

**San José State University  
Justice Studies Department  
JS 151-01, Criminology Theory, Fall 2020**

**Contact Information**

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**Office Hours:** By Zoom Appointment  
**Classroom:** SJSU Canvas

**Course Format**

This course adopts an online classroom delivery format. You will need the access to the internet, computer, and video/word processing software, in order for students to participate in the classroom activities. See [University Policy F13-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details.

**MYSJSU Messaging**

You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU. Course materials including syllabus, notes, assignment, and journal articles can be found on the Canvas website. I will respond to your email within 48 hours from Monday to Friday. ***All email correspondence should contain your name, class title, and section.*** If you are having difficulty with the material or an assignment, please email me your questions before the Friday when it is due.

**Course Description**

Analysis of the nature and extent of crime, including causation and prevention. Description of offenses, criminal typologies and victim surveys. Evaluation of various control and prevention strategies. Prerequisite: JS 10, JS 12, JS 25 or FS 11 Pre/Co-requisite: JS 100W Note: Must achieve a grade “C” or better to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements.

**Course Goals**

The goals of the course are: (1) to be familiar with various perspectives of criminal behavior, underlying assumptions of these perspectives and key terms; (2) to assess and analyze research concerning current issues in crime and the criminal justice system critically; and (3) to see linkage between theories, research and practical social control policies.

**Student Learning Objectives are as follows:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

SLO #1 Demonstrate an ability to integrate and apply different theoretical perspectives to explain a range of specific criminal offenses, and be able to compare and construct the strengths and weaknesses of those theories.

SLO #2 Demonstrate substantive knowledge about the measurement of crime and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of major sources of crime data.

SLO #3 Show substantive knowledge about the extent and severity of formal and informal responses to various types of crime and offenders.

SLO#4 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the prevalence of various types of crime, and the characteristics of likely offenders and victims

### **Required Texts:**

TJ Bernard, JB Snipes & AL Gerould & GB Vold (2015) Vold's Theoretical Criminology. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780199964154

Frank Schmalleger (2018) Criminology, 4th Edition. ISBN: 9780134548647

### **Other Readings**

Articles on Canvas

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of *for -fi e ho r for each ni of credi*, including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. *La e home ork, di c ion po , q i e and e am ill no be accep ed.*

**Requirements:** You are required to read all books, book chapters, and articles in advance. Your grade is based on online discussion in Canvas, quizzes, a midterm essay, and a final exam.

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**Quizzes:** All quizzes will be posted in Canvas Modules. Quizzes may include multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions.

**Midterm essay:** The midterm essay question will ask you to apply two criminological theories to a crime related movie. You are expected to elaborate on how the chosen criminological theories can explain the movie characters' behaviors. Your essay should be double-spaced, with one-inch margins using a 12-point font Times New Roman. The essay should be three pages at a minimum without counting the reference page. You should put your word count at the bottom of your answer (do not count the words in the question itself). Please incorporate information from the Textbook Readings, discussion questions, and other Resources or Content covered in your discussion. More details will be provided in Canvas.

**Final Examination:** Final exam is scheduled on Monday, December 14, 7:15-9:30 AM. The final exam will be comprehensive, and it will be "closed book" tests that will require you to incorporate materials discussed and presented in class with the assigned readings. The format of the Final Exam will be multiple choice, true/false, and essay.

### **Grading Information**

You will not be able to drop the class after the official DROP Day except when you have medical emergency with your doctor's note. There will be no make-ups for your missed exams. There will be only one exception to this policy. Those student2 (o t) 04.6191 430n97 JTJ ETs poli

## **Justice Studies Department Reading and Writing Philosophy**

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives—personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic

## Tentative Class Schedule

Topic	Readings / Resources
Introduction Overview of syllabus and course material <a href="#">Respondus Monitor Test</a>	Class Orientation
Theory and empiricism	Bernard et al. Chapter 1
What Is Criminology? Understanding Crime	Schmallegger Chapter 1 Bernard et al. Chapter 2
Classical and Neoclassical Criminology	Schmallegger Chapter 2 Bernard et al. Chapter 3
Biological Roots of Criminal Behavior	Schmallegger Chapter 3 Bernard et al. Chapter 4
Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behavior	Schmallegger Chapter 5 Bernard et al. Chapter 5
Social Structure	Schmallegger Chapter 6 Bernard et al. Chapter 6,7,&8
Social Process and Social Development	Schmallegger Chapter 7 Bernard et al. Chapter 9,10,&11
Social Conflict	Schmallegger Chapter 8 Bernard et al. Chapter 12&13
Crimes against Persons and Property	Schmallegger Chapter 9&10&11
White-Collar and Organized Crime	Schmallegger Chapter 12