

Criminology
CRMJ 2400 / SOC 2400
Spring 2017

Mon. / Wed. / Fri. 11:00am – 11:50am, Classroom Building 314
Final exam is on Friday, May 12th, 10:15am – 12:15pm, in the classroom

Website: <http://www.uwyo.edu/wyocourses/>

Instructor: John H. Boman, IV, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
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Office Hours: Mondays, 1 – 3 pm
 Wednesdays, 12 – 1 pm
 Or by appointment
* Please note that my last name has no “W”

Course Overview:

This survey course promotes a general understanding of the field of criminology by introducing the nature of crime, statistics on crime, types of criminal behavior, and explanations of crime. To accomplish this goal, theories of crime, causes of crime, and an overview of the criminal justice system will be covered. The goal is to leave with a general understanding of what criminologists do on a daily basis, how crime is understood, some key reasons why crime occurs, and the overall effectiveness of theory in explaining crime and informing policy.

Prerequisites:

SOC 1000 or the equivalent.

Requirements:

Recommended Text: Siegel, Larry J. (2011). Criminology: The Core (4th Edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage.

Additional readings will be periodically posted online. On each day, you are expected to have done the required readings, be ready for the in-class assignments, and be prepared for the topics that are discussed that day. Since this class is discussion based, it is imperative that you prepare for class each day. Without this level of preparation, success in this class will be incredibly difficult.

Students Rights and Responsibilities:

Please inform yourself about your rights and responsibilities, including academic honesty guidelines, formal and informal procedures for hearing academic dishonesty cases, the student appeals procedure, and confidentiality of student records.

The University of Wyoming is built upon a strong foundation of integrity, respect, and trust. All members of the university community have a responsibility to be honest and the right to expect honesty from others. Any form of academic dishonesty is unacceptable to our community and will not be tolerated. Teachers or students should report suspected violations of standards of academic dishonesty to the instructor, department head, or dean. Other university regulations can be found at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/>.

The rules that govern the life and activities of the University of Wyoming are outlined in the University Regulations, known as the UW Regs. These documents are available for review at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/new-regulatory-structure/index.html>.

Academic honesty is of the utmost importance to both the University of Wyoming and me. If you are caught cheating, plagiarizing, etc., you will automatically receive a '0' on the assignment without question. You will also be subject to referral to the Department Head of Criminal Justice and/or the Dean's office. I take academic dishonesty very seriously. See generally: <http://www.uwyo.edu/as/student-appeals/academic-dishonesty.html>. See also: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/files/docs/uw-reg-8-30.pdf>. See also: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/files/docs/uw-reg-6-802.pdf>.

Additionally, familiarize yourself with the College of Arts and Sciences documents about students and instructors working together. These can be found at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/AS/files/current/Students%20and%20Teachers%20Working%20Together.pdf>

This paragraph is *extremely* important: I would like to additionally note that the papers that you turn in will be examined for plagiarism. **PLAGIARISM INCLUDES MATERIAL THAT YOU COPY AND PASTE FROM THE INTERNET IF YOU DO NOT CITE IT.** Copying and pasting from anywhere (including the internet) without a citation is plagiarism and 1) will automatically result in a 0 on the assignment and 2) possible referral to the Department Head or the Dean of Students.

Student records are confidential in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). If your parent(s) (or anyone) contact(s) me about your grade, attendance, or any information that is not "UW directory information," I will ask them to contact you.

It is University of Wyoming policy to accommodate students, faculty, staff, and visitors with disabilities. If you have a physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You must register with and provide documentation of your disability to the University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in the Student Educational Opportunity offices, Room 330 Knight Hall.

Communications:

Email is the most effective way of getting in touch with me. In order to contact me, email me at jboman@uwyo.edu. You may also call me at my office (307) 766-2992.

To email me, use your University of Wyoming account. I will not reply to emails sent from third party (e.g., Gmail, Yahoo) systems.

Sent messages are not completed communications until they are received. If you send an important email, follow up to make sure it has been received. I expect people to be in class so I will not automatically reply to students who ask for a rehash of what was said in class.

Grading and Assignments:

Below are a list of the assignments and values that are assigned through the semester. Please make sure you are familiar with this list. This schedule could change. Attendance to class will ensure that you are up to date on all schedule changes, etc.

Exam 1: Exam 1 will cover Chs. 1, 2, 6, 7, and 11 of Siegel and other readings. It is graded out of 100 points.

Exam 2: Exam 2 will cover Chs. 4, 5, 10, 12, and 13 of Siegel and other readings. It is graded out of 100 points.

Exam 3 (Final Exam): Exam 3 (the final) will cover old and new material. Prior to the exam, I will provide a review sheet to make clear what cumulative material you should know. This test will also cover Chs. 9 & 14 of Siegel and other readings. It is graded out of 100 points.

Crime and Theory Paper: For the crime and theory paper, you will write a paper based on how one theory of your choosing applies to a type of crime. The type of crime should be something rather specific; do not write on “violent” crime or “property” crime since these are broad and encompass many types of crime. Instead, write on underage alcohol use, date rape, aggravated battery, etc. Being that there are many types of crime, there are many possibilities from which you have to choose.

To excel at this paper, your paper should clearly explain the following (you may use these points as subheadings if you wish):

1. A general overview of the theory you have chosen
2. A general overview of the type of crime you have chosen
3. Can your theory explain the type of crime you have chosen? Why? (As a matter of practicality, make sure that your theory does explain your type of crime.)
4. What does your theory propose about the cause(s) of the type of crime you have chosen?
5. Do you believe that your theory can adequately explain the type of crime you have chosen? Why or why not?

Although you do not have to do so, you may approve your topic through me prior to writing the assignment.

Citations and external material requirement: I expect you to find outside-of-the-course materials to support your arguments, especially for points 3 and 5 above. The minimum number of external materials required is five. You may seek out any method of finding the external materials that you wish.

Remember, you must cite material, including material you draw from the internet (see the prior plagiarism section). I do not care about the format through which you cite (e.g., Chicago, MLA, etc.). What I do care about is *that you do use citations*.

The length is 4 – 5 pages of writing (excluding headings and works cited) in standard university format (1" margins, 12 point Times New Roman, double spaced). I will deduct points for incorrect formatting. I will also deduct 10 points for each 24 hour period that it is late. This paper is worth 100 points.

Attendance and Makeups:

Class Participation & Attendance: Individual participation is crucial in a class that is based on discussion. I do not post my slides or notes online.

I will not formally require attendance. However, attendance will both indirectly and directly affect your grade. If you do not attend this class, it will be very difficult to pass.

During the semester, on five random days, I will take attendance. Not being there can result in loss of points off your overall average. You have a grace for a miss – you will not be penalized for your first non-attendance on a day I take attendance. Past the one grace, I will *deduct* one point from your overall final average (that is, a 90 becomes an 89). If you are in attendance all five days where I take attendance, I will *award* one point onto your final average (an 89 becomes a 90).

Make Ups: Class attendance is mandatory on test days and days when papers are due. If you do not attend on the day of an exam, you will automatically receive a 0 on that exam. If you fail to turn a paper/non-exam assignment in on time, you will lose 10 points for each 24 hours it is late.

All make up tests will be 100% short-answer and essay. Make up tests have no multiple choice on them. If you are going to miss a test, you must inform me at least 72 hours in advance to the scheduled assignment (although I would prefer to know as soon as you know). If you don't inform me within this time frame, it will be treated as an unexcused absence. Documentation for your absence is required. I will award a 0 to any unexcused absence during an exam/assignment.

University sponsored absences are cleared through the Office of Student Life (OSL). Students with official authorized absences will be permitted to make up work without penalty in classes missed. In order to be excused from an examination or class, a valid University excuse or doctor's excuse must be obtained. University excuses can be obtained from the OSL (Room 128 Knight Hall). The OSL will provide the excuse, provided the

students' absence meets the criteria for an authorized absence. For further information on obtaining an excused absence, contact the OSL. Make up exams will be given only under the following conditions:

1. Participation in organized school activity.
2. Death in the immediate family.
3. Illness (with doctor's written excuse).
4. Special circumstances that are approved at least 72 hours in advance by the instructor.

For each of these excuses, you must have documentation to make up your exam. Make up exams will only be given to those students who have discussed their absence with the instructor and have a legitimate excuse.

Doctor's excuses must be obtained from your attending physician. These excuses must be for the exam or class date and must state that you were unable to attend the class period that day. Doctor's appointments do not constitute an excused absence. Excuses need to be presented to the instructor by the class period following the excused absence to be accepted.

Grading:

The scheduled dates indicated alongside the assignments are tentative, and could change based on what is accomplished in class on a daily basis. Any changes will be announced in class.

Assignment	Point Value	Total Percentage of Grade	Date of Assignment / Assignment Due On:
Exam 1	100	25%	Wednesday, Mar. 1
Crime and Theory Paper	100	25%	Due in class Friday, Apr. 14
Exam 2	100	25%	Friday, Apr. 21
Exam 3 (Final)	100	25%	Friday, May 12, 10:15am – 12:15pm, in the classroom
Total	400	100%	

Letter Grade	Total Points	Percentage
A	360+	90-100
B+	348 – 359	87-89
B	320 – 347	80-86
C+	308 – 319	77-79
C	280 – 307	70-76
D	240 – 279	60-69
F	239 and less	Below 60

Course Schedule:

The schedule is tentative, and could change based on what is accomplished in class on a daily basis. These changes will be announced in class.

Week	Week	Topics Covered	In – Class Assignments, Due Dates, Assignments & Notes	Readings
1	Jan. 22	Class Intro; Syllabus; Ch. 1	None	Ch. 1
2	Jan. 29	Ch. 2	None	Ch. 2
3	Feb. 5	Ch. 6	None	Ch. 6
4	Feb. 12	Ch. 7	None	Ch. 7
5	Feb. 19	Ch. 7; Ch. 11	None	Ch. 11
6	Feb. 26	EXAM WEEK	Exam 1 Review (Monday) EXAM 1 (WEDNESDAY)	None
7	Mar. 5	Ch. 4	None	Ch. 4
8	Mar. 12	Spring break	Have fun	Be safe
9	Mar. 19	Ch. 4, 5	None	Ch. 5
10	Mar. 26	Ch. 10	None	Ch. 10
11	Apr. 2	Ch. 12	None	Ch. 12
12	Apr. 9	Ch. 13	Crime and Theory Paper Due in Class on Friday	Ch. 13
13	Apr. 16	EXAM WEEK	Exam 2 Review (Wednesday) EXAM 2 (FRIDAY)	None
14	Apr. 23	Ch. 14	None	Ch. 14
15	Apr. 30	Ch. 9	None	Ch. 9
16	May 7	FINAL EXAM	Friday, May 12, 10:15am – 12:15pm, in the classroom	None