

University of Colorado at Boulder
Department of Sociology

Crime and Society
SOCY 2044-001-14984
Spring 2014
M/W/F 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm
ATLAS 100



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Course Description: This is an introductory course designed to give students an opportunity to critically think, talk, read, and write about issues pertaining to crime, the criminal justice system, and crime-related public policy. We will introduce the central sociological concepts, perspectives, and theories of crime and focus on four main areas:

- What is considered crime, why it is considered crime, and what we know about crime
- How we as a society respond to crime and those who commit crimes
- How the institutions designed to respond to crime (e.g., police/courts) do & do not perform & function
- Why important contemporary issues pertaining to criminal justice and public policy matter

This class will incorporate several different teaching methods:

- *Lectures:* Traditional PowerPoint lectures will guide students through course material.
- *Clickers:* Clickers are used to foster participation during class lecture. Answering questions counts toward the final grade.
- *Guest Speakers:* Criminal justice professionals, ex-felons, and advocates may visit throughout the semester to offer their assessments about crime and the criminal justice system. The guest speakers are an important addition to the course, and you will be given in-class graded work to complete during the presentations.
- *Documentaries & Media Clips:* Media are utilized throughout the semester to provide real world representations of course topics. These are treated as part of lecture material and should be regarded as serious subject matter. You will have graded work to complete based on the media we view.
- *Twitter:* All students must use Twitter throughout the semester to share discussion questions and current events that relate to class material. A more in-depth explanation of the Twitter requirements will follow (see *Twitter* under **Evaluation Components**).
- *Class Discussion:* Participation in class is strongly encouraged. Insights and clarifying questions are always welcome!

Required Course Text: All assigned CJ chapters on the course schedule are to be read by the Monday of each week, unless otherwise specified.

~Fagin, James A. 2014. *Criminal Justice 2013*. New Jersey, Prentice Hall. ISBN: 978-0-13-296127-1



Required Additional Course Reading: All assigned readings are posted on the D2L course website. The readings are divided by day under each D2L weekly reading folder. Note: all additional readings are to be read before the beginning of class on the day under which the reading is posted, unless otherwise specified. All readings will be posted at least 1-2 weeks in advance. Readings are subject to change due to unforeseen time constraints.

Course Policies:

1. *Attendance and participation are required* You must attend class regularly, arrive on time, stay for the entire class, turn off and put away all electronics (e.g., cell phone, etc.) before entering the classroom, and refrain from other disruptive behavior. If you miss a class, you will miss notes, discussion, in-class writing assignments, and clicker questions. If you miss a class, **you are responsible** for all missed material. You need to contact your classmates for any missed information; if you are still confused, you may then get clarification from us. Do not email us with “I missed class today, can you tell me if I missed anything important...” If you do, we will respond with, “of course you missed something important, and see course policy # 1.” **PowerPoints will not be posted**, so get at least 5 people’s contact information below. We will post material that is difficult to write down (e.g., diagrams, graphs, video clips), but we do not post PowerPoints for several reasons: 1. PowerPoints are a privilege for students who attend class, 2. Part of college is learning how to take notes. If we did not lecture with PowerPoints, you would still be expected to take notes, and we would not provide each word we say online, 3. We are abiding by copyright policies, 4. We do not want the PowerPoint slides to be taken out of context; having the PowerPoint slides does not serve students who do not attend class because they will not hear the appropriate explanations and examples, 5. PowerPoints are created and updated prior to each class and are not ready beforehand, and 6. Simply, this is our policy, and you know this prior to beginning the course. If you feel this policy comes in conflict with your expectations, other courses are still available.

Student Contacts: If you cannot attend class, contact your classmates; instructors will NOT provide notes or slides.

Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

2. *Late work/exams are not acceptable* and will receive zero. The only way you can turn in late work or make up an exam is in an extreme situation that has proper documentation. In an emergency, if you know you will be absent when work is due or an exam takes place, come speak to us ASAP with the accompanying documentation. In such a case, **you must make up the work/exam within 72 hours of your absence.**
3. *Keep all returned graded work/exams* Per CU policy, students are responsible for providing proof of any grade disputes. It is the student’s responsibility to pick up/keep graded work/exams.
4. *Readings* Keep up with all chapter and D2L readings. **You are responsible** for all the readings and the content in the readings even if we do not cover the material during lecture. For tips on reading academic journal articles, see the handout, “Tips on reading journal articles,” provided on D2L under the folder “Handouts.”
5. *Email and D2L* **You are responsible** for checking your CU email and D2L regularly (at least once a day) to stay current. Per CU policy, we cannot discuss any grades over email; this is what office hours are for. To email us and ensure a response, in the subject line write SOCY2044-001 and the reason for emailing (e.g., “question about clickers”). We will respond to email Monday through Friday between 11 am and 5 pm.
6. *Technology* No cell phones, text messaging, or iphone internet. We will allow laptops at our discretion for note taking **ONLY. If you are going to use a laptop, sit on the right side of ATLAS 100 when facing the board.** Inappropriate technology usage will affect your grade when you are between grades, e.g., between an F and a D- or a B+ and an A-. Rounding your grade up is a privilege and is reserved only for those who are respectful of the instructors and fellow classmates. We reserve the right to ask anyone to move seats or leave if disturbing the class.

7. *Classroom Behavior* Throughout the semester, we will discuss a number of potentially sensitive topics. For example, we will talk about drugs, homicides/violent crimes, sexual assault/rape/sex crimes, prostitution, trafficking, child abuse, domestic violence, capital punishment, mass shootings, undocumented immigration, war, gangs, racism, sexism, classism, and so on. Some of the language we use may shock you, even if it is academically used in an appropriate sociological & theoretical manner. Students & faculty each have the responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. While your participation in discussions is encouraged & important, it is essential that we maintain a courteous & respectful course environment that promotes the participation of all members of the class. All perspectives & experiences are valuable in the learning process and, therefore, deserve our attention and respect. Problem behavior affects your grade, especially when it is on a borderline. Rounding your grade up is a privilege and is reserved only for those who are respectful of the instructors and fellow classmates. We also reserve the right to ask anyone to leave if disturbing the class. Those who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. See <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> for more information on behavioral policies. **If you do not feel you can handle or witness sensitive topics, this class may not be for you, please consider this before remaining in the course and speak with the instructors. Of course you may miss a class or two because of sensitive materials, but it is still your responsibility to keep current with all missed content.**
8. *Academic Integrity* Academic dishonesty is grounds for receiving a **failing grade** on the relevant exam, paper, project, and in the course. To ensure academic integrity, you *must* observe the Honor Code in all work. For information on what constitutes academic dishonesty, see the posted link “What is Academic Dishonesty to CU Honor Code” under the “Handouts” folder on D2L. Also see the links on plagiarism and ASA format. Cheating on a paper is plagiarizing, for example, copying and pasting content, duplicating someone else’s work, not citing authors, not having a reference page, copying Wikipedia or other social media, not using ASA format to the best of your ability, stealing quotes, writing a paper for someone else to turn in, etc. Cheating on an exam is looking at someone else’s, asking for help, receiving help, or giving help from/to peers, completing someone else’s, looking at notes, text, articles, phones, or computers during an exam, talking during the exam, etc. We reserve the right to move anyone who appears in the slightest to be academically dishonest during an exam. If you have any uncertainty about what cheating is before turning in your work, talk to us about it first.
9. *Schedule Conflicts/religion/sports/health/medical disabilities* If you have any schedule conflicts with course requirements, papers, exams, etc. you must contact us with proper documentation by the end of the fourth week of class to make arrangements (**Friday, February 7, 2014**). However, it is best to notify us immediately if you have any health, medical, learning, or other disabilities so we can best accommodate your needs.

Relevant University Policies:

Honor Code: All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council and students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member involved and non-academic sanctions by the Honor Code Council (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). For more information, refer to www.colorado.edu/honorcode.

Disability Policy: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a completed/signed letter to us from Disability Services immediately so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. For more information, consult the Office of Disability Services, Willard 322 (303)492-8671, Center for Community N200, and <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>. If you have a temporary medical injury, see <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>.

Discrimination and Harassment: The University of Colorado’s policies regarding discrimination and harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>) apply to all students, faculty and staff. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at (303)492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at (303)492-5550. For more information, <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

Religious Observances: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or attendance. Please notify us by the end of the fourth week (**Friday, February 7, 2014**) of the semester if you will need accommodations for religious observance. See http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html for more information.

Evaluation Components: Your grade is based on your performance on Twitter participation, clicker questions, two papers, in-class writing assignments, exams, and a final group project/presentation as described below:

Twitter	25 points
Clickers	25 points
Paper 1	10 points
Paper 2	20 points
In-Class Writing Assignments	20 points
Exam 1	50 points
Exam 2	50 points
Exam 3 (Final Exam)	50 points
<u>Group Project</u>	<u>50 points</u>
Total Possible Points	300 points

		B+	87 - 89.98 %	C+	77 - 79.98 %	D+	67 - 69.98 %	F	≤ 59.98
A	≥ 93 %	B	83 - 86.98 %	C	73 - 76.98 %	D	63 - 66.98 %		
A-	90 - 92.98 %	B-	80 - 82.98 %	C-	70 - 72.98 %	D-	60 - 62.98 %		

Twitter: We will use Twitter on a fairly regular basis to aid learning. It will serve as a required form of posting discussion questions for the class each week as well as to facilitate the sharing of ideas and information relevant to the course.

Each student is required to create a Twitter account and be able to use Twitter in order to satisfy this course requirement. If you are unfamiliar with Twitter and need help setting up an account, please communicate with us directly and we will assist you. If you already have a personal Twitter account, you may want to set up a separate account to use for the purposes of our class, so you will not associate your personal information or Tweets with our class.

By the end of the first week, we will need all students to provide us with their Twitter usernames by becoming followers of our class Twitter page. After becoming a follower, you must clearly identify your first and last name in a Tweet so we can identify you for grading. We will use the general hashtag #C&S2044 in all posts for our class discussions and content, which identifies the Tweeted content as pertaining in general to our class. In addition, a second and more specific tag will be added to identify the week and topic, to which the specific Tweet refers (e.g., #week1q1). On the weeks that Tweets are due, **you need to post by Wednesday at 12:00 PM**. In addition, you must create two Twitter Screenshot Logs that are turned in to the D2L dropbox on **Friday, March 7th and Friday, April 25th** (see calendar below). If you fail to turn in your screenshots, you will NOT receive points for any of your Tweets (see also late work policy above). Please see the **Twitter Instructions** PDF posted on D2L under the “Handouts” folder for very specific Twitter directions, Tweet format, Tweet examples, Twitter Screenshot Log instructions, grading, and the Tweet tracker (a weekly tracker to keep track of due dates and hashtags of your weekly Tweets). Tweets are **NOT** to be posted during class as we have a strict **NO CELL PHONE** policy.

Clickers: We will utilize clicker questions to foster student participation during class lecture. Students must have their clickers registered through myCUinfo by **Wednesday, January 22, 2014 by 1 PM**. No excuses will be accepted for failing to bring the clicker to class or for having a non-working clicker—bring extra batteries. At the end of the semester, we will give you the full 25 points if you have answered 95 % of the clicker questions throughout the semester. You have a lot of leeway, but your points will go down as you miss more questions. These are easy points that encourage you to show up and engage in class material. We do not take attendance, but your *attendance* is *strongly encouraged* if you wish to do well in the course. Clicker questions are in-class only and cannot be made up.

*Paper 1 – Dark Figure of Crime**: This paper is worth a maximum of 10 points. This paper is **due Friday, February, 7th** (see calendar below). **A hard copy of this paper is due at the beginning of class AND this paper must be submitted to the D2L dropbox by 1 PM on Friday, February 7th.**

*Paper 2 – Prisons**: This paper is worth a maximum of 20 points. This paper is **due Friday, April 18th** (see calendar below). **A hard copy of this paper is due at the beginning of class AND this paper must be submitted to the D2L dropbox by 1 PM on Friday, April 18th.**

*The instructions for the papers will be given to you in class 1-2 weeks before they are due and will be posted on D2L under the folder, “Writing Instructions.” Late papers are not accepted and will receive 0 points (see also late work policy above). If you know you will be absent on the day a paper is due, turn it in early or give it to someone to turn in for you. Do not turn work in via our mailboxes, desks, or the sociology office, this work will not be graded. Do not email assignments, this work will not be graded. **We only grade hard copies that have also been submitted to the D2L dropbox.** The papers must follow the ASA format web link and handout instructions provided for you on D2L in the folder “Handouts.” If you have any questions or concerns come speak to us at least 48 hours before the papers are due.

In-Class Writing Assignments: Over the course of the semester you are assigned various in-class (IC) writing assignments that are worth up to 5 points and make up a maximum of 20 points. These assignments require you to be in class and to answer questions about the topics with which we are engaging and apply critical thinking skills. The IC writing instructions will be given to you during class. You will turn in the assignment at the end of class. Criteria for grading:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 0: You did not submit a response | 3: Your response demonstrates a partial understanding |
| 1: Your response indicates very little understanding | 4: Your response borders on a perfect understanding |
| 2: Your response indicates a little understanding | 5: Your response demonstrates a perfect understanding |

*Exams 1, 2, and 3**: are composed of 50 multiple-choice questions worth one point each. *Exam 1* will test your knowledge of the material covered in the first section of the course. *Exam 2* will test your knowledge of the material covered in the second section of the course but may refer to theories/perspectives/concepts in the first section of the course if referenced in second section material. *Exam 3 (Final Exam)* will test your knowledge of the material covered in the third section of the course but may refer to theories/perspectives/concepts covered in the first/second sections of the course if referenced in the final section material. See calendar below for dates of exams.

*The only way you can make up a missed exam is if you have an extreme situation that is documented. You may only reschedule the final exam if you can provide evidence that you have three or more final exams on the same day (note: CU policy states that you need to reschedule the *last* of the three exams on that day and it is your responsibility to provide final exam evidence no later than the end of the sixth week of the semester (**Friday, February 21, 2014**).

Group Project/Presentation: TBA - This project/presentation is worth a maximum of 50 points.

Course Schedule/Readings: All CJ chapters are to be read by the Monday of each week, unless otherwise specified. All other D2L assigned readings are divided by day under each D2L weekly reading folder. They must be read before the beginning of class on the day under which they are posted, unless otherwise specified. As such, you must check D2L for readings often. All readings will be posted at least 1-2 weeks in advance. We will engage the readings during lecture throughout the week. The following schedule and assigned readings are subject to change in the case of time limitations. We will announce, email, and post on D2L any changes. ***It is your responsibility*** to stay current with the course schedule, readings, and any changes.

Course Schedule: Week, Date, Topics, Readings, Tweets, Papers, Exams**CJ = Text and D2L = Check D2L for Articles each week!**

Week	Date	Topics	Day	Readings/Tweets/Papers/Exams
1	Jan. 13 15 17	<i>Introduction, Syllabus The Sociological Imagination Crime, Concepts, and Definitions</i>	M W F	D2L CJ: Chapter 1
2	Jan. 20 22 24	☺ Martin Luther King, Jr. ☺ <i>Criminological Theory</i>	M W F	☺ No Class ☺ CJ: Chapter 2; D2L
3	Jan. 27 29 31	<i>Measuring Crime and Victimization</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 3; D2L
4	Feb. 3 5 7	<i>Criminal Law</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 4; D2L Paper 1 Due
5	Feb. 10 12 14	<i>Law Enforcement</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 5; D2L Exam 1
6	Feb. 17 19 21	<i>Oversight & Professionalization of Law Enforcement</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 6; D2L
7	Feb. 24 26 28	<i>The Court System</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 7; D2L
8	Mar. 3 5 7	<i>Prior to and in the Courtroom</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 8; D2L Twitter Screenshot Log 1 Due
9	Mar. 10 12 14	<i>Sentencing</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 9; D2L
10	Mar. 17 19 21	<i>Jails and Prisons</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 10; D2L Exam 2
11	Mar. 24 26 28	☺ Spring Break ☺	M W F	☺ No Class ☺
12	Mar. 31 April 2 4	<i>Probation and Parole</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 11; D2L
13	April 7 9 11	<i>Corrections in the Community</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 12; D2L
14	April 14 16 18	<i>The Juvenile Justice System</i>	M W F	CJ: Chapter 13; D2L Paper 2 Due
15	April 21 23 25	<i>Crime Across Space, Time, and Country</i>	M W F	D2L Twitter Screenshot Log 2 Due
16	April 28 30 May 2	<i>Special Topics: Research on Crime</i>	M W F	
Exam	3	(Final Exam) Tues., May 6, 2014 1:30 - 4:00 pm		In ATLAS 100 --- STUDY!!!