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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**CRJ 410:  CRIMINALITY & CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY**

**October 9th - December 3rd, 2023**

**INSTRUCTOR:**           Chris Findley, Ph.D.

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a multidisciplinary survey of theories of crime causation and social control. Major topics covered include: theory construction, theory-methods, symmetry, evaluating theory, theoretical integration, crime reduction and applied criminology.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Bohm, R.M., & Vogel, B.L. (2014). *A primer on crime and delinquency* (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

* Define criminological theory and philosophical assumptions upon which theory is based.

* Describe the role of theory in the study of crime and delinquency.

* Explain theories of crime developed during the Age of Enlightenment.

* Explain the development and premises of the positivist school of criminology.

* Describe biological and psychological theories of crime causation and explain their policy implications.

* Describe sociological theories of crime causation and explain their policy implications.

* Describe theories of crime causation based on the premise of critical theory.

* Explain the basis for integrated and developmental theories of crime causation.

**COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT**

Courses offered in an 8 week session are twice as intensive as those held during a traditional full semester. Each week students should expect to spend 16 hours interacting with course content through a combination of direct instruction and out of class student work.

Examples of direct instruction may include viewing or reading course lectures, engaging in class forum discussions with the course instructor and other students, viewing or reading supplementary online content required by the instructor, completing course quizzes and/or examinations, and reading instructor announcements related to course material and instructor feedback on assignments.

Examples of out of class student work may include reading the assigned course textbook, doing independent library research, completing essay assignments, developing more extensive research papers, and studying in preparation for exams and quizzes.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All assignments must be completed by the learner.  Learners are expected to read and adhere to the Academic Integrity section of Reinhardt University’s Academic Catalog.  Cases of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the University, a failing grade for the course, or a failing grade for the assignment.

The following are recognized as unacceptable forms of academic behavior at Reinhardt University:

* Plagiarizing, that is presenting words or ideas not your own as if they were your own. The words of others must be enclosed in quotation marks and documented. The source of the distinctive ideas must also be acknowledged through appropriate documentation. (NOTE:  Strictly adhere to APA citation and referencing guidelines to avoid this).

* Submitting a paper written by another student or another person as if it were your own.

* Submitting a paper containing sentences, paragraphs, or sections lifted from another student’s work or other publication; there must be written documentation.

* Submitting a paper written by you for another course or occasion without the explicit knowledge and consent of the instructor.

* Fabricating evidence or statistics that supposedly represent your original research.

* Cheating of any sort on tests, papers, projects, reports, etc.

* Using the internet inappropriately as a resource. See 3 above.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS**

Knowledge of the material presented in this course will be evaluated based on the satisfactory completion of all coursework.  Methods of instruction and learning include module reading assignments, video lectures, discussion postings, individual research, and essay assignments.  Learners are expected to complete all module activities during the week they are assigned and in the manner prescribed.

**Reading Assignments**

Learner’s are expected to complete the assigned textbook readings for each module prior to participating in discussions and assignments.  The textbook for this course is accessed through the "Vital Source Course Materials" link found in the left-side navigation menu.

**Discussion Assignments**

Students are expected to actively participate in module discussion assignments.  Requirements and deadlines for postings shall be published within individual Module Academic Requirements .  All postings and replies must adhere to APA 7th Edition guidelines regarding citations and referencing.    Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions.  Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling.

**Essay Assignments**

Learners must submit individual module essay assignments by the deadline specified within individual Module Academic Requirements.  Module essay assignments often have more than one part.  Be sure to answer **each part**of each question.  Learners must adhere to the minimum word count specified for each assignment.  Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing guidelines contained in the 7th Edition APA Manual.  Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions.  Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling in all submissions.

**Research Component**

Students will conduct a scholarly literature review for the research component of this course. Topics must be approved by the course instructor in advance.

A literature review requires reading, summarizing and commenting on recent scholarship pertaining to a particular topic or issue. Through independent research of scholarly sources, students will select a criminological theory and prepare a literature review that addresses the following:

* Explain the concepts and propositions of the selected theory.

* Apply the theory to a practical issue in the field of criminal justice system (i.e. crime prevention, enforcement strategies, or correctional approaches).

* Explain the policy implications associated with application of the theory to the selected practical issue.

The literature review must comply with the following requirements:

* Written in APA 7th edition format.

* Minimum of 5 pages excluding cover page and reference page…this does not mean 5 pages and a paragraph or two. This means 5 full pages at a minimum (seek to exceed 1,500 words).

* Must have a title page in APA format. An abstract is not required for this assignment.  
  Must have a reference page in APA format.

* Must have a minimum of (5) acceptable scholarly references listed and cited in the body of the work. You are highly encouraged to exceed the minimum reference count.  
  Students may use the course text as a source, but make sure your other sources fit the category of being scholarly in nature. Wikipedia or general websites are not scholarly. Students should seek guidance from the instructor if in doubt about the acceptability of a source.

* Double spacing is required between sentences and paragraphs per APA guidelines.

* Use Times New Roman 12 font when preparing the paper.

* Must demonstrate the ability to summarize and paraphrase information from sources in proper APA format.

* Plagiarism will not be tolerated…your paper must properly document all ideas and information not your own. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for this course. Other sanctions may be imposed based on University policy.

* Use of proper grammar, correct spelling, and writing principles are expected in all work. Full credit will not be granted for work that contains grammatical or spelling errors. In the event a student does not feel competent in this area he/she should discuss the matter with the instructor.

The completed literature review must be submitted during Module #5 no later than 11:59 PM (EST) on Sunday, April 30th.

**EVALUATION & GRADING**

The following grading scale will be utilized in the determination of the student’s course grade:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Percentage of Points Earned** | **Corresponding Letter Grade** |
| 90% to 100% | A |
| 80% to 89% | B |
| 70% to 79% | C |
| 60% to 69% | D |
| 0% to 59% | F |

**NOTE: Criminal justice students must achieve a final grade of "C" or higher.**

**FINAL AVERAGE BREAKDOWN**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment Category** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| Discussion Assignments | 30% |
| Essay Assignments | 40% |
| Research Component | 30% |

**PROJECTED LEARNING SCHEDULE**

**MODULE #1 (1 Week:  Monday, October 9th - Sunday, October 15th)**

* *Chapter 1: An Introduction to Theory*

**MODULE #2 (1 Week: Monday, October 16th - Sunday, October 22nd)**

* *Chapter 2: Classical and Neoclassical Theory*

**MODULE #3 (2 Weeks:  Monday, October 23rd - Sunday, November 5th)**

* *Chapter 3: Positivist Theories*
* *Chapter 4: Biological Theories*
* *Chapter 5: Psychological Theories*

**MODULE #4  (2 Weeks:  Monday, November 6th - Sunday, November 19th)**

* *Chapter 6: Macrosociological Theories*
* *Chapter 7: Microsociological Theories*

**MODULE #5  (2 Weeks:  Monday, November 20th - Sunday, December 3rd)**

* *Chapter 8: Critical Theories*
* *Chapter 9: Integrated Theories, Developmental Theories, and Beyond*

**ONLINE ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

Students are accountable for all required work in each of their courses. They must assume full responsibility for class attendance in a way satisfactory to the instructor and for work missed because of absence. Since class sessions function not merely for individual learning but also for group interaction, absences can become a serious problem both for the individual and for the group.

Online courses are generally delivered over a period of eight weeks with activities and assignments specified for each week.  An online week is defined as being Monday 12:00 AM (EST) through Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).  Deadlines for attendance are based on Eastern Standard Time.

A student will be considered in attendance for a given week of online instruction if he or she participates in the course.  Participation is defined as posting a response to a discussion assignment or submitting a completed course room activity/assignment during the online week prior to Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).

**Initial Course Participation**

A student who fails to participate during the first 8 calendar days of a course shall be administratively dropped from the course.

**Ongoing Course Participation**

Ongoing course participation is satisfied through the continued completion of course room activities, such as written assignments, quizzes, or discussion question responses.  Students who do not participate in a course for 7 or more consecutive days are not satisfying ongoing course participation.

Students who are not satisfying the ongoing course participation requirement shall be notified by a University representative via University email.  The learner must resume participation in the course within 3 calendar days following the sending of the notification.

Students who do not resume participation in the course will be administratively withdrawn from the course and be issued a grade of “W” or “F”.

A grade of “W’ will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs before 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

A grade of “F” will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs after 11:59 PM on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

Students may be impacted academically and financially in the case of voluntary and administrative withdrawals.  It is the student’s responsibility to understand these implications.

**ONLINE ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

Reinhardt University offers academic support services for online students through BrainFuse HelpNow.  Services include access to live tutors, writing lab assistance, and study center resources.  These resources are offered at no additional charge and are available on demand at [Course Resources](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9038/pages/course-resources).

**NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Reinhardt University does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs, or activities on the basis of race, color, age, culture, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, physical (dis)ability or genetic information.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a documented disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Support Office (ASO).

Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Academic Support Office (ASO). ASO is located in the basement of Lawson Building. Phone is 770-720-5567. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ASO letters/forms.