

CRIM 601 CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is an in-depth analysis of crime causation and social reactions to crime (including “paradigms” and “theories”), and also varieties of white-collar crimes as well as state-organized crimes.

REQUIRED READINGS:

(A) George B. Vold, Thomas J. Bernard, and Jeffrey B. Snipes (1998) --
Theoretical Criminology (Oxford University Press,
New York).

(B) S.M. Rosoff, Henry N. Pontell, and Robert H. Tillman (2004) –
*Profit Without Honor: White-Collar Crime and the Looting
of America* (Prentice-Hall).

REQUIREMENTS:

You will have one Mid-Term Exam and one Final Exam. Both exams will be take home. The format of both exams will be essay questions. You must be analytical and comprehensive in your answers. All answers must be typed, double-spaced. Your answers will be graded in terms of organization [sections], comprehensiveness, and quality of content. **You must follow the APA format in writing your answers.** For each exam, you will have two questions [50 points each]. Overall, for this course, you will have a total of 200 possible points.

DEADLINE for the MID-TERM EXAM:

DEADLINE for the FINAL EXAM:

These “deadlines” will NOT be changed. You will get the exam questions latest by {date}. You will have adequate time to work on your answers. Also, all the references you will use (to write answer to each question) must be listed on a separate page (at the end of each answer) in APA format with the heading REFERENCES.

TOPICS AND READINGS:

1. "Paradigms" in Criminological Theories
2. What is a "Theory"?
3. Theory and Crime (Ch. 1; Theo. Crim.)
4. The Demonic View: Otherworldly Interpretations of Crime/Deviance
5. Classical Criminology (Ch. 2; Theo. Crim.)
6. Positivist Criminology (Ch. 3; Theo. Crim.)
7. Theories Related to Physical Appearance (Ch. 4; Theo. Crim.)
8. Theories Related to Intelligence (Ch. 5; Theo. Crim.)
9. Biological Factors and Criminal Behavior (Ch. 6; Theo. Crim.)
10. Durkheim, Anomie, and Modernization (Ch. 9; Theo. Crim.)
11. Strain Theories (Ch. 11; Theo. Crim.)
12. The ecology of Crime (Ch. 10; Theo. Crim.)
13. Learning Theories (Ch. 12; Theo. Crim.)
14. Social Control Theories (Ch. 13; Theo. Crim.)
15. The Meaning of Crime (Ch. 14; Theo. Crim.)
16. Conflict Criminology (Ch. 15; Theo. Crim.)
17. Critical Criminology (Ch. 16; Theo. Crim.)
18. White-Collar Crimes
19. Crimes Against Consumers (Ch. 2; PWH)
20. Unsafe Products (Ch. 3; PWH)
21. Environmental Crime (Ch. 4; PWH)
22. Securities Fraud (Ch. 6; PWH)
23. Fiduciary Fraud: Crime in the Banking, Insurance, and Pension Fund Industries (Ch. 7; PWH)
24. Crimes by the Government (Ch. 8; PWH)
25. Medical Crime (Ch. 9; PWH)
26. Computer Crime (Ch. 10; PWH)

FINAL GRADE:

The Final Grade will be determined as follows:

180 and above	-- A
170 – 179	-- B+
160 – 169	-- B
150 – 159	-- C+
140 – 149	-- C
130 – 139	-- D+
120 – 129	-- D
Less than 120	-- F

The following is a list of “resources” you will need to read *before you organize and write your comprehensive answers to Take-Home Exam questions [both Mid-Term and Final]. Check ISU library holdings first; if unavailable at ISU library, use “Inter-Library Loan Office” services to get the resources.*

RESOURCES:

- Kramer, Ronald C. (1982) *The Debate over the Definition of Crime: Paradigms, Value Judgments, and Criminological Work*, in Frederick Elliston and Norman E. Bowie (ed) *Ethics, Public Policy, and Criminal Justice* (Oelgeschlager, Gunn, and Hain, Cambridge, MA).
- S.E. Brown, F. Esbensen, & G. Geis (2001) *Criminology: Explaining Crime and Its Context* (Anderson Publishing).
- S.H. Traub & C.B. Little (1999) *Theories of Deviance* (F. E. Peacock Publishers)
- C.M. Renzetti, D.M. Curran, & P.J. Carr (2003) *Theories of Crime: A Reader* (Allyn and Bacon).
- D.J. Curran & C.M. Renzetti (2001) *Theories of Crime* (Allyn and Bacon).
- Robert M. Bohm (2001) *A Primer on Crime and Delinquency Theory* (Wadsworth).
- F.T. Cullen & R. Agnew (2003) *Criminological Theory: Past and Present* (Roxbury).
- R. Paternoster & R. Bachman (2000) *Explaining Criminals and Crime: Essays in Contemporary Criminological Theory* (Roxbury).
- A.E. Liska & S.F. Messner (1999) *Perspectives on Crime and Deviance* (Prentice-Hall).
- R.D. Hunter & M.L. Dantzker (2002) *Crime and Criminality: Causes and Consequences* (Prentice-Hall).
- Steven E. Barkan (2001) *Criminology: A Sociological Understanding* (Prentice-Hall).
- Matthew B. Robinson (2004) *Why Crime? An Integrates Systems Theory of Antisocial Behavior* (Prentice-Hall).

Imogene L. Moyer (2001) *Criminological Theories* (Sage Publications).

Ronald L. Akers (2000) *Criminological Theories* (Roxbury).

William J. Chambliss (1988) *Exploring Criminology* (Macmillan Publishing).

Stephen J. Pfohl (1985) *Images of Deviance and Social Control* (McGraw-Hill).

R.L. Akers & C. Ellers (2003) *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application* (Roxbury).

Williams & McShane (1999) *Criminological Theory* (Prentice-Hall).

M.J. Lynch, R. Michalowski, & W.B. Groves (2000) *The New Primer in Radical Criminology: Critical Perspectives on Crime, Power, and Identity* (Criminal Justice Press).

James W. Coleman (2002) *The Criminal Elite* (Worth Publishers).

Neal Shover & John P. Wright (2001) *Crimes of Privilege: Readings in White-Collar Crimes* (Oxford University Press).

David M. Horton (2000) *Pioneering Perspectives in Criminology* (Copperhouse Publishing).

Jeffrey Reiman (2004) *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison* (Allyn and Bacon).

Samuel Walker (2001) *Sense and Nonsense About Crime and Drugs* (Wadsworth).

Diana Fishbein (2001) *Behavioral Perspectives in Criminology* (Wadsworth).

Henry N. Pontell (1999) *Social Deviance: Readings in Theory & Research* (Prentice-Hall).

A lot of other books are also available. It is a 600 level course; as a student, it is your responsibility to look for “resources”.