

Course Outline for: SOC 2112 Criminology

A. Course Description:

1. Number of credits: 3

2. Lecture hours per week: 3

3. Prerequisites: SOC 1104

4. Corequisites: None

5. MnTC Goals: Goal #5 History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

This course is an exploration of crime causation and society's response. Topics covered include the definitions of crime, the patterns that crime follows, the factors that cause crime, and the prevalence of certain types of crime.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: January 2023

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

- 1. Crime and Criminal Law
- 2. The measurement of crime and its impact
- 3. Early Explanations of Criminal Behavior
- 4. Biological and Psychological Theories
- 5. Sociological Theories: Social Structure
- 6. Sociological Theories: Social Process
- 7. Sociological Theories: Social Conflict
- 8. Types of Crime (including white-collar crime)
- 9. Criminal Justice Systems
- 10. Social Reaction to Crime

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1. Define criminological concepts and terms. (Goal 2a, 5a)
- 2. Distinguish between: Biological theories, Psychological theories, Social Structure theories, Social Process theories, and Social Conflict theories. (Goal 2a, 2b, 5c, 5d)
- 3. Discuss the various types and prevalence of crimes in the Uniform Crime Report and National Crime Victimization survey. (Goal 2a, 5a, 5b)
- 4. Explain the absence of certain crimes from the crime index. (Goal 2c, 2d, 5a, 5b, 5d)
- 5. Explain the various "Criminal Justice Models." (Goal 2d, 5a, 5b, 5d)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Assessment methods may include, but are not limited to: exams, quizzes, journals, research papers, oral presentations, written assignments, essays, group work and/or any other assessment measures based on the discretion of the instructor.

F. Special Information:

None