

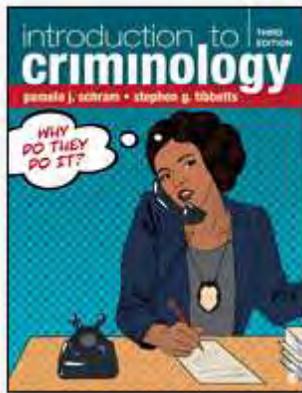


## Course Objectives/Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Articulate key criminological terms and concepts, as well as the historical context and development of criminological theory.
- Demonstrate the basic assumptions and limitations associated with differing criminological theories, including: Classical/Neo-classical, Biological/Sociobiological, Psychological, and Sociological (Social Structural, Social Process, and Social Conflict) perspectives.
- Appraise the empirical status of major criminological schools of thought.
- Analyze policy implications of competing theoretical perspectives.
- Comparatively evaluate research methodologies employed in criminology.
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the major sources of data on crime trends and patterns.
- Classify crime by typologies.

## Course Material



### Introduction to Criminology

Why Do They Do It?

THIRD EDITION

[Pamela J. Schram](#) - California State University, San Bernardino, USA

[Stephen G. Tibbetts](#) - California State University, San Bernardino, USA

SAGE Publications, Inc; Third edition (February 10, 2020)

This textbook is available in multiple formats: hardcover, paperback, loose-leaf, and ebook. Any of these options will work fine, as long as you have the 3rd edition. Some, though not all, of these options are available at: <https://uwm.ecampus.com/>.

Additional assigned readings and other materials will be available on the Canvas course website.

## Course Requirements

You are required to complete and study reading assignments, participate in online Discussions (D), complete weekly Written Assignments (WAs), do one application paper, and take 3 online exams.

| <b><i>Requirement</i></b>             | <b><i>Percent</i></b> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10 Discussions (of 13)                | 15%                   |
| 10 Weekly Written Assignments (of 13) | 20%                   |
| 1 Application Paper                   | 20%                   |
| 3 Exams                               | 45%                   |

### **Grading Scale**

**A 93-100**

**A- 88-92**

**B+ 84-87**

**B 80-83**

**B- 76-79**

**C+ 71-75**

**C 65-70**

**C- 60-64**

**D+ 57-59**

**D 53-56**

**D- 50-52**

**F Below 50**

Most weeks will have a similar structure. You will have reading assignments from the textbook and the instructor's commentary. For each Discussion, your two posts will be due on Wednesday (11:59). A Weekly Written Assignment will be due on Friday (11:59pm). The exceptions are Weeks 6 and 11, when the focus will be on reviewing for and taking an exam.

### **Discussions**

Most weeks you will have an online Discussion. There will be 13 online Discussions during the semester. Each Discussion will be based on an assigned reading (textbook, instructor's

commentary, or an online article), podcast or video. You are required to 1) reply to the instructor's prompt (in at least 200 words) AND 2) a respond to another student's post (at least 100 words). **Take note: each Discussion requires you to do 2 posts.** Discussion posts must illustrate understanding of the assigned material, as well as in-depth consideration of the questions in the prompt. Both posts are due by Wednesday at 11:59pm. You are required to participate in at least 10 of the 13 Discussions. If you do more than 10 Discussions, I will only count your ten best scores. You are encouraged, however, to do all 13 Discussions. These Discussions are an important way for you to learn material that will be covered on the exams. Since you have 13 opportunities to participate in Discussions, late posts will not normally be accepted. (If exceptional circumstances arise, get in touch with me.)

### **(Weekly) Written Assignments**

Most weeks you will have a written assignment that asks you to describe, explain, and/or apply important ideas from the reading assignment for that week. These assignments will be due on Friday (11:59pm). You will have 13 opportunities to do written assignments (WAs), and your 10 best scores will count toward your final grade. You are encouraged, however, to do all 13 WAs. These assignments are an important way for you to learn material that will be covered on the exams. Since you have 13 opportunities to do WAs, late assignments will not normally be accepted. (If exceptional circumstances arise, get in touch with me.)

### **One Application Paper**

You will write one paper involving the application of several criminological theories to some specific social situation. Specific instructions for each paper will be posted in Canvas. You will submit the paper electronically to Canvas. While you are working on the paper, if you wish, I will read rough drafts and provide you with feedback. The application paper is due on May 7.

### **Exams**

There will be 3 exams, which you will take online. They will cover assigned readings from the textbook, instructor commentaries, discussions, and other assigned materials. Each exam will include multiple choice and short answer questions. The exams will be open-book and open-note, but you will have only one try and a limited amount of time (120 minutes) to complete the exam. If you try to look up everything during the exam, you will do very poorly. Each exam will cover 4 to 5 weeks of material. The third exam will cover only the last third of the course. Each exam will be available for a 48-hour period in Canvas. Everyone must take the exams during those periods. Once you begin the exam, you must finish it. You will not be able to save work and come back later to complete the exam. The exams are on March 4/5, April 15/16: Early in the semester, I will be giving specific suggestions for how to read assignments, take notes, and prepare for the exams.

## **Credit Hours**

The university has asked instructors for a breakdown of how much time students will spend working on various aspects of their classes. As the UW System assumes that “study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours” (UWS ACPS 4), a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours of your time. That works out to an average of 9 hours per week. You should expect to devote that amount of time to reading assignments, working through instructor commentaries, posting discussion comments, completing weekly exercises, working on papers, studying for exams, and taking exams. These are averages; specific weeks may involve more or less time depending on whether an exam or paper is scheduled.

## **Canvas**

Since this course is online, each week you should check the Canvas website early and often about what is coming up and what is coming due. If you have any questions about content on the course website, please contact me. If you have questions about, or problems using, the Canvas website, please email [support@instructure.com](mailto:support@instructure.com), call 833-826-8713, or use Canvas Support live chat (<https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student>).

## **Contact Details**

The best way to contact me is by email ([hillarym@uwm.edu](mailto:hillarym@uwm.edu)). I will do my best to respond within 24 hours. If you do not get a response within 24 hours, please do not hesitate to send a reminder or follow up, in case I did not receive or missed your message. Also, twice a week I will hold virtual office hours. You will be able to use Collaborate Ultra in Canvas to video chat (like Zoom, etc.) during these Virtual Office Hours. You can also reach me via my office telephone, but since I will not normally be in my office and must retrieve messages remotely, this is probably the least reliable way to contact me.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, concerns, or difficulties with the course. I am here to help you succeed, but I can only do so, if you stay in touch.

## **Course Schedule**

This schedule provides a general overview of topics covered and key dates. It does not include specific assignments. Those assignments (reading assignments, instructor commentaries, discussion posts, written assignments, paper instructions, and review materials for exams) will all be in the weekly modules posted in Canvas. I plan to stick to this schedule, but if unforeseen developments require me to change the schedule, I will let you know as quickly as possible.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Week 1: Jan. 25-29  | Overview of Course, Self-Introductions, Introduction to Criminology                                    |
| Week 2: Feb. 1-5    | Crime: Definitions, Measurement, Statistics  |
| Week 3: Feb. 8-12   | The Classical School of Criminology  |
| Week 4: Feb. 15-19  | Contemporary Classical Criminology/ Deterrence Research  |
| Week 5: Feb. 22-26  | Early Positivist Biological Theories of Criminology/Modern Biosocial Perspectives on Criminal Behavior |
| Week 6: March 1-5   | Exam Review; Exam # 1 (March 4/5)  |
| Week 7: March 8-12  | Psychological/Trait Theories of Crime  |
| Week 8: March 15-19 | Social Structure Theories of Crime I: Early Development and Strain Models of Crime                     |

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| March 21-28              | Spring Break  |
| Week 9: March 29-April 2 | Social Structure Theories of Crime II: Social Disorganization and Subcultures               |
| Week 10: April 5-9       | Social Process and Control Theories of Crime  |
| Week 11: April 12-16     | Exam Review; Exam # 2 (April 15/16)   |
| Week 12: April 19-23     | Labeling Theory and Conflict/Marxist/Radical Theories of Crime                              |
| Week 13: April 26-30     | Feminist/Queer Theories of Crime;<br>Developmental/ Life Course Perspectives on Criminality |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
|                    |  |
| Week 14: May 3-7   | Types of Crime: White-Collar Crime, Organized Crime, Cybercrime, Drug Crime                        |
| Week 15: May 10-13 | Types of Crime: Hate Crimes, Mass Murder, Terrorism, Homeland Security, State Crimes and Terrorism |
| May 14             | Study Day  |
| May 19/20          | Finals Week: Exam # 3  |

## UNIVERSITY AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that page is: <https://uwm.edu/secu/wp-content/uploads/sites/122/2016/12/Syllabus-Links.pdf>

Students with Disabilities. In the pursuit of equal access and in compliance with state and federal laws, the University is required to provide accommodations to students with documented disabilities. To learn more, please visit: <http://uwm.edu/arc/>

Religious Observances. Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm>

Students called to active Military Duty. Students called to active military duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty should be noted. Students: <http://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/> Employees: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/ohrwd/download/policies/ops/bn9.pdf>

Incompletes. A notation of "incomplete" may be given in lieu of a final grade to a student who has carried a subject successfully until the end of a semester but who, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student's control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of term work. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-13.%20Incomplete%20Grades.pdf>

Discriminatory Conduct. Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at: <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-1.%20Discriminatory%20Conduct%20Policy.pdf>

Title IX/Sexual Violence. Title IX is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education program or activities, and UWM policy prohibits such conduct (see Discriminatory Conduct, above). This includes sexual violence, which may include sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking in all educational programs and education-related areas. UWM strongly encourages its students to report any instance of sex discrimination to UWM's Title IX Coordinator ([titleix@uwm.edu](mailto:titleix@uwm.edu)). Whether or not a student wishes to report an incident of sexual violence, the Title IX Coordinator can connect students to resources at UWM and/or in the community including, but not limited to, victim advocacy, medical and counseling services, and/or law enforcement. For more information, please visit: <https://uwm.edu/sexual-assault/>

Academic misconduct. Cheating on exams or plagiarism are violations of the academic honor code and carry severe sanctions, including failing a course or even suspension or dismissal from the University. <http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/>

Complaint procedures. Students may direct complaints to the head of the academic unit or department in which the complaint occurs. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the head of the department or academic unit in which the complaint occurred or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-1.%20Discriminatory%20Conduct%20Policy.pdf>

Grade appeal procedures. A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the respective department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College/School. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-10.%20Grade%20Appeals%20by%20Students.pdf>

LGBT+ resources. Faculty and staff can find resources to support inclusivity of students who identify as LGBT+ in the learning environment. <https://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/>

Smoke and Tobacco-Free campus. UWM prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco on all campus property. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%2010-8.%20Smoke%20and%20Tobacco-Free%20Campus%20Policy.pdf>

Final Examinations. Information about the final exam requirement, the final exam date requirement, and make-up examinations. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-9.%20Final%20Examinations.pdf>

Book Royalties. In accord with department policy, the royalties from the sale of UWM sociology faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities of UWM sociology students.

Updated 08/2020