Course Objectives: The learning objectives for this course are straightforward. First and foremost, I want you to develop your analytic skills. Regardless of your eventual career choices, the ability to critically evaluate information will serve you well. Second, I want you to improve your writing skills. There is no magic pill for this. The best way to become a more effective writer is to read and write as much as possible. Lastly, I would like you to learn something about the causes and consequences of criminality. After all, you probably signed up for this course with that goal in mind.

Text: Researching Theories of Crime and Deviance, Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn

Note: 1) All electronic devices must be turned off and placed out of sight before entering the classroom. This may seem a bit strange to you. Unfortunately, I have some recurrent problems with (graduate) students inappropriately using cell phones and computers during my lectures. I take this matter very seriously. Please respect my wishes with regard to this matter. Failure to adhere to this policy will lead to a reduction in your final grade or outright failure in the course.

2) Attendance policy. Attendance is required. Exceptions will be made for extraordinary circumstances.

3) Lateness policy: Coming to class late is very disruptive. Therefore, I have decided upon the following policy. If you are planning to come late, you need to let me know in advance. Otherwise, I reserve the right to refuse admittance to the classroom after 6:30 PM.

3) There will be two, non-cumulative essay exams. Each exam will determine approximately 40% of your final grade. The remaining 20% will be determined by your performance in class and a short (3-5 page) homework assignment.

4) You will not be allowed to take a make-up exam unless you notify me that you will miss the exam at least 24 hours in advance (exceptions will be made for extraordinary circumstances at my discretion). You must contact me by phone or in person. Under no circumstances use e-mail to ask permission to miss an exam!

5) My office phone number is 245-6503. My e-mail address is mitch.chamlin@txstate.edu. Contact me whenever you like, but do not call me at home.
6) All readings should be done before coming to class. Failure to read the assignments in a timely fashion will probably adversely affect your final grade.

7) There will be no extra credit assignments.

8) The last day to drop this class without special permission from the University Administration is March 20th.

9) Any student requesting special consideration with respect to testing procedures (e.g., extra time) must register with the appropriate University authorities and confirm all arrangements with me within the first two weeks of the semester-absolutely no exceptions!

10) Please treat the syllabus as a contract between me and you.

Outline: This schedule is subject to change, depending on how quickly we move through the material.

January 15th: Introduction to the Course

January 22nd: Defining and Measuring Crime, & Delinquency


January 29th: Fundamentals of Theory & Research

February 5th: Anomie Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 5


February 12th: Social Disorganization Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 4


February 19th: Social Learning & Strain Theories

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 6


February 26th: Social Control Theories

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 7


March 5th: Mid-term exam

March 12th: Spring Break - no class

March 19th: Rational Choice/Deterrence Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 2


March 26th: Labeling Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 8


April 2nd: Environmental Criminology

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 2


April 9th: Cultural Theory


April 16th: Conflict Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 9


April 23rd: Integrated Theory /Conclusion or catch up
Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 10

**FINAL (SECOND) EXAM**: Wednesday, April 30\textsuperscript{th} @ 8:00 - 9:30 PM