



Broward College

Course Outline

STATUS: A

COMMON COURSE NUMBER: SYG 2323

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Criminology

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS BREAKDOWN:

Lecture/Discussion 48

Lab

Other

Contact Hours/Week 3

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: None

Corequisite: None

A study of crime and criminal behavior, and its cause and related effects on society, with an emphasis given to criminal theory, and the sociological implications of criminal behavior.

General Education Requirements - Associate of Arts Degree, meets Area(s):
 General Education Requirements - Associate in Science Degree, meets Area(s):

UNIT TITLES:

1. Criminology: Criminal Characteristics and Theories of Criminology
2. Crimes and Criminal Offenders
3. The Criminal Justice System

I. Course Overview:

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to understand the theories and history of crime; the criminal and the Criminal Justice System; the various types of crime and criminals with the sociological implications for the general public; the court system; the police and the correctional services.

II. Units:

Unit 1. Criminology: Criminal Characteristics and Theories of Criminology

General Outcome:

1.0 The students should be able to demonstrate an awareness of the definition of crime from the aspects of legal terminology; the theories involved in explaining criminal behavior, and the compilation of data and reporting of crime and criminal characteristics.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 1.1 Define what constitutes a crime, who the criminal is, and how the theories of crime apply to society and the data on crime.
- 1.2 Compare crime historically and to present day and time.
- 1.3 Describe criminal characteristics.
- 1.4 Contrast theories of crime
 - a. Biological and Psychological Theories
 - b. Sociological Theories
- 1.5 Describe the production and use of crime data

Unit 2. Crimes and Criminal Offenders

General Outcome:

2.0 The students should be able to describe the various types of crimes committed, the types of individuals involved, the cost to the general public, the victims, the bases for incidence of crimes.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Contrast interpersonal violence from various viewpoints relative to causes, and the subcultures of violence.
- 2.2 Describe robbery or theft by violence, including the types of robbery offenders from the amateur to the professional, with reactions of the victims and the public.
- 2.3 Identify varieties of non-violent crime; the history of prevalence; the distribution; and the occasional and professional criminals involved.
- 2.4 Describe occupational or white-collar crimes and the involvement of employees, employers, business people, and public officials.
- 2.5 Narrate the history of organized crime, present incidence, and discuss future trends.
 - a. The mafia
 - b. Juvenile gangs
 - c. Terrorist groups
- 2.6 Describe the drug scene: The history of drug use; legislation, past, present and future; types of drugs, legal and illegal; and effect on attitude of public, the police, and the courts.
- 2.7 Identify various sex crimes; the history of sex laws, past and present; public attitudes; and the selective enforcement of sex laws by the Criminal Justice System.
- 2.8 Describe juvenile delinquency in a legal and social context.

Unit 3. The Criminal Justice System

General Outcome:

- 3.0 The students should be able to describe the Criminal Justice System from the local to the state, federal, and international level, the Judicial System from arrest to the charges, decision to prosecute, consequences of punishment, and the politics of crime.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 The history and growth of the police force.
- 3.2 Describe the police force at work, i.e., police authority, discriminatory decisions, and the use of force.
- 3.3 Describe the criminal court system: Detention, bail decision to prosecute, plea bargaining, trial, sentencing and sentence disparities.
- 3.4 Explain the punishing of the criminal offender, justification and aims, and penalties or sentences vs. fines or probation.
- 3.5 Identify the consequence of punishment, as a deterrent factor for prevention of future crime; reformation and/or rehabilitation concepts; imprisonment; prison types and subcultures.
- 3.6 Describe crime and public policy, and identify new approaches in use or proposed to deal with rise in crime.

Special ~~Student~~ Projects:

Term paper on a subject relating to criminology with bibliography of at least five (5) sources, and concluding personal commentary on the subject selected.