

AJ 224: Criminology

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2025	Instructor Name:	George Chavarria
Course Title & #:	AJ 224: Criminology	Email:	george.chavarria@imperial.edu
CRN #:	11076	Office #:	760-355-6280
Classroom:	3212	Office Hours:	FACE TO FACE ROOM 3212: Tuesday and Thursday 12:45 to 1:00 PM Thursday 10:20 to 11:20 AM ONLINE: Monday 9:30 to 11:00 AM
Class Dates:	08/11/2025 – 12/06/2025	Emergency Contact:	Rhonda Ruiz: 760-355-6280
Class Days:	Monday/Wednesday	Units:	3.0
Class Times:	01:00 PM – 02:45 PM	Class Format:	Face-to-Face (On Campus)

Course Description

This course explores the nature of crime, measurement and research of crime, the extent of crime, major theories of crime causation, criminal typologies, criminal justice system response to crime, and societal reaction to crime. (C-ID: SOCI 160) (CSU)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

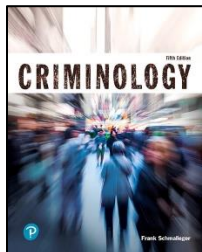
1. Identify criminal behavior.
2. Describe the various types of methods used to measure criminal activity.
3. Identify common theories regarding criminal behavior and pathology.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify criminal behavior and explain the development of Criminology as a science.
2. Describe the various types of methods used to measure criminal activity.
3. Recognize the most common characteristics of both the victim and the criminal.
4. Compare and contrast the Classical, Biological and Psychological Theories of crime causation.
5. Explain Social Structure, Process and Conflict Theories relating to crime causation.
6. Identify the various types of behavior classified as violent crime.
7. Recognize conditions that are necessary for the classification of an Economic Crime.
8. Describe a Public Order Crime.
9. Compare and contrast the components of the Criminal Justice System.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links



Criminology

Edition: 5th

ISBN: 9780135186251 (Paperback)

Author: Schmalleger

Publisher: Pearson Education

Copyright Year: 2020

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Instructional Methods: Audio Visual, Computer-Assisted Instruction, Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activity, Lecture.

Out of Class Assignments: Students may research case studies as part of extra-credit assignments.

Reading and Writing: Students will be required to read course material prior to class and participate in discussions during class. Students will be required to complete research paper on case study or similar area within criminology field.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Assignment Descriptors	Points
Quizzes	100
Mid-term	100
Final	100
Research Paper	100
Total	400

Grade	Points Required
A	360-400 points
B	320-359 points
C	280-319 points
D	240-279 points
F	0-239 points

Extra Credit: Up to 30 points in extra credit can be earned for an online assignment which will be announced at a later time. **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED AND THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP ON QUIZZES OR EXAMS.**

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

Attendance: A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.

- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absence exceeds the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Online Netiquette: "Netiquette" refers to the rules of behaving well online. It can be more difficult to discern meaning in written text than in spoken conversation, so pay particular attention to your words. Keep your language clear and concise; ensure posts are on-topic; use correct spelling, grammar, and capitalization (all caps = yelling); and contribute productively to conversations.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week 1 – 08/11-13/25	Syllabus Review and Class Introduction
PART 1	Criminology Explained – <i>The Evil Men (and Women) Do</i>
Week 2 – 08/18-20/25	Ch1: What Is Criminology? <i>Understanding Crime and Criminals</i> Library Tour
PART 2	Crime Causation – <i>What We Do and Why We Do It</i>
Week 3 – 08/25-27/25	Ch2: Classical and Neoclassical Criminology – <i>Choice & Consequences</i> / Quiz #1
Week 4 – 09/01-03/25	*MONDAY 09/01: CAMPUS CLOSED – Labor Day* Ch3: Early Biological Perspectives on Criminal Behavior – <i>It's What We Are</i> / Quiz #2
Week 5 – 09/08-10/25	Ch4: Biosocial and Other Contemporary Perspectives – <i>Interaction is Key</i> / Quiz #3
Week 6 – 09/15-17/25	Ch5: Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behavior – <i>It's How We Think</i> / Quiz #4
Week 7 – 09/22-24/25	Ch6: Social Structure – <i>It's Where and How We Live</i> / Quiz #5
Week 8 – 09/29-10/01	Ch7: Social Process and Social Development – <i>It's What We Learn</i> / Quiz #6
Week 9 – 10/06-08/25	Ch8: Social Conflict and Emergent Theories – <i>It's How We Relate</i> / Quiz #7
Week 10 – 10/13-15/25	Midterm on Chapters 1-8

PART 3	The Crime Picture– <i>It's Not Pretty</i>
Week 11 – 10/20-22/25	Ch9: Criminal Victimization – <i>It's Personal</i> / Quiz # 8
Week 12 – 10/27-29/25	Ch10: Crimes Against Persons – <i>What We Fear</i> Ch11: Crimes Against Property – <i>It's What We Lose</i> / Quiz #9 *Research Papers Due*
Week 13 – 11/03-05/25	Ch12: White-Collar and Organized Crime – <i>Crime as a Job</i> Ch13: Drug and Sex Crimes – <i>Recreational Offenses</i> / Quiz #10 *Presentations Scheduled for Week 15 – 11/18-20/2025*
PART 4	Crime in the Modern World – <i>Today's Headlines</i>
Week 14 – 11/10-12/25	*MONDAY 11/10: CAMPUS CLOSED – Veterans Day* Ch14: Technology and Crime – <i>It's a Double-Edged Sword</i> Ch15: Globalization and Terrorism – <i>Our Small World</i> *In-class group assignment for extra points*
Week 15 – 11/17-19/25	*Student Presentations*
Week 16 – 11/24-29/25	CAMPUS CLOSED – Thanksgiving
Week 17 – 12/02-04/25	Review and Final Exam on Chapters 9-15

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****