

# 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, hybrid and correspondence 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  
Scheduled: Fall, 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



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: 09/17/2019

Reviewed for IPR, no changes recommended: 09/21/2021