SOCIOLOGY 3 – CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

Fall 2017, Section #21394, INST. 1002
Mondays/Wednesdays 10:35AM – 12:00PM

Instructor: Jill Biondo, M.A.
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E-mail: biondojk@lamission.edu
Office Hours: Mondays/Wednesdays 9:00-10:35AM, 12:12:30PM; Tuesdays/Thursdays 8:40-8:55AM, 12:12:30PM and by appointment
Office Location: INST- Faculty Office 30
Required Textbook: John E. Conklin – Criminology, 11th Edition, Pearson Education. You can use a hard copy or electronic copy of the text; it’s up to you. There is also a book on reserve at the LAMC library. You may read it at the library for two hours at a time.

Class Website: http://lamission.edu/canvas
Here is a link that explains how to log in to our new course management system, Canvas: http://lmc-ddl.pbworks.com/w/page/107595354/Canvas%20Info
The Canvas hotline is listed in the link, and the general help desk for the college is 818-415-2015 or ilearn@lamission.edu. I can really only help you with enrollment issues, so please use those contacts if you have trouble getting into Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes(SLO):
Upon successful completion of Sociology 3, the student will be able to:
1) Identify the basic sociological explanations for criminal behavior and apply them to a variety of fact patterns.
2) Identify and describe effective strategies for preventing and controlling crime.
3) Summarize the types, patterns and costs of crimes.

Teaching Philosophy: My goal is for you to be successful in this class while strengthening your skills as a life-long learner. If you run into trouble, fear you’re falling behind or simply do not understand something, you should never hesitate to come see me during my office hours. Asking questions during class is, of course, welcomed as well. However, I understand some people may be too shy to ask a question in front of other students. So if you have a question but are too shy to ask during class, contact me, and we’ll figure out the answers together.

Course Requirements:

1) Syllabus Quiz: (10 points)
There is an online, untimed quiz covering the contents of THIS syllabus. The quiz is 10 multiple choice questions.

2) Participation and Attendance: (30 points)
Since Sociology is the study of people and their behavior, your participation is not only welcomed, but required. Attendance is mandatory in this class and points can be earned for students with two absences or less. I will allow two absences for the semester, then will deduct 10 points from your total points in the class every time you are absent for a total of 30 points. Students with excessive absences will not earn attendance points and students with three or more absences can be excluded from the class. You are responsible for dropping the class through the Admissions Office Online. Please be disciplined about your education and attend consistently. Enrolled students who are absent on the first day of class are subject to being dropped by the instructor.

Please be on time and plan to stay for the entire class. A late arrival or early departure--10 minutes or more -- is the equivalent of one absence. No walking in and out of class. Quizzes will frequently be administered during the first five minutes of class. Should you arrive late, you will not get credit for the quiz/class. Scores on quizzes go towards your participation and attendance points.
3) Social Costs of Crime Survey Research Project and Presentation: **(40 points)**

4) Crime and Theory Paper: **(50 points)**

6) Discussion Questions: **(10 points each; 110 points total)**
Each week we’ll begin a class with a class discussion focused on the week’s readings. In addition, each student will write a one page paper (worth 10 points each) covering the discussion questions. Students will then work in groups, sharing their answers, and then each group will share their findings with the entire class. Exam questions will be based, in part, on these class discussions/papers.

7) Exams (2 Midterm Exams and One Final Exam): **(140 points total)**
All exams will be in class exams which will focus on the general issues covered in class and the reading. Please note that not all material covered in the reading will be covered in class and vice versa. Thus, you are responsible for both reading and in-class material. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The first midterm is worth 50 points. The second midterm is worth 50 points. The final exam is worth 40 points.

*All papers must be typed, using fonts no bigger than 12 with margins no larger than one inch. Please use spell check. Late papers will not be accepted. Emailed papers will not be accepted – all work must be handed in on time in class. If you cannot make it to class the day something is due, you will need to make arrangements with a friend to get the class to the professor at the beginning of class.*

**Grade Scale:**
- 270 points – 300 points = A  
- 240-269 = B  
- 210-239 = C  
- 180-209 = D  
- 179 or below = F
  
  - 90% - 100% = A  
  - 80% – 89% = B  
  - 70% - 79% = C  
  - 60% - 69% = D  
  - 59% and below = F

**Classroom Etiquette:** Studying Sociology involves discussing topics that may be controversial such as race, gender, age, pornography, and sexual orientation. Respect should be given to peers and your instructor at all times. Treat others as you would like to be treated. Please plan to arrive to class on time and to stay the entire period. Turn off all phones and sound-emitting electronics upon entering the classroom, unless otherwise given permission. No video or audio recording in class, unless special permission is given.

**NO WALKING IN AND OUT OF CLASSROOM.**

**Computers:** You may use a laptop to take notes in class, however, if you do, you must sit in the front row.

**Tips for Success:** First, don’t be intimidated. There will be many terms/concepts with which you’re not familiar. This is natural. You’re here to learn, after all! Second, read the material, and when necessary, re-read the material. Highlight key points in your book, make notes in the margins. Third, come to class! Listen. Take notes. If I write something on the board, you should too! Ask questions! If you don’t understand something, know that you are not the only one. Fourth, do your work well and on time. Proof-read all work. Don’t wait until the last minute to begin assignments.
### Readings and Assignments:
Note: Chapter readings/article readings should be done prior to coming to class.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics and Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Syllabus, Introductions, Reading: Chapter 1 (Study of Crime)</td>
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<td>8/30</td>
<td>DISCUSSION QUESTION: (based on text) Do you think the punishment imposed on the ten-year-old murders was too harsh, too lenient, or appropriate? Why? (text page 5)</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>No Class – Labor Day</td>
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<td>9/6</td>
<td>Readings: Chapter 2 (Measuring Crime) + Article: “Why Mass Killers are Always Male”</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “Why Mass Killers are Always Male” article) Why might men be more “external in nature” while women might be more “internal in nature”? Do you agree that our society pushes/encourages men to be “warriors and hunters”? Is this a good or bad thing? Explain. Syllabus Quiz Due</td>
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<td>9/13</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 3 (Crime and its Costs)</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Social Costs of Crime Survey Project Discussion/Group Work</td>
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<td>9/20</td>
<td>Reading: Article: “A Star is Formed: Media Construction of the Female Criminal”</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “A Star is Formed” article) What is it about women criminals that attracts so much media attention? Is the media capable of creating female monsters who kill their children and abuse their loved ones, or is it done because females in crime are so rare?</td>
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<td>9/27</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 5, (Biological/Psychological Explanations of Crime)</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Social Costs of Crime Survey Research Project and Presentations Due</td>
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<td>10/4</td>
<td>DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on text) What do you think should be the minimum age at which a murderer becomes eligible for the death penalty? (page 98) What steps might Virginia Tech have taken to prevent Cho Seung-Hui’s rampage killing? (page 112)</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM 1 (Covering Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, and “A Star is Formed” and “Mass Killers/Male” articles)</td>
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<td>10/11</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 6 (Social/Cultural/Economic Sources of Crime) – pages 132-149 and article: “What Mass Killers Want”</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “What Mass Killers Want” article) What do you think about the author’s suggestions to discourage mass shootings? Does the public have the right to know all the details in mass murder cases? Should there be laws that limit the amount of information that the media presents or should the media regulate itself? Explain.</td>
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<td>10/18</td>
<td>Reading: article - “Youthful Killers: School Shootings” DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “Youthful Killers” article) In examining the traits of the school shooter, which do you believe are most accurate? Why? Do you believe that music and/or the Internet play an integral role in the motivation for school shootings? What are some ways to prevent these types of killings?</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 7 (Social Control)</td>
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|        | 10/25 | Reading: article - “Myths that Make it Difficult to Stop Campus Rape” DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “Myths that Make it Difficult to Stop
You are the president of UCLA. Let’s imagine that UCLA had 200 reported rapes last year. Students are outraged, parents up in arms. What are your first steps to combat this problem on your campus? How do you attempt to end campus rape?

Week 10 10/30  Reading: Chapter 8 (Learning to Commit Crime)

11/1  DISCUSSION QUESTION: (based on web research and in class film) Serial killer Ted Bundy attributed his crimes to the influence of pornography. Does pornography cause or contribute to crime? Do you think slasher films, which are not usually considered pornography, increase crime and delinquency? What would be the effect on crime of eliminating all restrictions on the public’s access to pornography?

Week 11 11/6  MIDTERM EXAM 2 (Cover Chapters 6, 7, 8, and “Youthful Killers,” and “Myths/Campus Rape” article)

11/8  Chapter 9 (Opportunities and Facilitating Factors)

Week 12 11/13  LIBRARY VISIT

11/15  DISCUSSION QUESTION: (based on text) What policies do you think would be most effective in reducing binge drinking and the consequences of it for college students? (page 222)
Reading: article - “The Disgruntled Employee Mass Killer”

Week 13 11/20  DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (based on “The Disgruntled Employee...” article) What is it about large agencies or governmental bureaucracies that makes them more frequent victims of disgruntled employee mass murderers? Discuss how changes in working conditions might reduce such violence.

11/22  Chapter 14 (Deterrence, Incapacitation, Retribution, Rehabilitation)

Week 14 11/27  DRAFT of Crime and Theory Paper Due

11/29  Chapter 15, (Reducing Crime) Crime and Theory Paper Due

Week 15 12/4  DISCUSSION QUESTION: (based on web research and text) Why is there sex offender registry (restricting places they may live, work places, etc.) but not a registry for other offenders? (Do some research at http://www.nsopw.gov/en) Are sex offender registries fair? Should we have a registry for domestic violence offenders? Or drug abusers? (also see page 365)

12/6  Chapter 15 (continued) + Review (if time permits)

Week 16 12/13  Final Exam 10am – noon (covering Chapters 9, 14, 15, Disgruntled Employee)

Social Sciences Department Policies (updated 8/17)

Cheating: Unauthorized material used during an examination (including electronic devices), changing answers after work has been graded, taking an exam for another student, forging or altering attendance sheets or other documents in the course, looking at another student’s paper/scantron/essay/computer or exam with or without their approval is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment/exam and be referred to the department chair and/or Student Services for further disciplinary action.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as the act of using ideas, words, or work of another person or persons as if they were one’s own, without giving proper credit to the original sources. This includes definitions found online on Wikipedia, materials from blogs, twitter, or other similar electronic resources. The following examples are intended to be representative, but not all inclusive: failing to give credit by proper citations for others’ ideas and concepts, data and information, statements and phrases, and/or interpretations and conclusions; failing to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another source, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or a part thereof;
paraphrasing the expressions or thought by others without appropriate quotation marks or attribution; and/or representing another’s artistic/scholarly works such as essays, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures or similar works as one’s own. First offense: you will receive a zero for the assignment in question. Any further offenses may result in expulsion from the class, as determined by the Office of Student Services.

Recording devices: Recording devices in the classroom - Section 78907 of the California Education Code prohibits the use of any electronic audio or video recording devices, without prior consent of the instructor (including cell phones, laptops, MP3 players, and more).

Reasonable Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and require accommodations, please send me a private email. The sooner I am aware of your eligibility for accommodations, the quicker I will be able to assist the DSP&S Office in providing them. For students requiring accommodations, the DSP&S Office at Mission College provides special assistance in areas like: registering for courses, specialized tutoring, note-taking, mobility assistance, special instruction, testing assistance, special equipment, special materials, instructor liaisons, community referrals and job placement. If you have not done so already, you may also wish to contact the DSP&S Office in Instructional Building 1018 (phone 818/364-7732 TTD 818/364-7861) and bring a letter stating the accommodations that are needed.

Management of Stress and Mental Health: As a student, not only do you have the pressure of succeeding in school, you may also be contending with work, financial issues, relationships, managing time effectively, getting enough sleep, etc. The staff and faculty of LAMC are here to provide support that will help you to be successful in your academic pursuits. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential student services offered on campus, including counseling and mental health services, by either visiting the Student Health Center (SHC), located between the President’s Office and Administrative Services, checking out the SHC webpage at: https://www.lamission.edu/healthcenter/ or calling: 818 362-6182. I also encourage you to enter the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number (1-800-273-8255) into your cell phone in case you or someone you know is in distress and needs someone with whom to talk.

Please program the Campus Sheriff’s number into your cell phone: (818) 364-7843

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course as necessary by written statement. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of these changes.