you should at least pretend to appreciate this work by assuming that every class and every class activity is important.

A better way to phrase this question is: "Did we do anything not covered by the syllabus that I need to make up?"

### **2. Could you tell me what we did in class?**

When you put it this way it sounds as if you are asking your professor to re-teach the class, privately, for your benefit. Many professors will be hurt by this attitude; it implies that you have a lack of respect for the value of their time and energy.

If you miss a class, you should make sure you have completed any assigned reading or writing, then find another student in your course who is willing to give you his or her notes. Then, you go to your professor and politely ask for copies of any missed handouts. After checking the syllabus and the notes, you can ask to meet to ask questions about things that you don't understand.

Some professors provide copies of their class notes, either on-line or at the library, but you should remember that you don't have the right to expect this from every professor. Some consider effective note-taking a skill that you should acquire.

### **3. Will this be on the exam? or Can you tell us what's going to be on the exam?**

This question is the universal joke among professors; we're well aware how the pressure of competition combined with outright disinterest produces students more interested in scoring well than learning. But we love our work and our subjects, and it's frustrating to be confronted by students who neither share that love nor respect those who do.

With the exception of jokes or anecdotes, you should learn everything your course covers, unless your professor specifically tells you that certain material is not important. You *may* ask about the format, length, or conditions of the exam.

#### **4. My plane flight/ride home/family vacation is scheduled on "X", so is it possible for me to take the final exam early?**

There are professors who are willing to re-schedule exams for this reason, but some do not. Here are the reasons why:

- a. Giving more than one exam for the same course requires the professor to make up an entirely new version of the test; it would be irresponsible not to, and I don't have that much extra time during finals week.
- b. Most students would like to take all of their exams early and go home. It seems unfair to let random numbers of students move their exams at will, while others cannot due to conflicts.
- c. The conditions of the exam should be equal for everyone, and if that includes being tired or frustrated at the end of the week, then at least everyone is in it together, and no one has an advantage.
- d. Social plans are supposed to be made around obligations, such as school.

If a professor does agree to move an exam, you should be properly grateful--and you shouldn't try to use this favor to manipulate another professor into doing the same thing.

#### **5. I have two exams scheduled on the same day. Can I take yours at another time?**

I know this circumstance seems overwhelming to some of you, but to be old-school about it, I worked multiple jobs as an undergraduate and frequently had multiple exams and papers due in one day, too. What I discovered is that this is only a major problem if you have not retained knowledge throughout the semester, but are only learning it the few days before the exam. Since the point of exams is not to test how much you can learn in a week, but how much you have learned over the semester. It is advised to not employ the "binge and purge" technique; it's painful and you'll ultimately be left unsatisfied.

#### **6. I really need to bring up my G.P.A.; which of these professors is the easiest?**

Any professor who calls another professor's course "easy" is insulting a colleague. Any student who takes a course to boost his or her G.P.A. could insult an instructor and, at a minimum, shows that the student is not serious about learning.

Some students seem to think that being "honest" about things like this should be appreciated by professors (the other frequent "honest" admission is being too hung over to attend class or complete assignments). This type of "honesty" reveals a lack of respect for my profession and the belief that everyone should accept your behavior and laugh it off. Quite frankly, I'd rather you lie, but remember that I've heard almost every excuse so at least be original.

#### **7. Is there anything I can do to raise my grade? Can I do extra credit?**

It's not the question that's a problem, but its timing. Students usually come to me during the last three weeks of class, and are really asking for an extra assignment to make up for previous poor performance. Most professors will not give you extra credit when you have not demonstrated the ability to master the basic material. Such "extra" work is grossly unfair to the other students in your class.

If, however, you are disappointed with a grade on a paper or exam and don't understand how to improve, you should certainly come to your professor with questions. Phrase the question this way, "I would like to go over this assignment because I'm sure that I could do better next time if I understood where I went wrong." You may also ask for study hints or places to go for tutoring or extra help. Your professors will be glad to respond to these questions.

Occasionally, a student will call to "discuss" a grade after the semester is over. Unless the grade has been miscalculated (which sometimes happens--we all make mistakes), you cannot "raise" such a grade after the fact. Bottom line: show some concern during the entire semester, and not only when it's convenient to your case.

#### **8. Professor "X" gave me a D on this paper; could you read it and tell me what you think?**

You should never attempt to have one professor interfere with the way another professor handles his or her courses. If you have valid objections to the way a professor runs a course, the appropriate procedure is for you to first speak with the professor in question. If that fails to resolve the matter, take your objections to the Chair of the Department or the Academic Dean. You may also express your feelings on course evaluations.

#### **GRADING SYSTEM:**

The class will be graded on a curve, based on the highest score received on exams, participation, and attendance. For this curve, a standardized grading system will be used:

A = 93-100% (of highest point total received)  
B = 84-92%  
C = 75-83%  
D = 66-74%  
F = 65% and below

<b>Point Distribution &amp; Scoring System:</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
Final examination	<b>25%</b>	<b>25</b>
Midterm Exam #1	<b>25%</b>	<b>25</b>
Midterm Exam #2	<b>25%</b>	<b>25</b>
Group Presentation	<b>10%</b>	<b>10</b>
Classroom Participation/Assignments/Quizzes	<b>10%</b>	<b>10</b>
Classroom Attendance	<b>5%</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>100%</b>	<b>100</b>

As a policy, the curve for this class will not exceed a straight 90-80-70-60 curve. For example, if a student scores 100% on an exam, the curve will revert downward to a standard 90-80 . . . etc. curve. It will not be 93%/84%, etc. Based on overall class performance, the instructor will adjust the curve accordingly if anomalies occur.

# COURSE SCHEDULE

# CJ 201

Week	Date	General Topic	Read for Week
1	8/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Overview of Criminology</li><li>Identifying, Measurement, Nature/Extent of Crime</li></ul>	Ch. 1 (pp. 1-21)
	8/24		
	8/26		
2	8/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identifying, Measurement, Nature/Extent of Crime cont'd.</li><li>Foundations of Criminological Theory/ Major Schools of Thought</li></ul>	Ch. 2 (pp. 22-56)
	8/31		
	9/2		
3	9/5	No Class – Holiday (Labor Day)	Ch. 3. (58-79)
	9/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Foundations of Criminological Theory/ Major Schools of Thought (cont'd.)</li></ul>	
	9/9		
4	9/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Psychological &amp; Biological Perspectives</li></ul>	Ch. 4 (81-113)
	9/14		
	9/16		
5	9/19	****Exam #1 on Monday 9/19 (Chapters 1-4)**** <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strain &amp; Cultural Deviance Theories</li></ul>	Ch. 5 (114-126)
	9/21		
	9/23		
6	9/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strain &amp; Cultural Deviance Theories (cont'd.)</li><li>Formations of Subcultures</li></ul>	Ch. 5 (127-141) Ch. 6 (142-165)
	9/28		
	9/30		
7	10/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Social Control Theory</li></ul>	Ch. 7 (166-187)
	10/5		
	10/7		
8	10/10	No Class – Holiday (Discoverers' Day)	Ch. 8 (188-211)
	10/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Social Control Theory (cont'd.)</li><li>Labeling, Conflict, &amp; Radical Theories</li></ul>	
	10/14		
9	10/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Environmental Theory</li></ul>	Ch. 9 (212-234)
	10/19		
	10/21		
10	10/24	****Exam #2 on Wednesday 10/26 (Chapters 5-9)**** <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Violent Crimes</li></ul>	Ch. 10 (235-258)
	10/26		
	10/28		
11	10/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Violent Crimes (cont'd.)</li></ul>	Ch. 10 (259-286)
	11/2		
	11/4		
12	11/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Property Crimes</li></ul>	Ch. 11 (288-314)
	11/9		
	11/11	No Class – Holiday (Veterans' Day)	
13	11/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>White-Collar &amp; Corporate Crime</li></ul>	Ch. 12 (316-351)
	11/16		
	11/18		
14	11/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Public Order Crimes</li></ul>	Ch. 13 (352-380)
	11/23		
	11/25	No Class – Thanksgiving Recess	
15	11/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>International &amp; Comparative Criminology</li></ul>	Ch. 14 (382-407)
	11/30		
	12/2		
****FINAL EXAMINATION: Week of 12/5, Day & Time TBA**** (Chap. 1-14; all materials covered during term)			



## **Pre-Class Knowledge Assessment**

**CJ 201/Fall 2005**

### **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS PAPER**

This is a questionnaire about how much knowledge or understanding of this subject that you think you have before taking this class. Please take the time to really consider each question and what it is asking.

You are not being graded on these questions and your responses are anonymous!!!! So, please answer the questions as truthfully as possible. You are not expected to have a lot of knowledge in this area at this point, so lack of knowledge is not a bad thing and will not count against you. Your responses will assist us in assessing the instructional outcomes for this course. We will revisit these questions at the end of the semester and you will be asked to reconsider these items then.

Please circle the number that best reflects how you feel about the following items.

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Please circle the number that best reflects how you feel about each statement.		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1.	I understand the differences and similarities between "crime" and "deviance".	1	2	3	4	5
2.	I understand the historical and sociological foundations of criminology as a discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
3.	I understand the nature and extent of criminal behavior in society and how to measure it.	1	2	3	4	5
4.	I have a general understanding of the major theories underlying criminology.	1	2	3	4	5
5.	I understand the specific elements that comprise certain crimes (e.g., robbery) and the extent of these types of crimes in our society.	1	2	3	4	5

## Post-Class Knowledge Assessment

CJ 201/Fall 2005

### DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS PAPER

This is a questionnaire about how much knowledge or understanding of this subject that you think you have after taking this class. Please take the time to really consider each question and what it is asking.

You are not being graded on these questions and your responses are anonymous!!!! So, please answer the questions as truthfully as possible. Your responses will assist us in assessing the instructional outcomes for this course.

Please circle the number that best reflects how you feel about the following items.

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Please circle the number that best reflects how you feel about each statement.		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1.	I understand the differences and similarities between "crime" and "deviance".	1	2	3	4	5
2.	I understand the historical and sociological foundations of criminology as a discipline.	1	2	3	4	5
3.	I understand the nature and extent of criminal behavior in society and how to measure it.	1	2	3	4	5
4.	I have a general understanding of the major theories underlying criminology.	1	2	3	4	5
5.	I understand the specific elements that comprise certain crimes (e.g., robbery) and the extent of these types of crimes in our society.	1	2	3	4	5