

**Crime and Punishment  
Spring 2009**

**Professor: Mary Maguire, Ph.D.**

**Office: Alpine 104**

**Lecture: TR 9:00am – 10:15am, Alpine Hall Room 148**

**Office hours: TR: 11:00am -12:00pm and T: 1:30pm – 2:30pm and by appointment.**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

As stated in the CSUS catalogue, Crime and Punishment provides an overview of functions of crime control with a special emphasis on the historical and philosophical development of criminal punishment imposed collectively by the State and the society. A survey of major theories and research on the rationality and moral justification of crime, crime control, and treatment of offenders. A study of social significance and typology of criminal punishment. The course will assist students with the following:

1. Demonstrate a competent level of understanding of the various schools of criminological theory and identify basic conceptualizations of each theory and its historical development.
2. Describe the role that politics, diversity, the economy, social order, and social structure play in the construction of crime and criminal sanctions.
3. Identify and describe the social and legal significance of criminal behavior, its effects on victims of crime, and the victims' role in the sanctioning process.
4. Appraise crime control policies, debate the pros and cons of current crime legislation and create counter-arguments.
5. Demonstrate a competent level of understanding of the application of ethics and scientific research to crime control strategies.

**REQUIRED BOOKS:**

Walsh, A. & Ellis, L. (2007) *Criminology: An interdisciplinary approach*.  
Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications

*At the discretion of the instructor, additional readings may be assigned throughout the course of the semester.*

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**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

(4) Examinations	75%
(1) Topic Paper	25%

**■ Examinations**

There are four exams in this course. There will be no make-up mid-term exams unless you advise me ahead of the exam day of a valid need to reschedule. There will be no make-up final exams.

**Students are expected to take the exams when they are scheduled.** Those who are more than 15 minutes late for a regularly scheduled examination, or those who are excused from a regularly scheduled examination must take a make-up exam. Make-up exams, whether necessitated by an excused or non-excused absence, will be docked ten points to compensate for the additional study time the late exam allowed.

**■ Topic Paper**

This course is designed to promote a learning community that embodies the social construction of knowledge. To do this, everyone's perspective is needed. Additionally, one of the best ways to strengthen understanding of a concept is to explain it to someone else. To ensure everyone's ability to participate in class, as well as optimal learning, each student, along with at least one of his/her peers will be responsible for assisting with class discussions for the assigned period.

For this assignment, the student will hand in a reflection paper on the assigned chapter and be prepared to participate fully in the class discussion of the chapter. A detailed written explanation of the assignment will be handed out in class and available on WebCT.

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**GRADING SCALE:**

A = 93-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 76-79	D+ = 66-69	F = below 60
A- = 90-92	B = 83-86	C = 73-75	D = 63-65	
	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72*	D- = 60-62	

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** CRJ 110 is a core course so CRJ majors must earn a grade of C- or better to avoid having to re-take it.

**Grading Rubric:** Written work will be graded on both substance and quality of writing. The following grading rubric is generally followed:

**A** grades are awarded by work that goes above and beyond the required assignment. This includes work that has been carefully edited and contains no grammatical errors, work that uses multiple sources outside of assigned course material, and that provides a solid analysis and synthesis of material in a well organized manner.

**B** grades are awarded to work of excellent quality. This includes work that is well organized, has few grammatical errors, and that provides a strong analysis of the material studied.

**C** grades are awarded to average work. This includes work that meets the requirements of the assignment, is organized in a cohesive and acceptable manner and that illustrates a command of the material studied.

**D** grades are awarded to below average work but work that indicates an attempt was made at a C grade. This includes work in which minimal assignment requirements were almost, but not quite met. This work is completed on time but it appears there was no attempt to edit, leaving it difficult to read.

**F** grades are awarded for assignments that are not completed; that are not close to meeting the assignment requirements or are not coherent.

**Incomplete grades** will not be given unless there is a legitimate reason why the student cannot complete the required work during the semester. A failing grade is not considered a legitimate excuse.

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### **CLASS POLICIES AND MISCELLANEOUS SURVIVAL SKILLS:**

**ATTENDANCE; PARTICIPATION; BEING ON TIME:** This course is designed to promote a learning community. To this end, we will strive to build a cohesive learning group in which everyone's perspective is not only welcome but needed. Therefore, it is important that all members of the class can express their ideas in a respectful environment. **Any actions that might tend to limit freedom of expression are highly discouraged and come back to haunt you in your final grade.** Please be considerate of your fellow classmates. Fifteen percent of your grade will be based on your participation during class. If you miss class, please see a friend to get what you missed.

**LATE WORK: Papers must be turned in on or before their due date.** If you are going to miss class on an assignment due date it is your responsibility to turn in your paper early. Late papers will be docked five points for every day they are late. On time constitutes the beginning of the class the paper is due.

**AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT:** Students with any form of disability requiring academic accommodation must register with the Services to Students with Disabilities, and speak with me about special needs within the first week of class. Official documentation will be required to verify any necessary accommodations. The SSWD web address is: <http://www.csus.edu/sswd/> and the phone number is 916-278-6955.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** All materials submitted in fulfillment of course requirements must conform to the Academic Integrity Code and to the usual academic standards governing appropriate testing behavior . . . but here's the Reader's Digest version: **Don't cheat. It will end in tears.** If you are caught cheating, you will automatically receive a failing grade for this course, among other possible consequences.

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#### **TENTATIVE TOPICS AND READING SCHEDULE:**

**Classes and/or Quizzes in red will be held on WebCT**

<b>Week 1:</b>	Jan 27 Jan 29	Welcome and Introduction to Crime and Punishment W&E Ch 1 Crime and Punishment
<b>Week 2:</b>	Feb 3 Feb 5	Ch 3 Classical paradigm Ch 3 Positivist paradigm
<b>Week 3:</b>	Feb 10 Feb 12	W&E Ch 4 Social Structure: Ecology W&E Ch 5 Social Process: Differential Association
<b>Week 4:</b>	Feb 17 Feb 19	Exam Review Study Groups
<b>Week 5:</b>	Feb 24 Feb 26	<b>Exam I</b> Evaluation of Social Process theories; Read Ch 6
<b>Week 6:</b>	Mar 3 Mar 5	W&E Ch 6 Marx Film
<b>Week 7:</b>	Mar 10 Mar 12:	W&E Ch 6 Conflict Theory and Feminism W&E Ch 7 Psychological Theories

<b>Week 8:</b>	Mar 17: Mar 19:	Film Evaluation of Conflict Theory and Psychological Theories; Discussion Post
<b>Week 9:</b>	Mar. 24: Mar 26:	Exam Review <b>Exam II</b>
<b>Week 10:</b>	Mar 31: Apr 2:	<b>SPRING BREAK</b> <b>SPRING BREAK</b>
<b>Week 11:</b>	Apr 7: Apr 9:	W&E Ch 8 Biological Theories W&E Ch 9 Development
<b>Week 12:</b>	Apr 14: Apr 16:	Group Presentation: Terrorism Film: Post 9-11
<b>Week 13:</b>	Apr 21: Apr 23:	Group Presentation: Alcohol and Drugs Group Presentation: Property and Public Order
<b>Week 14:</b>	Apr 28: Apr 30:	Group Presentation: Violent Crime Group Presentation: White Collar Crime/Organized Crime
<b>Week 15:</b>	May 5: May 7:	Group presentation: Serial, Mass & Spree Murder Exam Review
<b>Week 16:</b>	May 12: May 14:	<b>Exam III</b> Final Review
<b>Final</b>		<b>Finals Week</b>

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