Spring 2-1-2018

SOCI 438.01: Seminar on Crime: Victimology

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INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Dr. Jackson Bunch
Email: jackson.bunch@umontana.edu
Office: Social Sciences 305
Office Hours: Monday, 11:00–12:00 (& by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will survey the field of victimology, which is the study of victims of crime. We will address the extent of victimization in the U.S., considering both violent victimization—such as sexual assault—and property victimization—such as identity theft. We will examine the dominant theoretical explanations for victimization, and we will discuss the causes and consequences of victimization, including the behavioral and psychological reactions to being a victim of crime. We will examine victimization in a wide range of contexts, from intimate relationships to work and school. We will read about a wide range of victims, as well, from children to college students, from the elderly to prison inmates. Finally, we will address emerging issues in the field, including hate crimes, human trafficking, and terrorism.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Students will gain a firm understanding of the major issues in victimology.
- Students will read original research in the field.
- Students will develop comprehension skills by identifying key concepts from the readings.
- Students will enhance oral communication skills though active participation in class discussion.
- Students will develop writing skills by (1) writing focused summaries of the assigned readings and (2) writing and revising a paper critically examining issues in the field of victimology.

REQUIRED READINGS


We will also have a wide range of additional readings. These academic articles are intended to expose you to recent criminological research on victimization.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Summaries

In addition to the textbook, we will have a large number of additional readings associated with each topic. Every day, you will turn in a summary for the research article of the day. These summaries will each be between ¾ to 1 single-spaced pages long and typed (Times New Roman, 12 point font, 1 inch margins). At the top of the page, include the citation for the article in APA or ASA style (see the Purdue Online Writing Lab for excellent descriptions of the formatting for both of these citation styles). Summaries are due within the first five minutes of class on the day that we discuss the reading. In order to account for unexpected emergencies, absences, or poor performance, I will drop the 3 lowest summary grades. Summaries should identify the main points and arguments presented in the reading, along with any findings and implications. Each summary will be scored on a 2-point scale. You will earn 2 points if your summary shows excellent understanding of the reading and 1 point for limited or poor understanding. The summaries will be graded on both form and content.

Paper

You will complete a paper over the course of the semester. This paper will address particular issues in the field of victimology. The paper includes four separate assignments: Paper Topic, Annotated Bibliography, First Draft, and Revised Draft. I will provide detailed instructions for each component of the paper separately. Each piece of the paper is due at the beginning of class. Any paper assignment turned in after the beginning of class will be deducted one letter grade. Papers received after class but before the end of the day (5:00 pm) will receive a maximum of half credit. Papers will not be accepted after this point.

I will provide detailed feedback on your papers. You will take my comments and rewrite your paper, turning in the revised paper for an additional grade. The revised version is worth more than the first draft.

Class Participation

This is a seminar course, so participation is vital to the class experience. There may be limited lecture when introducing a topic, but the class will consist primarily of discussion of the readings. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that you come to class having read and prepared to actively participate in the discussion. I do not round up course grades. However, if a student’s contributions to the class discussion consistently demonstrate a strong understanding of the material, I will consider rounding a marginal course grade up to the next letter grade.

CLASSROOM COURTESY

You should be aware that we will discuss a number of subjects that you may find controversial. In all of our class discussions, you will be expected to be respectful toward your classmates, despite any disagreement you may have with a classmate’s ideas. In this way, we will foster an atmosphere in which each student feels comfortable presenting his or her thoughts, as well as critiquing the arguments presented by others. You should not worry that your grade will be affected if you express opinions different from what you perceive my opinions to be. Instead, focus upon using evidence and logic to present your own arguments and in critiquing the arguments of others. In following these ground rules, I expect our discussion to be lively, interesting, and intellectually challenging.

Please plan to arrive on time for all class sessions and to stay for the entire class. If you must arrive late or leave early, please notify me in advance and sit near the door so as not to disturb your classmates. Cell phones should be turned off before entering the classroom. When class begins, please put away all other materials. Laptops may not be used unless you have a documented disability that requires the use of a laptop, as these devices are distracting for other students. Finally, wait until the end of class before putting away your books.
ACADEMIC HONESTY

All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers. A couple of examples of academic dishonesty are copying from another student’s article summaries or presenting another’s work as your own in a paper. Ensure that all resources utilized in your papers are appropriately cited. Please note that students who assist other students in academically dishonest acts are in violation of the policy of academic honesty. All students must be aware of and carefully adhere to the provisions defining and prohibiting academic misconduct in the UM Student Conduct Code. A full version is available at http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe and ignorance is not an acceptable defense.

COURSE GRADE

Your grade in this course will be calculated based on the total number of points earned throughout the semester.

Graded Items

Grades for the course will be based on the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summaries (24 out of 27)</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper: Topic</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper: Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper: First Draft</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper: Revised Draft</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Final Grade

Final grades for the course are based on the following scale. Please note that course grades are not rounded up to the next letter grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Number Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 to 92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 to 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 to 86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 to 82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 to 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 to 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 to 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 to 69</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>63 to 66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 to 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
</tr>
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COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

Monday, January 22
Introduction & Orientation for the Course

Wednesday, January 24
How to Read a Research Article
Writing Center Introduction
No Reading

Friday, January 26
Introduction to Victimology
Paper Assignment Distributed
Read:
  Daigle, Chapter 1

WEEK 2

Monday, January 29
Extent, Theories, and Factors of Victimization
Read:
  Daigle, Chapter 2

Wednesday, January 31
Extent, Theories, and Factors of Victimization (continued)
Read:
Friday, February 2
Extent, Theories, and Factors of Victimization (continued)

Paper Topic Due
Read:

**WEEK 3**

Monday, February 5
Consequences of Victimization
Read:
Daigle, Chapter 3

Wednesday, February 7
Consequences of Victimization (continued)
Read:

Friday, February 9
Recurring Victimization
Read:
Daigle, Chapter 4

**WEEK 4**

Monday, February 12
Recurring Victimization (continued)
Read:
Wednesday, February 14
Recurring Victimization (continued)
Read:


Friday, February 16
Writing Center Workshop
No Reading

WEEK 5

Monday, February 19
Presidents’ Day: No Class

Wednesday, February 21
The Victim-Offender Overlap
Read:


Friday, February 23
The Victim-Offender Overlap (continued)
Annotated Bibliography Due
Read:


WEEK 6

Monday, February 26
Individual Meetings to Discuss Plans for First Draft: No Class

Wednesday, February 28
Individual Meetings to Discuss Plans for First Draft: No Class
Friday, March 2  
Individual Meetings to Discuss Plans for First Draft: No Class

WEEK 7

Monday, March 5
Homicide Victimization
Read:
   Daigle, Chapter 6

Wednesday, March 7
Homicide Victimization (continued)
Read:

Friday, March 9
Homicide Victimization (continued)
Read:

WEEK 8

Monday, March 12
Homicide Victimization (continued)
Read:
Wednesday, March 14
Sexual Victimization
Read:

Daigle, Chapter 7

Friday, March 16
Sexual Victimization (continued)
Read:


WEEK 9

Monday, March 19
Intimate Partner Violence
Read:

Daigle, Chapter 8

Wednesday, March 21
Intimate Partner Violence (continued)
Read:


Friday, March 23
Writing Center Workshop

First Draft of Paper Due
No Reading

WEEK 10

Monday, March 26
Spring Break: No Class
Wednesday, March 28
Spring Break: No Class

Friday, March 30
Spring Break: No Class

WEEK 11

Monday, April 2
Child and Elder Abuse
Read:

Daigle, Chapter 9

Wednesday, April 4
No class: Use this time to review the feedback for the First Draft and start working on the Revised Paper.

Friday, April 6
No class: Use this time to review the feedback for the First Draft and start working on the Revised Paper.

WEEK 12

Monday, April 9
Individual Meetings to Discuss Revising First Draft: No Class

Wednesday, April 11
Individual Meetings to Discuss Revising First Draft: No Class

Friday, April 13
Individual Meetings to Discuss Revising First Draft: No Class

WEEK 13

Monday, April 16
Victimization at School and Work
Read:

Daigle, Chapter 10
Wednesday, April 18
Victimization at Work and School (continued)

Read:


Friday, April 20
Property and Identity Theft Victimization

Read:

Daigle, Chapter 11


WEEK 14

Monday, April 23
Property and Identity Theft Victimization (continued)

Read:


Wednesday, April 25
Victimization of Special Populations

Read:

Daigle, Chapter 12


Friday, April 27
Victimization of Special Populations (continued)

Read:

WEEK 15

Monday, April 30
Research Presentations
No Reading

Wednesday, May 2
Research Presentations
No Reading

Friday, May 5
Revised Paper Due