

Lassen Community College Course Outline

AJ-10 Criminology

3.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the nature, organization and consequences of the American criminal justice system. The course includes the examination of the foundations of criminology, theories of crime and criminology, and crime typology. This course has been approved for online, and hybrid delivery.

Recommended Preparation: Successful completion of ENGL105 or equivalent multiple measures placement.

Transfers to both UC/CSU

General Education Area: B

CSU GE Area: D

51 Hours Lecture, 102 Expected Outside Class Hours, 153 Total Student Learning Hours

Scheduled: Spring

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable, Take 1 Time

Grading Option: Graded or Pass/No Pass

Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable

TOP Code: 210500

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundations of criminology to include research methods, general characteristics of crime, and criminals.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the various types of criminals and crime theories.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of various crime typologies and the influence they have on criminology.

B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge in how the definitions of crime and laws change in relation to social change.
2. Demonstrate knowledge in the various types of crime data collection methods.
3. Compare the United States with other countries with respect to crime rate.
4. Understand various theories regarding victimization.
5. Demonstrate knowledge in the biological, psychological, and sociological theories related to crime and crime policy.
6. Assess how criminological theories apply to various types of crime, including violent crime, property crime, white-collar crime, political crime and terrorism, organized crime, public order crime, and cybercrime.

IV. Course Content

Part I: Foundations of Criminology

1. Introduction to criminology
2. Research methods in criminology
3. General characteristics of crime and criminals
4. Victimology

Part II: Theories of Criminology

1. Early and classical criminological theories
2. Biological and Psychological theories
3. Sociological mainstream theories
4. Sociological critical theories and integrated theories

Part III: Crime Typologies

1. Violent crime
2. Property crime
3. White-collar crime
4. Political crime and terrorism
5. Organized crime
6. Public order crime
7. Cybercrime

V. Assignments

A. Appropriate Readings

The student will read appropriate readings from the representative text(s) and various legal updates and journal articles.

B. Writing Assignments

Students will be required to answer essay questions and prepare short papers covering administrative of justice topics.

C. Expected Outside Assignments

Students will be assigned textbook reading and class exercises, including short papers.

D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking

Students will research, analyze and review criminology methods throughout the world and specifically in the U.S. Students will compare criminology methods, treatment, and prevention programs.

VI. Methods of Evaluation

Traditional Classroom Evaluation

1. Reports
2. Quizzes
3. Final Examination
4. Participation

Correspondence Evaluation

Same as face to face with the exception of the desired use of proctored exams and exclusion of participation in classroom activities. Students will be expected to complete assignments and activities equivalent to in-class assignments and activities. Written correspondence and a minimum of six opportunities for feedback will be utilized to maintain effective communication between instructor and student.

Online Evaluation

A variety of methods will be used, such as: research papers, asynchronous and synchronous discussions (chat/forum), exercises/assignments, online quizzes and exams, and postings to online website.

Hybrid Evaluation

All quizzes and exams will be administered during the in person class time. Students will be expected to complete online assignments and activities equivalent to in class assignments and activities for the online portion of the course. Electronic communication, both synchronous and asynchronous will be evaluated for participation and to maintain effective communication between instructor and students.

VII. Methods of Delivery

Check those delivery methods for which, this course has been separately approved by the Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee.

Traditional Classroom Delivery Correspondence Delivery

Hybrid Delivery Online Delivery

Correspondence Delivery

Assigned readings, instructor-generated typed handouts, typed lecture materials, exercises and assignments equal to face to face instructional delivery. Written correspondence and a minimum of six opportunities for feedback will be utilized to maintain effective communication between instructor and student.

Online Delivery

Delivery includes the following: online written lectures, forum-based discussions, exercises/assignments contained on website, adding extra resources and other media sources as appropriate.

Hybrid Delivery

A combination of traditional classroom and online instruction will be utilized. Each semester a minimum of 17 hours, or 1/3 of the lecture hours, will be taught face-to-face by the instructor and the remaining hours will be instructed online through the technology platform adopted by the District. Traditional class instruction will consist of exercises/assignments, lectures, visual aids, and practice exercises. Online delivery will consist of exercises/assignments, lecture posts, discussions, adding extra resources and other media sources as appropriate.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

Frank Hagen; *Introduction to Criminology: Theories, Method and Criminal Behavior*, 10th edition, 2019, Sage Publishing, ISBN: 9781544339023

Bundle for online delivery access code and text ISBN: 9781544366784

IV. Discipline/s Assignment

Administration of Justice

X. Course Status

Current Status: Active

Original Approval Date: 3/27/1990

Revised By: Thomas Downing

Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 02/07/2023