

Blinn College * Spring 2010
Criminology 2336 - Core Curriculum - Course Information Sheet

Instructor Shonda Whetstone

Office A242

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1:00 – 2:00pm

Tues/Thurs. 8:30-10:30am

Fri. 9:00 – 11:00am

Or By Appointment

E-mail: shonda.whetstone@blinn.edu

Phone 979-209-7333

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Criminology 2336 examines theories and research in regards to the causes of crime, methods of prevention, systems of punishment, and means of rehabilitation.

PREREQUISITES

Appropriate score on the THEA test or alternative test completion of READ 0306 with a grade of "C" or better. Three class hours per week. Credit: Three semester hours

CORE CURRICULUM COURSE

For details see: www.blinn-col.edu/corecurriculum.htm

COURSE OBJECTIVES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of Criminology 2336, students should be able to:

- identify social influences on the criminalization of a behavior
- explain social reasons for historical trends and geographical variations in crime rates
- distinguish between social psychological and social organizational explanations for criminal behavior
- explain social strategies to prevent criminal behavior
- describe inequalities in the criminal justice system.
- describe social factors that create risk for criminal victimization
- assess deterrent and rehabilitative effects of sentencing alternatives
- identify social factors influencing police and their ability to apprehend criminals

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Text: Criminology The Core by Larry J. Siegel 3rd Edition
- Scantrons, notebook paper, and #2 pencils

ADA STATEMENT

Reasonable accommodations will be made for documented disabilities. Students must present as soon as possible for the instructor to arrange accommodations. Information regarding procedures for documenting disabilities can be obtained from the Counseling office.

ATTENDANCE

Students are required to promptly and regularly attend each class. The roll will be completed at the beginning of each class. Students who arrive after the roll has been completed may receive an absence or tardy, at the discretion of the instructor. Students that arrive after the roll has been completed are responsible for requesting a tardy instead of an absence. The Social Sciences division policy indicates that three tardies will count as one unexcused absence. Attendance is not optional but mandatory. An absence can be considered excused if the instructor receives proper documentation of the absence within one week of the absence. A student accumulating one week of unexcused absences, during the semester, will receive an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact their instructor and schedule an conference immediately to discuss their attendance issues.

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE

The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in College. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and /or the first day the student's name appears on the roster through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of unexcused absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. Should the student accumulate two weeks worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class.

There are four forms of unexcused absences recognized by Blinn College:

- Observance of religious holy days.
- Representing the College District at an official institutional function.
- A high school student representing the independent school district at an official institutional function.
- military leave/duty

Other absences may be excused at the discretion of the faculty member, with proper documentation.

CIVILITY STATEMENT

Members of Blinn College Community, which includes faculty, staff, and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others. If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor: it is the responsibility of the student to request/arrange this conference.

BLINN POLICIES

Blinn College does not tolerate cheating or plagiarism. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. Cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away while in the classroom.

GRADING

Coursework that has been assigned is due at the beginning of class when requested. Any assignments turned in after this time will be considered late and points will be deducted from the students grade. Also in order to receive credit for any late assignments students must complete a late assignment sheet and attach. Students must provide an explanation as to why the assignment is being turned in late. There are no scheduled make-up exams, coursework, or participation points.

GRADING RUBERIC

The student's final grade in the course will be based on the following:

Final Exam	100 points
Exams 1,2,3, & 4	300 points (the lowest test grade is dropped)
Coursework	100 points
Participation	100 points

Total Possible Points	600
-----------------------	-----

The students grade will be calculated by dividing the number of points completed by the number of possible points. For example, if a student completes 500 points... $500/600 = 83$therefore the students final grade B.

PARTICIPATION

The expectation is for students to attend class as well as to participate. Please note that student participation does count towards the students final grade. Participation grades include writing assignments, class discussion, readings, and class activities.

COURSEWORK

During the semester students will be provided a variety of coursework. Assignments may include writing assignments, individual reports, group projects, and Exams.

EXAMS

There will be four regular exams administered during the semester. One Final Exam will be administered. The lowest exam grade of the four regular exams administered will be dropped. (The Final exam grade does count and will not be considered as one of the lowest grades to drop). Since there are no make-up exams offered...dropping the lowest exam grade would help improve the students grade...should a student have missed an exam for some reason.

STUDENT E-MAIL ACCOUNTS

All Blinn students receive e-mail accounts. All official correspondence will be sent to this e-mail address. (ex. Notification of unexcused absences etc.) Students should activate and check their e-mail accounts. Instructions can be found at <http://www.blinn.edu/acadtech/studentemail/> or by searching for student e-mail on the Blinn Home Page.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Provided dates reflect the entire week. For example, Jan.19th reflects the week of Jan. 19 - 23, and all applicable class dates. (ex. Mon/Wed/Fri or Tues/Thurs)

		Coursework	Pt s	
I	Crime Concepts			
	Jan 19th	Criminology Introduction Criminology		
	Jan 26th	Crime and Criminology	Chapter 1	
		Crime and Criminology	Chapter 1 cont.	
	Feb. 2nd	Nature and extent of crime	Chapter 2	
		Victims and Victimization	Chapter 3	
	Feb. 9th	CJ System/Overflow	Chapter 14	
		Exam #1 - Thursday	covering Chapters 1,2,3, & 14	10 0
	II.	Theories of Crime		
		Feb. 16th	Choice Theories	Chapter 4
Choice cont.			Chapter 4	
Feb. 23rd		Trait Theory	Chapter 5	
		Trait cont.	Chapter 5	
March 2nd		Social Structure	Chapter 6	
		Social Structure cont	Chapter 6	
March 9th		Overflow/Review		
		Exam #2 - Thursday	covering chapters 4,5, &6	10 0
March 15th - 19th		Spring Break	No Classes	Spring Break...
III.	Theories/Typologies			
	March 23rd	Film Project cont.		
	March 30th	Social Process/labeling	Chapter 7	
		Social Conflict	Chapter 8	
	April 6th	Developmental Theories	Chapter 9	
		Exam #3 - Thursday	Covering chapters 7, 8 & 9	10 0
	April 13th	Public Order Crime	Film Project due	50
		Public Order Crime T: Ch13		
	IV.	Crime Typologies		
		April 20th	Public Order Crime	Chapter 13
Exam #4 - Thursday			covering chapters 10, 11, & 13	10 0

April 27th	Presentations Due	50
	Presentations	
May 4th	Presentations	
	Last Class day	
Final Exam 2010		10 0

Class	Date	Exam Time
T/Th 10:35am	Thurs. May 6th	10:15 - 12:15