Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: SOCI 321

Course Title: Criminology

Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Theories concerning the nature, cause, control, treatment and prevention of crime. Prerequisite: SOCI 111. Offered Fall.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOCI 111.

Text(s): Most current editions of the following:

Texts:


Barlow, Hugh D. and David Kauzlarich. *Introduction to Criminology*. Prentice Hall.


Garland, David and Richard Sparks. *Criminology and Social Theory*. Oxford UP.


Supplemental Texts:

Cook, Philip J. and Jens Ludwig. *Gun Violence: The Real Costs*. Oxford UP.

Course Objectives:

- To explore the concept of crime and describe the development of criminal law and criminology.
- To recognize the nature and extent of crime in the U.S. and articulate the problematic nature of using crime statistics.
- To analyze theoretical perspectives on crime.
- To understand both crime and social control efforts.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the concept of crime and describe the emergence of criminal law and the development of the discipline of criminology.
- Understand the nature and extend of crime in the U.S. and articulate the problematic nature of using crime statistics.
- Explain crime causation and control in classical theory, biological, psychological, social structural, social process and conflict theories.
- Evaluate various types and patterns of crime and analyze them in terms of applicable theories.
- Understand Marxist criminology and feminist criminology, recognizing significant theorists working within these traditions and the alternatives they offer to mainstream criminological theory.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Alternative theoretical perspectives on crime: Marxist criminology and feminist criminology.
- Definitions of crime and criminology, the
historical development of the criminal law and criminology.
• The nature and extent of crime, sources of data, and the problems with crime statistics.
• Theories of crime causation: the classical choice and deterrence theories, biological and psychological theories, social structure theories, social process theories, social conflict theories; and the policy implications of these theories for crime control.
• Crime topologies; including violent crimes, economic crimes, and public order crimes.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Kathleen J. Fitzgerald
Name ____________________________ Signature ____________________________
Date: March 23, 2006 ____________________________

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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