The mission of Motlow State Community College is to enrich and empower its students and the community it serves.

CRJM/SOCI 2400 Introduction to Criminology  

CRN:

This Course Outline is subject to change with notice.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

Catalog Description: This course is a study of crime and criminal behavior. Topics examined include the nature of crime, its measurement and forms, the social dimensions and correlates of crime, major theories of criminal and delinquent behavior, and possible solutions to the crime problem.

Group for Whom the Class is Intended: This course is intended for students pursuing the following degrees and programs of study: Students following the Criminal Justice Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associates of Science (A.S.) Tennessee Transfer Pathway (TTP); students following the Pre-Law area of emphasis; students aspiring to careers in law enforcement, the judicial system, and/or the correctional system; and for those interested in the subject of criminal justice.

Instructor Information:

Name, Rank, and Title:
Office Location:
Office Hours (13 per week for full-time faculty):
Academic Advising Hours (2 per week for full-time faculty):
Office Phone Number and Email Address:

Required Texts:
Please refer to the official Departmental Textbook Information document which is located on the Social Sciences Home page

Program Learning Goals:
1. Students will gain a foundational understanding of the major theories used in the field of criminology.
2. Students will think critically about crime and criminality and evaluate competing theoretical perspectives.
3. Students will undergo a consideration of criminality and its nature and extent.
4. Students will evaluate and analyze societal reactions to deviance and criminality at the regional, national, and international level.
5. Students will gain insight into crime prevention through the study of crime causation.
6. Students will gain insight into the global nature of deviance and criminality through the study of comparative criminology.
Course Objectives: Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity . . .
1. Explain what is meant by the term “criminology” and describe what a criminologist does.
2. Describe the similarities and differences between deviance and criminality.
3. Explore topics of lawmaking and policymaking.
4. Outline the seven basic elements of crime, and the various excuses and justifications that may be used as defenses.
5. Define the various methods used in data collection in criminological research.
6. Discuss the various types of crime statistics and their strengths and limitations.
7. Discuss the various characteristics by which criminals are classified.
8. Examine key terms and criminologists.
9. Describe how Durkheim’s anomie theory has contributed to the study of criminology.
10. Explain how Freud’s psychoanalytic theory has impacted the field of criminology.
11. Describe how criminal motivation may be explained using moral development, attachment, social learning, and personality theories.
12. Describe the characteristics of the criminal psychopath.
13. Discuss mental disorders and the insanity defense.
14. Outline the various studies within the field of biocriminology.
15. Describe the public policy applications that have followed the theories studied, and discuss their efficacy.
16. Discuss the concept of situational crime prevention.
17. Discuss the advent of victim’s rights.
18. Discuss the subspecialty of comparative criminology, including the requirements for successful comparative research.
19. Define/compare/contrast transnational and international crime.

Major Assignments and Method for Calculating the Final Grade:

This course utilizes a points system in the calculation of the final grade as follows:

Grading Policies:
Grading Scale:

A =
B =
C =
D =
F =

Make-Up Policy/Extra Credit:
**Course Policies:**

**Academic Misconduct Policy:**
Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. Based on their professional judgment, instructors have the authority to impose the following academic sanctions: (a) require the student to repeat the assignment for full or partial credit; (b) assign a zero, an F, or any other grade appropriate for the assignment or examination; (c) assign an F for the course. In addition, disciplinary sanctions may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures. For more information, see MSCC Policy 3:02:00:03.

**Classroom Misconduct Policy:**
The instructor has the primary responsibility for maintenance of academic integrity and controlling classroom behavior, and can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct that violates the general rules and regulations of the institution for each class session during which the conduct occurs. Extended or permanent exclusion from the classroom, beyond the session in which the conduct occurred, or further disciplinary action can be effected only through appropriate procedures of the institution.

Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (e.g., offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevent concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), text messaging, and the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (e.g., disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games, etc.). For more information, see MSCC Policy 3:02:00:03.

**Emergency Procedures Policy:**
In case of a medical emergency we will immediately dial 9-911 and report the nature of the medical emergency to emergency response personnel. We will try to stay with the person(s) in need and maintain a calm atmosphere. We will talk to the person as much as possible until response personnel arrive on campus, and we will have someone go outside to meet emergency personnel and direct them to the appropriate location.

In the event of an emergency (drill or actual), a signal will be sent. Based on that signal, students will follow the procedures below for that specific type of emergency:

**Loud warbling sound throughout Building (FIRE)**
Collect purses and coats and proceed immediately out of your room and exit through the closest emergency exit. Proceed to the Designated Assembly Area closing windows and doors as you exit. Remain there until the "All Clear" Signal is given by an Emergency Management Team member. (Instructors- Provide your Designated Assembly Area, and its location to students)
Tornado Siren (SEVERE WEATHER): Proceed to the closest designated severe weather shelter on the 1st floor and proceed all the way into the shelter. Crouch down on the floor with your head between your knees facing away from the outside walls. Remain there until the "All Clear" Signal is given. (Instructors- Provide the recommended room number or hallway location to students)

Air Horn (1 Long Blast) and Face to Face All Clear (INTRUDER/HOSTAGE): Ensure door is closed, locked and lights turned off. If your door will not lock, move some tables and chairs in front of the door quickly. Move immediately to the rear of the room away from the door and sit on the floor-out of sight if possible. Remain calm and quiet and do not respond to any inquiries at the door unless you have been given the "All Clear" and a member of law enforcement or your campus Emergency Management Team member makes face-to-face contact at your door.

Classroom Locked-door Policy: In order to adhere to MSCC Emergency Preparedness Policy and to facilitate effective classroom management, the classroom door will remain closed and locked for the duration of the class period.

Educational Technology: Accessing Campus Computers or the MSCC Library from off Campus: Your Username format is your First Initial, Last Name and Month and Day Birthday in the Format of MMDD. Example: Marcia Smith born on April 11, 1992 - Username: msmith0411. Your Pin will be the numeric pin you created when you initially applied to Motlow College.

Using D2L: For help with D2L including how to submit materials to a Dropbox, see this page: http://www.mscc.edu/techtube.aspx

Technical Support/Assistance: Students having problems logging into a course, timing out of a course, using course web site tools, or any other technical problems, should contact the MSCC Technology Help Desk at 931-393-1510 or toll free 1-800-654-4877, Ext. #1510 (or d2lhelp@mscc.edu)

Disability Services/Accommodations: Motlow College is committed to meeting the needs of qualified students with disabilities by providing equal access to educational opportunities, programs, and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate. This commitment is consistent with the College's obligations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). Together, these laws prohibit discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities. To this end, the Director of Disability Services for Motlow College coordinates services and serves as an advocate and liaison for students.

Students with disabilities who would need assistance in an emergency evacuation should self-disclose that need to the instructor no later than the second day of class or second group meeting.

Confidentiality of Student Records:
The education records of current and former students at Motlow State Community College are maintained as confidential records pursuant to The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. For further information, see MSCC Policy No. 3:02:03:00.

Student Success:
Tutoring:
MSCC Instructors can guide students to specific resources regarding Tutoring in their discipline. In particular, students may find help with Math and Essay Writing via each campus’ Learning Support labs. Students should contact the labs on their campus to schedule appointments for help. For additional help, see the Student Success page: http://www.mscc.edu/student_success/index.aspx

Academic Advisement:
MSCC Instructors can guide students to specific resources regarding Advisement. For additional help, see the Academic Advisement page: http://www.mscc.edu/advisement/index.aspx

List any discipline-specific Student Success resources that Instructor’s are likely to utilize, e.g. Smarthinking, along with instructions for access.

Class Schedule of Assignments:
Give a brief explanation of how the schedule should be read, e.g. “Reading assignments will be discussed in class on the date for which they are listed. Reading should be completed before the date.”

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W 8/28
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