

**Criminal Justice 405**  
**Theories of Crime and Delinquency**  
**Fall - 2006 Dr. Welch, Stubbs 105**

[welchinternet064@bellsouth.net](mailto:welchinternet064@bellsouth.net) 342-1434

**Office Hours: 7:30 – 10:30a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 7:30 – 11:30 Friday**

Please feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone at other times.

**Note: This course is the same as SOCL 405. You can't receive credit for both. If your student classification is Freshman or Sophomore or you have not completed your development courses, you are not eligible for enrollment in a senior level course. If any of these restrictions apply to you, you must drop or provide written approval from your academic advisor or academic dean.**

**Basic Rules for this Internet Course:**

This course will be taught in Blackboard, which is available at the ULM website. A Letter of Orientation was mailed to students enrolled as of August 9 and a copy is posted in Course Information. There is a Contract in Course Assignments that you should be in the process of reviewing. Be sure to return the Contract with item number 12 completed and your name, major and the date you submitted it in the space provided. The contract defines some of the boundaries for the class. Be sure you keep a copy as a reference.

**Warning**

It is very important that you be aware of this very important bit of information regarding participation in this Internet class.

- The person enrolled in the course must be the same and only person completing all related assignments, exams and discussions. Should it be determined that this is not the case, the professor will recommend that the enrolled student be expelled from the University and the person doing the other persons work will be referred to the Dean of Student Affairs for disciplinary action.

**Text:**

Segal, Larry. J., *Criminology: The Core*, Belmont, CA, Wadsworth/Thompson Learning Press, 2005.

**Course Objectives:**

As you read each chapter, be sure to note your author's specific objectives for the chapter. Many of these serve as the guide for lectures, assignments, and quizzes. Upon completion of this course, students will be exposed to the author's objectives and an understanding of the:

1. Historical development of criminology and criminal justice.
2. Measurement of crime; official and unofficial.
3. Schools of thought in criminological theory.
4. Contributors to criminological theory and some of their primary writings.
5. Current issues in criminology.
6. Identification of academic associations, websites, and academic journals in criminology.

### **Course Information:**

Each lesson incorporates the use of a textbook, on-line lecture, outside reading articles, and related websites. You will have questions to answer as you read your text, the on-line lectures, and articles and/or review the assigned websites. There may also be short quizzes, written assignments, and use of the on-line discussion board. Use of the discussion board enables you to communicate your ideas and to respond to the ideas of your classmates. Discussion Board policies are presented below and in the contract.

This online course will enable you to experience all the information brought into a traditional classroom setting, but to learn it in a non-traditional format and to familiarize yourself with new web-based technology and pedagogy. Please study this syllabus carefully and use it as a reference tool. It is very important that you become familiar with the policies, procedures, and penalties outlined in this syllabus.

You will find this course rewarding and rich in both theoretical and practical information. Good luck and we will communicate primarily on-line through Blackboard announcements and e-mails to your address you have on Blackboard.

### **Course Management:**

Two factors that pose the greatest problems for students are:

- 1) Lack of basic computer skills, and
- 2) Lack of self-discipline to schedule time to complete assignments.

It is easy to put off doing an assignment but due dates come quickly. Keep in mind that you are not in a traditional classroom, but you will spend at least the equivalent amount of time, if not more time, for being in class and doing outside assignments. How well you manage your time is up to you.

### **Lessons:**

Each topic will be presented as a Lesson – posted in Course Documents. The lesson will provide a general study guide for the topic. Sometimes “study questions or study notes” will be provided at the beginning of the Lesson. These study notes are possible test questions. After you have read the Lesson, then proceed to Assignments where you will find the questions to be answered for the respective lesson.

**Discussion Board:** Each student is required, as part of your grade, to participate meaningfully in on-line discussions that occur on discussion board. The Discussion Board is a place for you to express your opinion on a specific topic and to exchange ideas with fellow students.

Keep our comments focused. Don't just post a sentence. Post meaningful and thought out dialogue. When an assignment is given, you must first present your view by a designated date. Sometimes after a designated time period, you must react to one or more other student views. Be sure to note the schedule dates for posting and responding (if required). After the posted time periods, you may participate as often as you wish—reacting to others or defending your position. Don't get your feelings hurt, don't be overly defensive, and don't be too sensitive. On the other hand, don't be too blunt and set in your own way.

### **Bonus Opportunities:**

There may be a time or two during the semester that an opportunity for extra credit points may be earned. Once the deadline for a bonus opportunity expires, the exercise may not be submitted. These opportunities are usually not widely publicized—often they may be in the summary lecture, discussion board or assignment.

### **Examinations:**

It is very important that you not view the assignments (questions to be answered) as just questions to be answered. *You are to learn the material as you do the assignments not just perform a routine exercise.* There will be three unit exams and a combined unit exam/comprehensive final during the semester. Each exam may include discussion questions and may include true or false, multiple choice, multiple answer, fill-in-the-blank, and matching questions. Each test will vary in length and points, depending on the number of chapters covered and the amount of test material. Questions on all exams will be randomized and selected from a pool of questions. The exam will be available for a designated block of time – one in the afternoon and one in the late evening. You will be able to use your notes and text. However, too much use of these resources will reduce your time for completing the exam. It is critical that you take the exam within the designated time period. **Taking more time than allowed will result in a reduction of one point per minute over the time limit.** Yes, the computer does provide me a record of how much time you took to complete the exam and gives me a signal that you exceeded the time.

Since exams will be online and can be taken at any time within a designated period, there is hardly any reason for not taking the exam within the required time frame. In the event you can't take the exam within the designated time, **prior approval (before the exam time) is required to take the exam at a later date.**

### **Course Requirements:**

**Short Review quizzes:** Short review quizzes may be given after a lesson has been completed or as part of a lesson. These are timed quizzes and will be noted in the lesson.

**Written Assignments:** As you read the assigned on-line lectures, articles, chapters in the text, and the websites you will have questions to answer and submit the responses. Three lessons will be the allowable time to get use to the class schedule and procedures. With the posting of Lesson IV, if you fail to respond to any assignment or exercise by the due date, the assignment will be considered late. Three points will be deducted per day for late assignments. We will go by the Blackboard posted date and time for the determination of late assignments.

**Non-Text Outside Reading:** There will be eight outside reading assignments. Some of these will be posted in Blackboard and others will be located within assigned websites. There will be questions to answer from these readings as part of a special posting of questions. A few questions may be included in the major exams. Responses to these articles will always be due on Monday by midnight unless they are located within a regular assignment. It is important that you understand that some of these readings may not be directly related to the current lesson, but they are all related to a topic that will be discussed.

**Graduate Students:** Graduate students will be required to submit a 12 page term paper on an assigned topic. The paper must have professional references with none dated before the year 2000. All papers must follow the APA style of documentation within the text of the paper and in the bibliography. Papers are due November 1. Papers will be checked for plagiarism.

**Grading Scale:**

***Read this carefully:*** All grades will be maintained in Gradebook on Blackboard. The online posting of grades will allow you to know your standing in the class prior to the university drop date. Letter grades are based on your percentage of the total number points that are possible. The grading scale is: A = 94% of the points possible, B = 87%, C = 70%, D = 65%. Earning less than 65% of the points possible will be a grade of F.

**Make Up Exams:**

Because exams are posted for two time periods, there is little excuse for not taking the exam during the designated time. However, should a situation arise that you can't take the exam within the time period you are responsible for notifying me *in advance* if you will not be able to take the exam, the notification must be submitted to the welchinternet064 e-mail address. Prior approval/notification is required. The professor reserves the right to alter the style of the make up exam, but he may not add new material.

**Computer Requirements:**

In order to take this internet class, you will need:

1. Access to a personal computer or use one of the computers in the university labs or ULM/public libraries:
2. Access to an Internet provider (such as AOL, Bellsouth, Bayou Internet, Roadrunner, Wal-Mart, etc ). DSL is best for exams due to the time limit.
3. Plug-ins for your browser: Real Audio Player, Acrobat Reader, & Shockwave (all are available as free downloads) These are on most computers.
4. A word processing program: Word Perfect or Word is required. NO OTHER WORD PROCESSING PROGRAM IS ACCEPTABLE.

**Netiquette and Academic Honesty:** Students are required to read assignments, to follow directions, to meet deadlines, to participate fully in class activities, and to complete all projects. As responsible members of an academic community, students must conduct themselves courteously and in accordance with college policy. See suggestions for online discussions at ([http://onlinelearning.tc.cc.va.us/new/n\\_succes.htm#netiquet](http://onlinelearning.tc.cc.va.us/new/n_succes.htm#netiquet)). Note especially the sections on class participation, communication, honesty, and Netiquette.

**Students MUST do their own original work:** Cheating or plagiarism, which is the accidental or intentional misrepresentation of another's work as one's own, may lead to dismissal and failure in the course. See the ULM Student Handbook at ([www.ULM.edu/studentpolicy](http://www.ULM.edu/studentpolicy)) for additional information on academic honesty and academic misconduct. These penalties apply to everyone who is a suspect. **DO NOT loan your material, disks, CDs, or memory sticks to others in the class. Some folks will just down load your material.** Labeling a situation as suspicion of copying or working together is a rather subjective evaluation. However, it will be based on some pretty solid evidence that will be difficult to deny. Best thing to do: don't test me.

## **Topics to be Covered**

- I. Introduction to Criminology
- II. Criminology vs Criminal Justice
- III. Research and Criminology
- IV. Nature and Extent of Criminal Behavior
- V. Crime Theory: Rational Choice Theory
- VI. Victimology
- VII. Crime Theory: Trait Theories
- VIII. White Collar Crime
- IX. Crime Theory: Social Structure Theories
- X. Crimes without Victims
- XI. Crime Theory: Social Process Theories
- XII. Enterprise Crime - Computer Crime
- XIII. Crime Theory: Social Conflict Theories
- XIV. Violent Crimes
- XV. Crime Theory: Developmental Theories
- XVI. Organized Crime
- XVII. Corporate Crime
- XVIII. Government Crime