



**MORAIN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS
CRJ105 Criminology
Fall 2009**



Criminal Justice Program
Public Service Programs Departmental Homepage:
<http://www.morainevalley.edu/publicservice>

I. Course Instructor

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II. Course Identification Information

Course Title: Criminology
Course & Section Numbers: CRJ105-505
Credit Hours: 3
Contact Hours: 3 (6:00 - 9:00 PM)
Class Meeting Dates: Tuesday
Room: Andrew High School
Unit Exams: Four per schedule

Final Exam: December 15, 2009 at 6pm

Course Description:

This course examines crime and criminal behavior. Topics include the field of criminology, views of crime, major criminological theories, patterns of crime, crime statistics, research and theory building, crime prevention strategies, and social policy.

Illinois Articulation Initiative number: CRJ912ICCB Funding Category 1: (baccalaureate/transfer) #1145040109

III. Course Text and Other Resources

Required: **Criminology Today: Frank Schmalleger 5th edition**

Other resources:

This course will utilize a variety of resources. These include:

The syllabus: This document is the ***course blueprint***. Please refer to it often for course reading assignments, examinations, etc.

MVCC Library / LRC holdings: Off-Campus Access to the library's Online Databases is available. The web address of the LRC/Library is: <http://www.morainevalley.edu/LRC/default.htm> . Students, staff and faculty who wish to search the library resources must register their student ID in the library computer by bringing it to the library circulation desk. If our system doesn't recognize you, then you will not be given access to important resources, such as the "articles and other sources" section of the website. American Psychological Association citation format is found going to "research guides, then citing sources, then to APA. Please visit <http://www.morainevalley.edu/LRC> for additional information.

The following criminal justice related resources are in the LRC/library:

ABA Journal
American Sociological Review
Corrections Today
Drug Enforcement
FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin
Illinois Issues
Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology
Journal of Police Science and Administration
News Digest
Police Chief

Internet Resources: There are a variety of internet resources available about criminal justice topics. The quality of these sites as well as the accuracy of information presented on sites is reviewed during library orientation sessions or may be reviewed at the MVCC library site.

There are many worldwide web sites that provide criminal justice information. Here is a listing of some of the commonly used sites.

Bureau of Justice Assistance <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA>
Chicago Tribune <http://www.tribune.com>
Criminal Justice Distance Learning Consortium <http://talkjustice.com>
Criminology and Criminal Justice
<http://www.soc.umn.edu/~overall/crime.htm>
Federal Jobs Central <http://www.fedjobs.com>
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
<http://www.ncjrs.org/homepage.htm>
National Institute of Justice <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>
Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics
<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook>
U.S. Department of Justice <http://www.usdoj.gov>
White House <http://www.whitehouse.gov/index.html>

IV. Major Course Concepts

- A. Introduction to Criminology
 - 1. Crime patterns
 - 2. Research methods
- B. Theory development and explanation
 - 1. Classical
 - 2. Biological
 - 3. Psychological and psychiatric
 - 4. Sociological
 - a. Social structure
 - b. Social process and social development
 - c. Social conflict
 - 5. Other theories
- C. Types of crimes
 - 1. Crimes against persons
 - 2. Crimes against property
 - 3. White collar and organized crime
 - 4. Drug abuse and drug crime
 - 5. Technological and other types of crime
- D. Public policy and criminology
- E. Future criminological implications

V. Expected Outcomes for Student Learning

A. General Education learning outcomes

1. Communicating
Read and listen with comprehension
Write and speak effectively in English
2. Information Literacy
Locate, evaluate, and use information effectively
3. Social Sciences Perspective
Apply basic principles of social and behavioral science influencing individuals and groups
4. Valuing Diversity
Understand how diversity influences experiences, values, and thoughts of individuals and cultures
5. Global Awareness
Be aware of major institutions, persons, ideologies, and events that have shaped the nature and cultures of the world
6. Social Responsibility
Work effectively with others
Recognize one's ethical, legal, and social responsibilities

B. Course content learning outcomes

1. Identify specific facts about criminology
2. Describe specific facts about patterns of criminal behavior and offender typologies
3. Compare and contrast the major criminological theories
4. Compare and contrast the major criminological theories
5. Explain crime prevention strategies relevant to crime theories
6. Analyze crime issues and criminal behavior
7. Understand the relevance of criminological research
8. Locate criminological information
9. Improve understanding of crime issues

VI. Course Policies

1. ***Attendance is required for all class sessions.*** In the event that a student cannot make a classroom session he/she must: read all the required reading, obtain the handouts and/or lecture notes covered, and complete any and all assignments required for the missed class session.

2. Consistent with students' rights and responsibilities, each student is responsible for adhering to the Code of Student Conduct as stated in the college catalog.
3. In particular, any form of cheating (plagiarism, forgery and the like) is strictly prohibited and will result in the automatic failure of the examination or assignment. An incidence report will be filed by the instructor with the Dean of Career Programs in B-150 (974-5708)
4. A student who does not officially withdraw from a course may receive a grade of "F" depending on course progress or course attendance, which will become part of student permanent records. The withdrawal dates for the Fall course is on the general information page attached to this syllabus.
5. Course incomplete ("I" grades) will be awarded only due to special circumstances and with the approval of the instructor. These are usually given for extraordinary circumstances, including medical issues or job changes. If approved, a contract between the student and the instructor will be signed which will detail the work, which must be completed for grade reversal.
6. Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted. Contact the instructor regarding any special circumstances.
7. ***All papers should be written in the American Psychological Association (APA) format; see the library site for details***
<http://www2.morainevalley.edu/default.asp?SiteId=10&PageId=268>
8. The MVCC information sheets provide important information about college resources and policies.
9. If there are problems or concerns regarding this course, please contact the instructor.
10. All cell phones and pagers must be silent during class sessions.
11. The use of wireless internet during course sessions is prohibited.
12. The Testing Center may be used; student must adhere to the rules of the Center and have a valid MVCC ID.
13. The Center for Disabilities Services located in L150 (Main campus) provides support services to persons with disabilities. Contact 974-5711 for information.
14. **There is no extra credit available in this course.**

VII. Email Policy

Students must use the e-mail account provided by Moraine Valley as their official means of email communication for all business related to this course.

Any email that does not come directly from your MVCC email (username@student.morainevalley.edu) may be filtered by spam or junk mail filters, may get deleted, or may get a delayed response.

This means if you choose to forward your MVCC email account to some other email account (such as username@comcast.net, or username@yahoo.com, or username@sbcglobal.com), and then do not send a response back to the instructor from that third party account.

All responses to email should come directly from your MVCC account and not from the forwarded account. In other words, all email correspondence for this course must come from your username@student.morainevalley.edu email account.

The subject line of all email to the instructor must begin with the student's name, course number AND section number followed by the topic. The course number and section for this course is: CRJ105-505.

Here are some examples:

Subject: Name, CRJ105-505, Missed class

Subject: Name, CRJ105-505, When is the paper due?

Email without a subject may not be read and will probably be deleted.

The body of the email must include complete sentences AND be "signed" with your full first and last name.

Email Guidelines & Procedures: Each student is responsible for reading the Email Guidelines & Procedures, which is located at <http://www.morainevalley.edu/studentemail/guidelines.htm>

VIII. Assessment of Student Learning

Final grades will be based upon the following point values:

- Four Unit Exams: (4 x 30 points each) **120 points**
- The unit exams will each consist of objective questions

Written Assignments (2 assignments x 30 points each) **60 points**

1. All general education and eligible transfer courses must include a writing component. Written assignments will be distributed in class; APA citations are required for papers. Topics must be approved by the instructor (topics will be presented to the instructor double spaced and typed on assigned dates). The book used in the book report must be non-fiction. Once the topic has been approved it can not be changed without the instructor's approval.
2. The Book Report must follow the format handed out by the instructor. Failure to comply with this format will result in the loss of one full grade.
3. **Failure to turn in either the paper or the Book Report will result in the student receiving an "F" for the class.**

Final Examination **50 points**

All general education eligible and transfer courses must include a comprehensive final; the final exam will consist of objective questions covering Chapters 1-12.

Quizzes and Participation **40 points**

Total Points 270

Grades will be assigned according to the following college standard:

- A (243-270 total points) Student demonstrates achievement of learning objectives at a level of outstanding mastery.
- B (216-242.9 total points) Student demonstrates achievement of learning objectives at a level beyond mere minimum competency.
- C (189-215.9 total points) Student demonstrates achievement of learning objectives at a level of minimum competency.
- D (162-188.9 total points) Student demonstrated achievement of learning at a level below minimum competency but sufficient to receive credit.
- F (Below 162 total points) Student demonstrates insufficient achievement of learning objectives to receive credit.

IX. Day/Topics /Assignment & Exam Deadlines

- Sept 1** Course Orientation and Chapter 1- What is Criminology ?
- Sept 8** Read Chapter 2-Patterns of Crime & Begin Chapter 3
- Sept 15** Chapter 3- research Methods
Topics for Paper due to Instructor
- Sept 22** **Exam # 1 Chapters 1-3** & Discuss Chapter 4 – Classical and NeoClassical thought
- Sept 29** Review Exam 1 & Chapter 5-Biological Roots of Criminal Behavior & begin Chapter 6 – Psychological Foundations of Criminal Behavior
- Oct 6** Read Chapters 6 - Psychological Foundations of Criminal Behavior
- Oct 13** **Exam # 2 Chapters 4-6** & Discuss Chapter 7 – Sociological Theories Social Structure I **Paper Due!!!!**
- Oct 20** **No School**
- Oct 27** Review Exam 2 & Chapter 8- Sociological Theories Social Structure II
- Nov 3** Chapter 9 - Sociological Theories Social Structure III I
- Nov 10** **Exam # 3 Chapters 7-9** & Read Chapter 10 - Crimes against Persons
- Nov 17** Review Exam #3 & Chapter 11 Crimes against Property
- Nov 24** Read Chapter 12 – White Collar Crime and Organized Crime
- Dec 1** **Exam 4 Chapters 10-14**
- Dec 8** Review Exam #4 **Review for Final & Book Report due!!!!**
- Dec 15** Comprehensive Final Examination

How to Write a Book Report

Writing a good book report requires summarizing a lot of information in a very small space. Your job is to extract the main ideas of a book and possibly analyze it as well and then type it up into a presentable report. Follow these steps to make the task easier.

Things You'll Need:

- Oxford English Dictionary
- Thesaurus
- [Printers](#)
- [Computers](#)
- Highlighter pens
- Writing Style Manuals
- Bibliography Software
- Index Cards

Step 1:

Take thorough and careful notes as you read the book. (See "How to Take Reading Notes.") Use Post-it flags to mark pages that contain important passages or quotes.

Step 2:

Gather your reading notes and the book and have them by your side as you write your report.

Step 3:

Ask yourself, What would I want to know about this book?

Step 4:

Look through your notes and decide, based on the length of the book report and your answers to the above question, what is essential to include and what can be excluded.

Step 5:

State the main point of the book: Why did the author write the book? Or for fiction, give a brief plot summary.

Step 6:

Outline the plot or main ideas in the book (See "How to Write a Paper Outline"), or for fiction describe the story and key dramatic points.

Step 7:

Follow your outline as you write the report, making sure to balance the general and the specific. A good book report will both give an overview of the book's significance and convey enough details to avoid abstraction.

Step 8:

Summarize the overall significance of the book: What has this book contributed to the knowledge of the world? For fiction: What does this story tell us about the author's take on life's big questions?

Web Site www.ehow.com/how_11249_write-book-report.html?ref=fuel

Example of Topic Assignment form for Paper/Book Report

Name

CRJ 105-505

Date

The topic and a brief summary of what you are trying to demonstrate.

The Book Report is the same design but must include the Title of the book, Author's name, Publishing Company and last copyright date.