

CJ 7311 Advanced Criminological Theory
Office: Hill House 109
Class Time: Wednesday 6:30-9:20 PM
Classroom: Hines 203

Dr. M. Chamlin
Office hrs. Wednesday 5:15 - 6:15 PM,
by appointment, & any time that I am in
My office

Spring Semester 2014

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

Hindelang et al. (1979) "Correlates of Delinquency" *American Sociological Review* 44:995-1014.

Gove et al. (1985) "Are Uniform Crime Reports a Valid Indicator of the Index Crimes? An Affirmative Answer with Minor Qualifications." *Criminology* 23:451-501.

McCleary et al. (1982) "Uniform Crime Reports as Organizational Outcomes: Three Time Series Experiments." *Social Problems* 29:361-372.

January 29th: Fundamentals of Theory & Research

Blalock (1991) "Are There Really any Alternatives to Causal Modeling?" *Sociological Methodology* 21:325-335.

Blau (1979) "Elements of Sociological Theorizing." *Humboldt Journal of Social Relations* 7:103-122.

Lieberson & Lynn (2002) "Barking up the Wrong Branch: Scientific Alternatives to the Current Model of Sociological Science." *Annual Review of Sociology* 28:1-19.

February 5th: Anomie Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 5

Merton (1938) "Social Structure and Anomie" *American Sociological Review* 3:672-682.

Chamlin & Sanders (forthcoming) "Falsifying Merton's Macro-Level Anomie Theory of Profit-Motivated Crime: A Research Note." *Deviant Behavior*

Messner & Rosenfeld (1997) "Political Restraint of the Market and Levels of Criminal Homicide: A Cross-National Application of Institutional-Anomie Theory." *Social Forces* 75:1393-1416.

Braithwaite (2011) "Anomie and Violence in Indonesia and Timor-Leste, 1997-2009." *Asian Criminology* 6:51-68.

February 12th: Social Disorganization Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 4

Bursik (1988) "Social Disorganization and Theories of Crime and Delinquency." *Criminology* 26:519-552.

Sampson and Groves (1989) "Community Structure and Crime" *American Journal of Sociology* 94:774-802.

Allen & Cancino (2012) "Social Disorganization, Latinos and Juvenile Crime in the Texas Borderlands." *Journal of Criminal Justice* 40:152-163.

February 19th: Social Learning & Strain Theories

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 6

Menese & Akers (2011) "A Comparison of Four General Theories of Crime and Deviance: Marijuana Use Among American and Bolivian University Students." *International Criminal Justice Review* 21:333-352.

Agnew (1985) "A Revised Strain Theory of Delinquency." *Social Forces* 64:151-167.

Tittle et al. (2012) "Social Learning, Reinforcement, and Crime: Evidence from Three European Cities." *Social Forces* 90:863-890.

February 26th: Social Control Theories

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 7

Grasmick et al. (1993) "Testing the Core Empirical Implications of Gottfredson and Hirschi's General Theory of Crime" *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 30:5-29.

Geis (2000) "On the Absence of Self-Control as the Basis for a General Theory of Crime: A Critique." *Theoretical Criminology* 4:35-53.

March 5th: Mid-term exam

March 12^h: Spring Break - no class

March 19th: Rational Choice/Deterrence Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 2

Geerken and Gove (1977) "Deterrence, Overload, and Incapacitation" *Social Forces* 56:424-447.

Chamlin et al. (1992) "Time Aggregation and Time Lag in Macro-Level Deterrence Research." *Criminology* 30:377-396.

Pogarsky et al. (2004) "Modeling Change in Perceptions about Sanction Threats: The Neglected Linkage in Deterrence Theory." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 20:343-369.

March 26th: Labeling Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 8

Kitsuse (1962) "Societal Reaction to Deviant Behavior." *Social Problems* 9:2447-256.

Schwartz and Skolnick (1962) "Two Studies of Legal Stigma" *Social Problems* 10:133-143.

Grattet (2011) "Societal Reaction to Deviance." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37:185-204.

Bernburg et al. (2006) "Official Labeling, Criminal Embeddedness, and Subsequent Delinquency." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 43:67-88.

April 2nd: Environmental Criminology

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 2

Cohen & Felson (1979) "Social Change and Crime Rate Trends: A Routine Activity Approach." *American Sociological Review* 44:588-608.

D'Alessio, Eitle, & Stolzenberg (2012) "Unemployment, Guardianship, and Weekday Residential Burglary." *Justice Quarterly* 29:919-932.

Eliason (2012) "Trophy Poaching: A Routine Activity Approach." *Deviant Behavior* 33:72-87.

Rossmo & Harries (2011) "The Geospatial Structure of Terrorist Cells." *Justice Quarterly* 28:221-248.

April 9th: Cultural Theory

Hackney (1969). "Southern Violence." *The American Historical Review* 74: 906-925.

Gastil (1971). "Homicide and a Regional Culture of Violence." *American Sociological Review* 36: 412-427.

Chamlin & Cochran (1997) "Social Altruism and Crime." *Criminology* 35:203-228.

Schaible & Hughes (2011) "Crime, Shame, Reintegration, and Cross-National Homicide: A Partial Test of Reintegrative Shaming Theory." *The Sociological Quarterly* 52:104-131.

April 16th: Conflict Theory

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 9

Rafter (2008) "Criminology's Darkest Hour: Biocriminology in Nazi Germany." *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Criminology* 41:287-306.

Spitzer (1975) "Toward a Marxian Theory of Deviance" *Social Problems* 27:638-651.

Chamlin (2009) "Social Threat to Whom? Conflict, Consensus, and Social Control." *Deviant Behavior* 30:539-559.

Novak & Chamlin (2012) "Racial Threat, Suspicion, and Police Behavior: The Impact of Race and Place in Traffic Enforcement." *Crime & Delinquency* 58:275-300.

April 23rd: Integrated Theory /Conclusion or catch up

Kubrin, Stucky, & Krohn: chapter 10

FINAL (SECOND) EXAM: Wednesday, April 30th @ 8:00 - 9:30 PM