

**Fayetteville State University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Fall 2011**

**1. Locator Information**

Instructor: Dr. Druann Heckert

Course name and number: Sociology of Crime and Delinquency (Sociology 340)

Semester Credit Hours: 3

Day and Time Class Meets: MWF 1:00-1:50

Office Location: Taylor 210D

Office hours: M 11-1; T 12-2; W 4-6; and F 11-1

Office phone: 672-1503

Email Address: [dheckert@uncfsu.edu](mailto:dheckert@uncfsu.edu)

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**II. Course Description**

Sociology 340 (Crime and Delinquency) is a course intended to acquaint the student with the nature of crime and delinquency as a sociological phenomena. The development of criminology as a discipline, major theories of crime causation, types of crimes, and the American criminal justice system will be examined.

**III. Disabled Student Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1<sup>st</sup> Floor); 910-672-1203.

**IV. Textbook**

Siegel, Larry J. 2011. *Criminology: The Core* 4th ed. Belmont, California: Wadsworth.

## V. Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Define crime and the related concepts of law, deviance, and juvenile delinquency.
2. Describe how crime statistics are generated, what they mean, and how they are used.
3. State and compare at least five different theories of crime causation.
4. Evaluate proposed crime control policies in light of the theoretical and political assumptions that underlie them.
5. Critically analyze research reports in crime and delinquency.

## VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

First Exam.....	20 percent
Second Exam.....	25 percent
Third Exam.....	25 percent
Theoretical Analysis.....	20 percent
Class Participation.....	10 percent

### Theoretical Analysis: Applying Criminological Theory

This paper is not a research paper; rather it is a theoretical analysis. The purpose of this paper is to utilize theoretical perspectives in a tangible and concrete manner. Choose an individual who has been convicted of a crime, such as John Gotti to analyze in depth, utilizing library or computer resources. In a cogent, fully cited essay, analyze the life of this individual. Firstly, in 2 to 3 pages, present key biographical information that you consider relevant to an explanation of the criminality of the individual. Secondly, in approximately 2 pages, choose a criminological theory and present the theory. Finally, in approximately 2 pages, analyze the etiological question of why this person became a criminal. In this section – by far the most important section of this analysis – integrate theory into biography.

#### Grading of the theoretical analysis

30 percent: Writing (grammar, organization, and cogency)

35 percent: Description (of biography and of theory or theories)

35 percent: Application of theory

**Any disruption of the class – including answering cell phones, texting, acting in a disrespectful manner to fellow students or the professor, talking with neighbors, etc – will result in a zero for the participation portion of the grade**

## Numerical Scale

A.....	90-100
B.....	80-89
C.....	70-79
D.....	60-69
F.....	0-59

## VII. Academic Support Services

The University College Learning Center is available. The instructor holds 8 hours of office hours per week. If you have any trouble understanding the material – either the class notes or the text – I encourage you to ask during my office hours.

## VIII. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

The sections listed for reading assignments are meant as a guide to facilitate your completion of the text. The calendar is subject to change or adjustment as needed throughout the semester.

Week 1 (August 18-19)

Chapter 1—Crime and Criminology

Week 2 (August 22-26)

Chapter 1—Crime and Criminology

Week 3 (August 29-September 2)

Chapter 2—The Nature and Extent of Crime

Week 4 (September 6-September 9)

Chapter 3—Victims and Victimization

**Test 1—September 14**

Week 5 (September 12-16)

Chapter 4—Choice Theory

Week 6 (September 19-23)

Chapter 5—Trait Theory

Week 7 (September 26-30)

Chapter 6—Social Structure Theory

Week 8 (October 3-October 7)  
Chapter 7—Social Process Theory

Week 9 (October 10-14)  
Chapter 8—Social Conflict Theory  
**Test 2—October 21**

Week 10 (October 19-21)  
Chapter 10—Violent Crime

Week 11 (October 24-28)  
Chapter 10—Violent Crime

Week 12 (October 31-November 4)  
Chapter 10-Violent Crimes

Week 13 (November 7-November 10)  
Chapter 11—Property Crimes

Week 14 (November 14-18)  
Chapter 12—White-Collar Crime and Organized Crimes

Week 15 (November 21-23)  
Chapter 13—Public Order Crimes

Week 16 (November 28-December 2)  
Course conclusion

**November 28—Theoretical Analysis due**—(Late papers will have ten points subtracted from the final score for being one day late; an additional two points will be subtracted for each additional day). No paper will be accepted after December 2.

### **Third Exam—Final exam**

**All exams are to be taken with the class. A make-up exam can be granted by the professor for exceptional circumstances such as death in the family or illness.**

**Make-up exams will only be given on the last day of class – December 2 – from 9:30 – 12.**

## **IX. Teaching Strategies**

The teaching strategies used in this class will include a combination of lecture, discussion, and class exercises. Audio and visual material will be used as appropriate.

## **X. Selected References**

- Abadinsky, Howard. 2010. *Organized Crime*. Belmont, California: Wadsworth.
- Friday, Paul, Xin Ren, Elmar Weitekamp, Hans-Jurgen Kerner, and Terrance Taylor. 2005. "A Chinese Birth Cohort: Theoretical Implications." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 42:124-146.
- Hagedorn, John. 2008. *A World of Gangs: Armed Young Men and Gangsta Culture*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Johnson, William A., Richard P. Rettig, Gregory M. Scott, and Stephen M. Garrison. 1998. *The Sociology Student Writer's Manual*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Laub, John H. and Robert J. Sampson. 1993. "Turning Points in the Life Course: Why Change Matters to the Study of Crime." *Criminology* 31:301-325.
- Stolzenberg, Lisa and Stewart D'Alessio. 2008. "Co-Offending and the Age-Crime Curve." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 45:65-86.
- Ward, Tony and Claire Stewart. 2003. "The Relationship between Human Needs and Criminogenic Needs." *Psychology, Crime and Law* 9:219-225.
- Welsh, Brandon and David Farrington. 2003. "Effects of Closed-Circuit Television on Crime." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 587:110-136.

