



THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA
Department of Criminology, Criminal
Justice, and Legal Studies

11000 University Pkwy
Pensacola, FL 32514

<https://uwf.edu/cassh/departments/criminology-criminal-justice-and-legal-studies/>

CCJ 3014: Criminology

Professor: Dr. William Crawley, Ph.D., Ed.D.

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Credit Hours: 3.0

Semester/Year: Spring 2025

Class Day/Time: T&R, 1-2:15pm

Class Location: Bld 36, Rm 108

Office Hours: Virtual or by appointment - Tues and Thurs 9:30am–11pm & Wed 9:30am-12:30pm

NOTE: Please include “CJE3014” in the subject line of all emails to the professor. Conform to proper email etiquette and include your name in all emails.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Lanier, M. M., Hentry, S., & Anastasi, D. J. M (2018). *Essential Criminology* (4th ed.). Routledge. ISBN: 978-0-8133-4885-8 (pbk)

**Required textbooks are available in the CEPS Library in Building 86.*

**Additional readings may be posted on Canvas.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Examines the causes, types, and patterns of crime in society. Major schools of thought and current research are introduced, compared, and contrasted in the study of crime and its social context.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS:

This course is intended to survey major issues in criminology, including the nature of crime, causes of crime, and societal reactions to crime. In the first section, we will examine why certain behaviors are considered “criminal,” various crime measurement strategies, and crime trends across time, place, and people. In the second section, we will focus on the causes of crime. Here we will study several criminological theories, critically examine the strengths and limitations of criminological theories, and apply theories to real-life events. Throughout the course, you will be encouraged to think critically and to weigh the empirical evidence for and against various perspectives. In this way,

the ultimate goal of the course is to provide you with the necessary tools to understand the complex issue of crime, as well as to evaluate crime-control strategies.

COURSE TOPICS:

- Fundamental differences between criminal justice and criminology
- Crime and criminology
- The nature and extent of crime
- National-level crime databases
- Victims and victimization
- Criminological theories
 - Strengths and limitations
- Crime typologies
 - Violent, property, public order, and white-collar crime

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):

The student must play an active role in meeting student learning outcomes by attending class, completing readings, participating in discussion, excelling in required course work, and being prepared for class sessions. From material covered in this course, both through lectures and assigned readings, students have the ability to meet the following student learning outcomes:

- Discuss the meaning of criminology;
- Explain and summarize types of crime and overall trends in each within the United States;
- Explain data collection and crime analysis techniques;
- Identify and describe a wide range of biological, psychological, sociological, and economic explanations of crime;
- Objectively assess the merits and shortcomings of the theories addressed in this course;
- Compare and contrast various theoretical perspectives on the causes of crime;
- Implement critical thinking in the application of criminological theories to explain a variety of criminal behaviors;
- Identify and analyze the major correlates of crime;
- Read, understand, and summarize scholarly articles.

MINIMUM TECHNICAL SKILLS AND SPECIAL TECHNOLOGY UTILIZED BY STUDENTS:

Minimum Technical Skills

UWF prepares students for current and future business and life applications using basic technology. Each UWF student is expected to do the following:

- Activate a MyUWF student account
- Access the MyUWF portal a minimum of 2-3 times a week
- Access UWF email account (Gmail) 2-3 times a week
- Have basic word-processing knowledge

Additional technical skills and technology requirements may vary by college, department, and course. Student use of UWF information technology resources is governed by the [Computing Resources Usage Agreement](#) and the Student Communications Policy* (also see the [My Account](#) app in MyUWF).

Online students should also acquire these essential skills to ensure success in online courses:

- Using a Web browser to access Web pages
- Downloading files from the Web
- Uploading and attaching files to send to others

Minimum Technology Requirements for Online Courses

- Access to a laptop or desktop computer
- Broadband Internet access
- Compatible web browser
- Audio input, built-in, or external computer speakers
- Recommended: Webcam (external or internal)

See: UWF Resources – [Important Student Information](#) for technology web links

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Examinations (each exam is worth 200 points [20%], for a total of 400 course points [40%]). There will be two exams in this course. Exams may consist of multiple choice, true-false, matching, short answer and/or essay questions. Exams will cover material presented in the readings, textbook, and lectures.

Quizzes (each quiz is worth 50 points [5%], for a total of 200 course points [20%]). There will be a total of five quizzes offered over the course of the semester. The four best scored quizzes will be compiled into the student's final grade. Quizzes may be provided in the form of a 'Pre-Lecture Quiz' (i.e., available online and scheduled to be completed prior to attending lecture) and/or provided in-person at the beginning of the class period and will not be provided to those arriving late.

News to Theory Assignments (worth 100 course points [10%]). Students will review a variety of news stories regarding criminality or law related topics (e.g., listen to the news on the radio, read the newspaper, watch the local/national news). Thereafter, students will select 2 media reports that provide sufficient information to build "formal theoretical statements" and identify elements of the statement (e.g., variables, mechanism, and scope). Detailed assignment instructions will be forthcoming.

Semester Project (worth 200 course points [20%]). The purpose of this assignment is to apply criminological theory(ies) learned in class to a medium of your choice (e.g., book, documentary, movie, songs/album). Students will create a detailed PowerPoint presentation that (1) explains the major concepts of their chosen criminological theory, (2) provides information on the current state of their chosen criminological theory, and (3) makes connections between their chosen criminological theory and their chosen medium. Detailed assignment instructions will be forthcoming.

Class Attendance and Participation (worth 100 course points [10%]). Students are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for all material whether in assigned readings, provided during the class period, or discussed during class lecture. Research shows that there is a positive association between class attendance and course grades; that is, students who attend regularly and participate in class discussions tend to perform better in the course than students who do not. As a partial assessment of student performance, unannounced in-class quizzes and/or class assignments may be given over the course of the semester. All materials completed outside the classroom and submitted to the instructor should be typed, stapled (if appropriate), proofread and free of spelling and grammatical errors. In addition, when the instructor has provided written assignment questions to students, these questions should be utilized as subheadings in the corresponding assignments produced by the student – work not meeting these basic standards may be returned to the student as “incomplete assignments.”

The course participation grade is a discretionary part of the student’s grade based on observations by the course instructor throughout the semester. It should be noted that while attendance is “necessary” for participation, it in itself is not “sufficient.” In constructing this grade the instructor takes into account a variety of issues to include, but not limited to: class participation in discussions, ability to lead and actively contribute to small group discussions, demonstrating a growing and active use of course materials (via discussions, in-depth answers evidenced in quiz and exam materials, attending class regularly, application of ‘course vocabulary’ in peer exercises, theoretically grounded observations made of ‘criminal behaviors’ via course materials, etc.) Beyond what an individual ‘brings’ to the class the instructor is also observant of what students ‘draw away’ from the class in terms of arriving late, leaving early, disruptions that tangent course progress, deviating from small group tasks and focus, etc.

While this portion of the grade takes into account many instructor observations, it is not systematically quantifiable. However, it does provide a mechanism for the instructor to recognize individuals who have demonstrated and promoted course objectives and goals through their active participation. In other words, this portion of the course grade should not be ‘expected’ by students (e.g. given away without merit), but rather like all other graded portions of the course, students are expected to earn it.

GRADING/EVALUATION:

Examinations	Description (percentage)	Points
	Midterm (20%)	200
	Final Exam (20%)	200
Quizzes		
	Top Four (4) Quizzes (5% each = 20%)	200
News to Theory Assignment	(10%)	100
Semester Project	(20%)	200
Class Participation	Attendance, Course Post Participation, etc. (10%)	100
	Total	1,000

EXAMINATION-QUIZZ MAKE-UPS:

Late assignments will typically not be accepted, and when accepted will be assess a deduction (10%-points for each day late, after three days assignments will no longer be accepted). Make-up exams and quizzes are uncommon and should not be expected. **No make-up exams will be given without a valid excuse.** Acceptable circumstances for a valid excused absence include death in your immediate family, serious personal illness, religious observations, military duty, court subpoenas/jury duty, and student athlete releases. For any excuse to be considered valid, the student must contact the instructor BEFORE the exam and provide proper documentation (court/police report, doctor's note, etc.) to receive permission for a make-up exam. The instructor reserves the right to offer a different exam than offered during the normal test-taking period.

Final Grade	Percentage	Total Points
A	93% or higher	930 or above
A-	90-92.9%	900 – 929
B+	87-89.9%	970 – 899
B	83-86.9%	830 – 869
B-	80-82.9%	800 – 829
C+	77-79.9%	770 – 799
C	73-76.9%	730 – 769
C-	70-72.9%	700 – 729
D	60-69.9%	600 – 699
F	Below 60%	Less than 600

Students have the potential to earn 1,000 points throughout this course. Grades are based on the percentage of points earned out of the points possible. Above is the breakdown for grades based on percentages and total points earned.

CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR:

The preferred method of communication is via email (wcrawley@uwf.edu). Students should expect 24 to 48 hours for a response from the instructor, excluding weekends. To support a response from the professor, you must include the course number and name (CJE 3041 Criminology) in the subject line of all emails.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 14 Drop/add period ends
- January 20 Martin Luther King's Birthday – Campus Closed
- February 4 Withdrawal deadline
- March 17-23 Spring Break
- April 28 Final exams begin

Please check [the official UWF Academic Calendar](#) for important dates, including holidays, withdrawal, and registration dates. Other student resources can be found on the [General Education website](#)

UWF POLICY STATEMENTS:

The following policy statements apply to all syllabi on all UWF campuses and are in effect even if not reproduced on the official course syllabus.

[[Course Modality](#)] [[Recording in Class](#)] [[Academic Conduct](#)] [[TurnItIn](#)] [[Sexual Discrimination or Harassment Reporting](#)] [[Civil Discourse](#)] [[Health and Safety Protocols](#)]

STUDENT SUPPORT RESOURCES:

Student Accessibility Resources

The University of West Florida supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources (SAR). Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the individual. For information regarding the registration process, e-mail sar@uwf.edu or call 850.474.2387.

[[Student Accessibility Resources](#)] [[Military & Veterans Resource Center](#)] [[Mental Health Support](#)] [[Ask-a-Librarian](#)] [[Emergency Information](#)] [[Writing Lab](#)] [[Tutoring and Learning Resources](#)]

INSTRUCTIONAL TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY

Many instructors use instructional tools and technology regardless of course modality. Here are statements about a few of the most popular tools students may be asked to use.

[[Minimum Technical Skills Needed](#)] [[Technical Support](#)] [[Helpful support links](#)] [[eLearning \(Canvas\)](#)] [[Zoom](#)] [[Test Proctoring & Monitoring Tools](#)] [[Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor](#)] [[Honorlock](#)] [[ProctorU](#)]

COURSE SCHEDULE:

This outline is a general overview of the class which includes course topics, assigned readings, exams, and project deadlines. The instructor may alter this outline if needed and will notify students as soon as possible if this occurs.

Date	Class Topic	Readings/Assignments Due
Jan 8-10	• Syllabus and course overview	• Review course syllabi • Introductions
Jan 13-17	• Philosophy of Theory • Sociology and Theory of Development	• Origin of Theory: Philosophical Underpinnings of the Modern Sciences (Crawley) • Criminology and the Philosophies of Science (Crawley)
Jan 20-24 & Jan 27-31	• Jan 20: Martin Luther King's Birthday • What is Criminology	• Chapter 1 - What is Criminology? The Study of Crime, Criminals, and Victims in a Global Context
Feb 3-7	• What Makes Criminology a Modern Discipline • Measuring Crime	• Chapter 2 - What is Crime? Defining the Problem
Feb 10-14	• Classical School of Thought	• Chapter 3 - Classical, Neoclassical, and Rational-Choice Theories
Feb 17-21	• Biological Theories of Crime	• Chapter 4 - "Born to Be Bad": Biological, Psychological, and Biosocial Theories of Crime
Feb 24-28	• Criminal Minds	• Chapter 5 - Criminal Minds: Psychiatric and Psychological Explanations of Crime

Mar 3-7	MIDTERM EXAM • Social Process Theories	• Chapter 6 – Learning Criminal Behavior: Social Process Theories
Mar 10-14	• Failed Socialization	• Chapter 7 – Failed Socialization: Control Theory, Social Bonds, and Labeling • News to Theory Assignment (due Mar 11th)
Mar 17-21	• Spring Break	
Mar 24-28	• Crimes of Places	• Chapter 8 – Crimes of Places: Social Ecology and Cultural Theories of Crime
Mar 31-Apr 4	• The Sick Society	• Chapter 9 – The Sick Society: Anomie, Strain, and Subcultural Theory
Apr 7-11	• Theory Presentations	• Semester Projects (due Apr 7 th)
Apr 14-18	• Theory Presentations	
Apr 21-25	• Small Group Review Meetings	• Scheduled Appointments
Apr 28	FINAL EXAM	