SOC 1300: Criminology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None

Criminology studies the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality. Theories of deviance will be offered from biological, psychological and sociological perspectives. The course investigates how law enforcement, the courts, and correctional systems react to crime.

COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 09/15/1998 - Present

B. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to the study of crime and criminology
   A. Criminology and the sociological perspective
   B. Measurement of crime and its impact
   C. Social patterns of crime
2. Explanations of criminal behavior
   A. Classical and neo-classical perspectives
   B. Biological and psychological theories
   C. Sociological theories
      1. Social-structural approach
      2. Social-process approach
      3. Critical perspective
3. Types of crime
   A. Violent crimes
   B. Property crimes
   C. White collar and organized crime
   D. Political crime
   E. Consensual crime
4. Policing
   A. Development of the modern police force
   B. Working personality and police behavior
   C. Police discretion
   D. Impact of policing on crime
5. Prosecution and punishment
   A. Criminal courts and the adversary system
   B. Impact of punishment of crime
6. Reducing crime
   A. The criminal justice system funnel
   B. Sociological prescription for crime reduction
C. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
1. Students will discuss the development of criminology.
2. Students will identify social patterns of crime and their impact.
3. Students will evaluate methods of counting crime.
4. Students will compare the many theories of crime causation
5. Students will identify types of crime and differentiate between categories of crime.
6. Students will develop an understanding of the development and workings of law enforcement agencies.
7. Students will discuss problem areas of policing: the ideal of blind justice and police misconduct.
8. Students will describe the pros and cons of our adversarial system.
10. Students will explore ways to reduce crime.

D. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies
   Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci
   Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

E. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

F. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   HCC COMPETENCIES MET:
   Communicating Clearly & Effectively, Social /Civic Responsibility

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:
Students will
1. attend class regularly.
2. exhibit appropriate classroom behavior.
3. read all assigned material on a timely basis.
4. contribute to classroom discussion.
5. complete quizzes.
6. take written exams on scheduled date.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE USING INSTRUMENTS SELECTED/DEVELOPED BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.

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<th>AASC APPROVAL DATE</th>
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