



湖北工業大學
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Course Title	Introduction to Criminology
Course Code	SOCI 2573
Semester	Summer 2025
Course Length	10 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
Credits	4
Instructor	TBA
Office	TBA
Email	TBA
Prerequisite	N/A
Antirequisite	SOCI 2571 Introduction to Criminology (5 Weeks)

Course Description:

This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime and criminality. Our main focus is to introduce the major criminological theories and how these theories of crime participation are related to the policies and operation of the criminal justice system. Crime measurement, patterns and trends in crime, and crime types are discussed within this context.

Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – Students will engage in analytical thinking, demonstrating the ability to critically evaluate, synthesize, and apply knowledge to complex problems, and construct well-reasoned solutions and arguments.
- **Independent Research and Inquiry** – Students will conduct independent research, utilizing academic resources to explore relevant topics, formulating research questions, analyzing data, and presenting findings in a coherent, scholarly manner.
- **Problem-Solving and Application** – Students will apply theoretical concepts and methodologies learned in the course to real-world problems, demonstrating the ability to develop practical solutions informed by academic inquiry.
- **Global and Cultural Awareness** – Students will gain awareness of the global and cultural contexts relevant to the course, appreciating diverse perspectives and considering the implications of their studies in a broader, international context.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the major theories that are used to explain criminal behavior;
- demonstrate understanding of the research methods used in the study of criminology and criminal justice;
- demonstrate competency in the ability to read, interpret, and synthesize (in writing) important research related to criminological theory and the criminal justice system;
- demonstrate critical thinking in evaluating causal arguments in criminology, analyzing major assertions, background assumptions, and explanatory evidence;
- explain how criminology can be used to analyze contemporary issues with crime and the criminal justice system and to develop policies for social change.

Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:
Criminology: The Essentials by Walsh, A. & Jorgensen, C. Third Edition (2018).

Course Requirements:

Participation and Discussions

Active participation in class discussions is essential for a deeper understanding of criminological concepts. Students will be expected to engage in debates, contribute to group activities, and critically respond to readings. Weekly discussion questions will be provided, and students may be asked to lead discussions on specific topics.

Quizzes

There'll be seven (7) quizzes scheduled for this course. Quizzes are administered during discussion sections throughout the semester. Only the six highest quiz scores will count toward the final grade.

Midterm Exam

This exam will assess students' understanding of foundational criminological theories and crime measurement methods. It will include multiple-choice questions, short-answer responses, and an essay component requiring critical analysis of theories in relation to crime trends. Students should demonstrate an ability to apply theoretical frameworks to real-world crime patterns and discuss their implications for the criminal justice system.

Research Paper

Students will choose a specific criminological theory and analyze its influence on criminal justice policy. The paper should include an in-depth literature review, a discussion of real-world applications, and an evaluation of the theory's strengths and weaknesses. A strong emphasis will be placed on critical thinking and the ability to support arguments with scholarly evidence. The final paper should be 8-10 pages in length, properly cited, and formatted according to academic standards.

Case Study Analysis

This assignment requires students to critically examine a real-world crime case through the lens of criminological theories. Students will identify key criminological concepts, assess the factors contributing to the crime, and discuss possible policy responses. The case study should be well-structured, using empirical data and

theoretical frameworks to support the analysis. Students will submit a written report of 5-7 pages and may be required to present their findings in class.

Final Exam

The final exam is a comprehensive assessment covering all course topics. It will include multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, and essays requiring students to synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge. The exam will evaluate students' ability to apply criminological theories to contemporary crime issues, interpret crime data, and critically assess policy implications.

Assessments: Activity	Percent Contribution
Participation and Discussions	5%
Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
Research Paper	20%
Case Study Analysis	15%
Final Exam	25%

Grading:

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Grade	Percentage of available points
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	64-69
D-	60-63
F	0-59

Course Schedule:

The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced in class, major ones provided in writing.

SOCI 2573 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1	Introduction to the Course and Criminology The Role of Criminology in the Criminal Justice System	Ch. 1
L2	The Meaning of Crime & Criminality	Ch. 1
L3	Measuring Crime & Criminal Behavior Crime data sources (UCR, NCVS, self-report surveys) Strengths and Limitations of Crime Measurement Trends and Patterns in Crime	Ch. 2
L4	Victimology: Demographics & Theories	Ch. 3
L5	The Early Schools: Classical and Positivism	Ch. 4

	Discussion Section: Restorative Justice	
L6	Deterrence Theory	Ch. 4
L7	Choice Theories	Ch. 5
	Discussion Section: Does the Perceived Risk of Punishment Deter Criminally Prone Individuals?	
L8	Psychosocial Theories: Intelligence and Temperament	Ch. 9
L9	Psychosocial Theories: Personality	Ch. 9
L10	Biosocial Theories	Ch. 10
L11	Learning Theories	Ch. 7
L12	Labeling Theories	Ch. 7
	Discussion Section: Social Process Theories & "The Labeling Hype"	
L13	Midterm Exam	/
L14	Social Disorganization Theories	Ch. 6
L15	Anomie & Strain Theories	Ch. 6
	Discussion Section: Applying Social Structural & Broken Windows	
L16	Social Control Theories	Ch. 7
L17	Subcultural Theories	Ch. 6
	Discussion Section: Subcultural Effects	
L18	Developmental Theories	Ch. 11
L19	Critical Theories	Ch. 8
L20	Feminist Theories	Ch. 8
L21	Violent Crime	Ch. 12
L22	Property Crime	Ch. 14
	Discussion Section: Violence and Masculinity	
L23	White Collar Crime	Ch. 16
L24	Public Order Crimes: Alcohol & Drugs	Ch. 15
	Discussion Section: Drug Control; Marginalization	
L25	Criminal Justice System and Policy Implications	/
	Role of Law Enforcement, Courts, and Corrections	
	Crime Prevention Strategies	
	The Impact of Criminological Theories on Policy Development	
	Final Exam	/

Accommodation Statement:

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the

academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Other Items:**Attendance and Expectations**

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

Assignment Due Dates

All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Make-Up Work

The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

Access, Special Needs, and Disabilities

Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.