UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA  
SOCIOLOGY/CRIMINAL JUSTICE/SUBSTANCE ABUSE STUDIES  
Course Outline for Spring 2013  

Course: ADVANCED CRIME THEORY  5643/28294  M 4:30pm-7:15pm  
Room: LA 136  
*prerequisite: graduate standing and Criminology or equivalent  

Instructor: Dr. Shawna Cleary  Office: COM 115  Phone: 974-5841  
E-mail: scleary@uco.edu  
Office Hours: (M)7:15-8:45pm; (TR)10:30-11:00am (Soc. suite), 12:15-2:15pm; by appt.  

Texts:  

Course Description:  
This course examines a range of crime theories pertaining to offending and the correlates of crime. Students are expected to come into the course with a basic understanding of crime theory; students will analyze and critique the original works of the major crime theorists and examine the latest research on the major crime theories.  

Course Objectives:  
Successful completion of this course will prepare the student to:  
(1) Demonstrate knowledge of the works of the major crime theorists;  
(2) Compare and contrast assumptions specific to the major crime theories;  
(3) Evaluate classical and new studies related to crime theory;  
(4) Read, review, analyze and critique an original work by a major crime theorist.  

Transformational Learning Objectives: The University of Central Oklahoma is a learning-centered organization committed to transformative education through the “Central Six,” which include Discipline Knowledge; Leadership; Problem Solving (Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities); Service Learning and Civic Engagement; Global and Cultural Competencies; and Health and Wellness.  

This course addresses three of the university’s transformative learning goals: discipline knowledge (dedicated to the student’s chosen field of study), problem solving (research, scholarly and creative activities) and leadership. Students will learn how crime is related to nature; they will also read and discuss the original works of major crime theorists, as well as studies that apply crime theory to problem solving.  

Course Requirements:  
Students are responsible for the timely completion of all assignments and exams, and are expected to come to class prepared each week for class discussion. This course will include lectures, class discussion, and data analysis. Class discussions will facilitate learning of the subject matter, and outside materials will be presented throughout the semester.
**Attendance:** Graduate students are expected and required to attend all scheduled classes.

**Reading Assignments:** Students are expected to complete weekly reading assignments and come to class prepared for class discussion.

**Written Assignments:**

**Weekly Comments on Readings: EVERY WEEK**: students will turn in (at beginning of class) a written comment or observation gleaned from the required readings for the week. **Do NOT summarize these readings**; comments may relate the information to current events, your own experiences or your job as well as general and specific impressions of the readings. This will be worth up to 10 points per week. *YOU ARE REQUIRED TO READ ALL OF THE WEEKLY READINGS AND YOUR COMMENTS MUST INCLUDE ALL OF THE READINGS.** These will be turned in during class only—do not try to turn them in before or after class. Late comments will not be accepted.

* You will not turn in comments the first week of class or the 2 weeks that you are responsible for leading class discussion. There will be a total of 10 weekly comment papers (100pts. possible) plus one extra (the 11th is counted as extra credit or can be used if you miss class). These will comprise 20% of your grade.

**Class Discussion Leader:** Students will each choose or be assigned 2 articles/sections from the required readings list (and related class dates) for which they will be responsible for leading class discussion related to their articles. One discussion must be of readings from the Felson text, the other must be from the Cullen & Agnew text. This assignment requires:

1) a full written summary and critique of the article (3 typed pages minimum) including relevant statistics, concepts, etc. related to the reading

2) the discussion leader **MUST** choose at least two questions/issues and/or concepts from the article and lead the class in discussion of those questions/issues/concepts (50pts. possible for each discussion--30pts. max. for written summary, 20pts. max. for discussion; this assignment is worth 100 pts. total [possible] and is 20% of grade total.

ARTICLE DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE EVERY WEEK DURING CLASS

**Book Reports:** Book reports include an exhaustive review of the content and a personal critique of the book chosen, including analysis of the content. (In other words, tell me what the book was about and what you thought of it). **YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A LIST OF APPROVED BOOK TITLES TO HELP YOU IN YOUR CHOICE OF BOOK FOR THE REPORT** Book reports should conform to the guidelines set out in the *Criminal Justice Student Writer's Manual* by Johnson et al. Use ASR or APA format for citations, references etc. Book reports must be typed, double-spaced, 6 pages min., 8 pages max. They will be graded on content and quality of writing—including sentence and paragraph structure, grammar and punctuation.

Due 4/8/13 in class; **LATE BOOK REPORTS WILL HAVE 5 PTS. SUBTRACTED FROM THE TOTAL SCORE FOR EACH DAY LATE.** Book reports turned in or before 3/11/13 will have 5 points ADDED to the score.
**Plagiarism:**
All writing assignments that you submit for this course must either be entirely your own, or properly referenced/cited. Violations constitute plagiarism. A case involving plagiarism is usually referred to the *Discipline Committee*, which can recommend in extreme cases dismissal from the University. There are two major types of plagiarism:

1. Word-for-word copying, without acknowledgement, of another writer. Having another person write or dictate all or part of one’s composition is plagiarism. In addition, you should not copy a printed passage, no matter how brief, without acknowledging its source.

2. The unacknowledged paraphrasing of an author’s ideas. You should not take credit for another person’s thoughts. Any distinctive, original idea taken from another write should be credited to its author. If you are uncertain about the distinctiveness of an author’s idea, it is best to acknowledge the author.

**TENTATIVE TEST DATES & ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:**
- Mon. Mar. 11 test 1 due in class
- Mon. Apr. 8 book report due
- Mon. May 6 FINAL

**Class Rules:** Rude interruptions of lectures, films, or class discussions will not be tolerated; students who persist in disturbing the class will be asked to leave and will have 5 points deducted from their cumulative total grade. In addition, you must leave all cell phones, blackberries, etc. in your purses or backpacks. DO NOT leave these on your desks. DO NOT text or play games on cell phones/blackberries, etc., in my class and DO NOT read outside material or work on outside projects while in this class. If I catch you doing any of the above I will 1) publicly humiliate you and 2) ask you to leave class if you persist in the above behavior(s). If I have to ask you to leave class I will subtract 5 points from your cumulative grade score.

**Exam Format:** There will be two subjective take home essay exams (a mid term exam and a final exam). The total number of possible points per exam is 100; both exams count equally towards the final grade. Each exam is worth 20% of your final grade. *Students who need special accommodations for exams need to make me aware of their needs prior to the first exam.*

“The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations should make their requests by contacting the coordinator of Disability Support Services at 974-2549. The office is located in AD 211. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs by the end of the 1st week of class.”

**Makeups:** Makeup tests need to be arranged with the instructor and may or may not be the same as the exam missed.
**Course Points** | **Grading Scale**
---|---
Exam 1 | 100 points | A = 92 - 100
Final Exam | 100 points | B = 83 - 91
Weekly Comments | 100 points | C = 74 - 82
Book Report | 100 points | D = 65 - 73
Discussion Leader (2) | 100 points | F = 64 & below
Total Points | 500 points

Total points are divided by 5; the result determines the letter grade for the course.

**Important Dates to Remember:**
- Martin Luther King Day Jan. 21 (no class)
- Spring Break Mar. 18-22
- Last day of Class (for Advanced Crime Theory) April 29

**LECTURE SCHEDULE and CORRESPONDING READING LIST:**

**Jan 14:** Overview of course; we will read in class & discuss "An Essay on Crimes and Punishments" by Beccaria (pgs. 26-28 in Cullen & Agnew) and "The Criminal Man" by Lombroso (pgs.29-31 in Cullen & Agnew)

**Jan. 21:** MLK day--no class

**Jan. 28:** Linking Crime & Nature: Part 1 in Felson:
  - chapt. 1
  - chapt. 2
  - chapt. 3
  Part 2 in Felson:
  - chapt. 4
  - chapt. 5

**Feb. 4:** Part 2 in Felson:
  - chapt. 6
  - chapt. 7
  - chapt. 8
  - chapt. 9
  - chapt. 10

**Feb. 11:** Part 3 in Felson:
  - chapt. 11
  - chapt. 12
  - chapt. 13
  - chapt. 14
Feb. 18: Part 4 in Felson:
  chapt. 15
  chapt. 16
  chapt. 17
  chapt. 18
  chapt. 19

Feb. 25:
  chapt. 20
  Part 5 in Felson:
  chapt. 21
  chapt. 22
  Epilogue
  *end of material for test 1; Mid Term Exam handed out

Mar. 4 Inherited 'Traits' and Crime
"Does the Body Tell? Biological Characteristics and Criminal Disposition" (pg. 59)
"Personality and Crime: Are Some People Crime Prone?" (pg. 69)
"Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency?" (pg.465)
The Chicago School: Social Disorganization and Crime
"Juvenile Delinquency and Urban Areas" (pg. 98)
"A Theory of Race, Crime, and Urban Inequality" (pg. 105)

Mar 11: Strain and Crime
"Social Structure and Anomie" (pg. 165)
"Delinquent Boys: The Culture of the Gang" (pg. 173)
"Pressured Into Crime: General Strain Theory" (pg. 189)
*Mid Term Exam due

Mar. 18: Spring Break--no class

Mar. 25: Crime and Deterrence
"Reconceptualizing Deterrence Theory" (pg. 394)
"Crime as a Rational Choice" (pg. 400)
"Choosing White Collar Crime" (pg. 542)
Reactions to Crime
"Defiance Theory" (pg. 262)
*early Book Reports due

Apr. 1: Crime and Learning
"Techniques of Neutralization" (pg. 207)
"The Code of the Street" (pg. 143)
Control Theories
"Social Bond Theory" (pg. 215)
"A General Theory of Crime" (pg. 224)
Life Course Theories
"A Theory of Persistent Offending and Desistance From Crime" (pg. 497)

Apr. 8: Environmental Criminology
"Situational Crime Prevention" (pg. 428)
"Preventing Crime in Everyday Life (pg. 640)
"Broken Windows" (pg. 437)
Book Reports due

Apr. 15: New Approaches to Crime Theory: Critical Criminology
"Crime in a Market Society" (pg. 318)
"Peacemaking Criminology" (pg. 338)
"Imprisoning Communities" (pg. 630)

Apr. 22: Feminist Crime Theory
"Sisters in Crime" (pg. 333)
"A Feminist Theory of Female Delinquency" (pg. 341)
"Toward a Gendered Theory of Female Offending" (pg. 369)

Apr. 29: Integrated Crime Theories
"Control Balance Theory" (pg. 571)
"Why Criminals Offend: A General Theory of Crime and Delinquency" (pg. 601)
*final exam given out

May 6: *Final Exam due