Text

Objectives
1. Obtain a good working knowledge of criminological theory and its usefulness
2. Increase your understanding of criminal justice policy and how theory influences policy.
3. Learn how evaluation research can inform policy.
4. Gain a working knowledge of current issues and debates in criminology and criminal justice policy.
5. Gain a working knowledge of current research in criminology.
6. Contribute to knowledge in criminology by writing a research paper.

Requirements
1. Read the assigned articles and participate in the seminar.
   Please read the assigned material before coming to class and prepare at least two questions or discussion points about each article or chapter. Please come to class prepared to share your questions and points. I will assign different seminar members to lead the discussion. Think of how the readings relate to other theories, research, and issues in the criminal justice system.

2. Write a paper on a topic of your choosing.
   Each person will choose a topic for a paper and get it approved. The paper may be empirical or theoretical or both. I encourage you to think of a topic that could be publishable. Choose a topic that is of interest to you, that could make a contribution, and that is realistic in a semester.

3. Complete mid-term and final exam
   Mid-term and final exams are designed to assess your understanding of the theories and literature and your ability to apply them to different issues and situations.

Grades
Class participation = 20%
Midterm exam = 15%
Final exam = 15%
Paper = 50%
## Calendar: Sociology 681R-Winter 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>W 5</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview of Course</td>
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<td>M 10</td>
<td>Criminology as a Field: History &amp; Issues</td>
<td>Sherman, Laub, Clear, Uggen, Rafter</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>M 17</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>M 24</td>
<td>Present Paper Topics; Routine Activities Theory</td>
<td>Cohen, Felson, Osgood 1996, Osgood 2004</td>
<td>Paper topic</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>M 31</td>
<td>Biological Theories I</td>
<td>DeBrito, Vaughn</td>
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<td>Feb</td>
<td>W 2</td>
<td>Psychological Theories I</td>
<td>Akers Ch4, Boots, Caspi, Miller</td>
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<td>Psychological Theories II; Discuss Draft 1</td>
<td>Healy, Taxman, Walters</td>
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<td>Sutherland, Akers 1979, Akers Ch5</td>
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<td>Brauer, McGloin, Stoolmiller</td>
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<td>Mears, 1-4</td>
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<td>Mears, 5-7</td>
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<td>Life Course Theories I</td>
<td>Mears, 8-9, Wilson 2006</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>Final Exam: 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
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Readings

Criminology as a Field: History, Issues, Directions (1/10/2011)


Deterrence & Rational Choice Theories I (1/12/2011)


Deterrence & Rational Choice Theories II (1/19/2011)


Routine Activities Theory (1/24/2011)


**Biological Theories I (1/26/2011)**


**Biological Theories II (1/31/2011)**


**Psychological Theories I (2/2/2011)**


**Psychological Theories II (2/7/2011)**


Social Learning Theories I (2/9/2011)


Social Learning Theories II (2/14/2011)


Social Control Theories I (2/16, 2011)


Social Control Theories II (2/22/2011)


Labeling Theory (2/23/2011)


Social Disorganization Theories I (2/28/2011)


Social Disorganization Theories II (3/2/2011)


Anomie Theory (3/7/2011)


General Strain Theory I (3/14/2011)


**General Strain Theory II (3/16/2011)**


**Conflict Theories (3/21/2011)**


**Lifecourse Theories I (3/23/2011)**


**Lifecourse Theories II (3/28/2011)**


Integrated Theories I (3/30/2011)


Integrated Theories II (4/4/2011)


Evaluation & Policy (4/6, 4/11, 4/13/2011)