



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

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*COURSE: CRIME AND GENDER; CJS 2210*

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**1. DESCRIPTION**

The course examines the relationship between gender, crime, and the criminal justice system. Drawing from patriarchal, feminist, masculinities and other theories on crime/deviance such as labeling, the course examines ways in which gender affects patterns of offending, victimization, and corrections and punishment. The course also examines crimes that are predominantly perpetrated by men and women. Students are expected to be familiar with the general workings of the criminal justice system.

**2. LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Understand the social construction of men and women in terms of gender roles, expectations and interactions.
2. Identify relevant theories that explain crime amongst men and women.
3. Explain why certain crimes are predominantly perpetrated by men/women.
4. Examine the effect of crime on men/women, and how each gender reacts to crime.

**3. ATTENDANCE, PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION**

- Attendance and participation contribute to 10% of the final grade
- Class attendance is mandatory and records will be taken during each class. The record must be signed by each student in attendance- name, registration number, student signature. **DO NOT SIGN FOR ANOTHER STUDENT IN OR OUTSIDE CLASS.**
- Do not print or make other marks on the attendance sheet.
- Do not sign for someone else as it amounts to cheating and is punishable.
- If an asterix \* appears behind your name in the attendance sheet, it means a pattern of absenteeism is detected in your case and may be penalized if no improvement occurs.
- Seven (7) absences will lead to a failure of the course.
- Any late arrivals or absences should be reported to the instructor in advance.
- The course involves in-class activities and discussions and therefore is integral parts of learning.
- Prepare for the class in advance by going through assigned readings topics for adequate preparation

- Class sessions only supplement the assigned readings
- The course is collaborative, its success depends on your class attendance, participation, contribution and positive learning attitude
- You may carry your mobile phones, but put them on silent mode during class time
- Sleeping in class is not allowed
- Excuse for non-attendance is only allowed for illness, unavoidable circumstance and extra-curriculum activities approved by the Dean of the faculty or DVCAA
- Illness must be documented by a medical professional or USIU health centre
- Unavoidable circumstances should be described in writing
- The instructor reserves the right to override what the student describes as unavoidable
- Extra curriculum activities are normally notified to the faculty via email from the relevant department
- **'Three Tardies Equals One Absence'** rule applies. Tardiness is defined as twenty minutes of any class meeting time, regardless of whether it occurs at the beginning, middle or towards end of the class. Anyone who abuses this definition by deliberately and repeatedly keeping it just under twenty minutes will be penalized in the same manner and referred for behavioral disruption.
- If a class is cancelled for any reason, the material scheduled for the cancelled class is automatically rescheduled for the next class meeting. This includes exams and other work due on the cancelled date
- If the instructor cannot make it to a class meeting, the information will be communicated on the announcement pages of Blackboard, and there will be a note on the classroom door
- **To pass the course, you must complete all assignments, tests/quizzes, mid-term and final examination.**

#### WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

- This is aimed at teaching learners to express their ideas clearly and concisely
- Completed assignments must be submitted to the course instructor **on or before the stipulated deadline.** More information on this will be given in class as the course progresses.
- Overdue assignments will be assessed five(5) points penalty per day for the first seven(7) days while any assignment overdue for a period exceeding one(1) week will earn an automatic zero(0) score.
- Where a student cannot complete an assignment by the set deadline, he/she must inform the instructor before, **NOT after the deadline.**
- Papers are graded using the REOS method. Reasoning (Logic), Evidence(sources), Observations(your own personal touch) and Substance(how significant /profound you are). The length of your papers should be 7-10 pages. No extra marks is awarded for a longer paper

#### 4. EXPECTED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand the role of gender in perpetration of crime by men and women.
2. Understand the reactions of men and women in different situations that lead to crime.
3. Explain why some crimes are predominantly perpetrated by men/women.
4. Understand victimization of men by women through crime and vice versa.
5. Apply the knowledge in addressing gender concerns in the criminal justice system- particularly corrections and punishment.



## **5. CONTENT & CLASS SCHEDULE**

### **Week One**

#### Lecture 1

- Preliminaries
- Issuance of course outline
- Introduction
- Goals/objectives of the course

#### Lecture 2

- Introduction
- Definition of stereotypes

### **Week Two**

#### Lecture 3

- Attributes to male gender
- Attributes to female gender

#### Lecture 4

- Gender and culture
- Gender and discrimination

### **Week Three**

#### Lecture 5 & 6

- Theoretical perspectives of gender
- Feminism- Liberal, Radical, Marxist, Socialist, Postmodern
- Masculinities & Masculinities in crises
- Patriarchy

### **Week Four**

#### Lecture 7 & 8

- Theories of Crime
  - Social Learning
  - Anomie
  - Deviance
  - Labelling

## **Week Five**

### Lecture 9 & 10

- Myths and beliefs about men, women, and crime from different parts of the world.

## **Week Six**

### Lecture 11

- Assignment

### Lecture 12

- Field Trip- (Gender Based Violence Recovery Center/Shelter Homes for Victims of Gender Based Violence)

## **Week Seven**

### Lecture 13- Mid-Term Evaluation

### Lecture 14- Mid Semester Examination

## **Week Eight**

### Lecture 15 & 16

- Gender and Laws: Laws defining male/female places
- Gendered crimes
- Patriarchal nature of world law

## **Week Nine**

- Men and Crime
- Masculinities attributes and crime

## **Week Ten**

### Lecture 19 & 20

- Women and Crime
- Integrated theory of women and crime
  - Biological
  - Constitutional
  - Psychological
  - Sociological
  - Property crimes

- Drug-related crimes
- Robbery
- Murder
- Domestic Homicide
- Child Abuse

## **Week Eleven**

### Lecture 21 & 22

- Women Prisoners
  - Inmates as mothers
  - Children of imprisoned mothers
  - Prison families
  - Prison sexuality
  - Attitudes toward women in prison
  - The bad mother/image
  - Degrading prison practices
  - Prison sexual abuse
  - Women on death row
  - Sentencing

## **Week Twelve**

### Lectures 23 & 24

- Gendered violence and victimization- Battering and Rape
  - Blaming the victim
  - Effects of crime on the victim
  - Criminal justice response
  - Victims of rape in war
  - Immigrants
  - Honor killings
  - FGM
  - Child marriages
  - Dowry
  - Women who kill husbands
  - Men who kill wives
  - Dynamics of spousal abuse
  - Shelters for gendered violence victims

## **Week Thirteen**

Lectures 25 & 26- REVISION

**Week Fourteen**

Final Exams

## **6. TEACHING METHODS**

### **Lectures**

- This offers an established basis for delivering core knowledge about the subject.
- Lectures will not necessarily reflect but complement the readings provide.
- Will be held every **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 10:40am in Room E.**

### **Power point**

- May be used to deliver lecture contents

### **Class Presentations/Group Discussions**

- Encourages students to work together in researching, presenting and assessing their works

### **Student Participation**

- Students are encouraged to interact in class as participation is important
- It encourages the development of presentation of oral skills directed towards criminal justice discourse

### **Media Sources**

- Students are encouraged to watch certain TV programs and movies which will highlight some of the concepts taught in class e.g. CSI. Criminal minds Mentalist, Criminal Investigation, Judge Judy etc.

### **Office hours**

- Students are encouraged to use office hours allotted to them to consult the instructor on any individual problems or difficulties related to the course

## **7. COURSE TEXTS & OTHER READING MATERIALS**

- Marisa Silvestri & Chris Crowther-Dowey. (2008). Gender and Crime. Sage Publications.
- Katherine Stuart Van Wormer & Clemens Bartollas. (2011) 3<sup>RD</sup> Ed. Women and the Criminal Justice System. Prentice Hall Publications.
- Richard B. Felson. (2002). Violence and Gender Re-examined. Published by American Psychology Association
- Comack, Elizabeth and Gillian Balfour. (2004), The Power To Criminalize: Violence, Inequality and the Law. (Fernwood 2004).

## **8. COURSE EVALUATION**



Attendance and Participation	10%
Assignments	20%
Term Paper	20%
Mid-Term	20%
Final Exam	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Term Paper**

- Students are expected to submit a researched term paper of between 3000 and 5300 words (excluding the cover page and bibliography.)
- The format for the paper is 1.5 line spacing with font pattern New Times Romans, size 12.
- USIU has general guidelines regarding writing research papers, get more information about this.
- Additional course specific guidelines regarding term paper will be provided
- Term paper forms 20% of overall grade
- Term paper is intended to encourage individual research into topics of concern in comparative justice,
- This assignment places particular emphasis upon the acquisition of relevant critical, analytical and evaluative skills

### **Academic Integrity**

- Safe Assign, a program similar to Turnitin has been introduced by USIU to help detect plagiarism on Blackboard
- Safe Assign detects originality in thoughts and deeds
- All works must therefore include correct and full referencing
- Therefore all submitted works must be accompanied by identical soft copy to check plagiarism
- Confirmed cases of plagiarism will lead to automatic zero (0)

### **Examination**

- This comprises of mid-semester and final exam
- Each exam takes one and a half hours
- Each exams will consist of four (4) to six (6) questions and students are expected to answer only two (2)
- Both mid-semester and final exam add up to 50% of the overall assessment
- Although considerable choice is availed, the questions ensure that all students acquire a substantial grasp of the course content

## 9. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Students must at all times show respect and courtesy to each other while maintaining decency in their manner/mode of dressing.
- Any conflict amongst students must be resolved to ensure a free and conducive learning environment

## 10. KEY INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC POLICIES

Students should note the following are key policies as outlined in the University Catalogue and Students Handbook

- **Academic dishonesty** any intentional giving or use of external assistance during an examination without the express permission of the faculty member giving the examination.
- **Fabrication:** any falsification or invention of data, citation or other authority in an academic exercise;
- **Plagiarism:** any passing off of another's ideas, words, or work as one's own;
- **Previously Submitted Work:** presenting work prepared for and submitted to another course;

### 2. *Class Attendance*

Students are expected to attend all classes. Upon being absent from **Seven** classes in a 3 unit course, the instructor will give a student an "F" grade for that course.

## 11. USIU GRADING

- A 90 - 100
- A- 87 - 89
- B 80 - 83
- B- 77 - 79
- C+ 74 - 76
- C 70 - 73
- C- 67 - 69
- D+ 64 - 66
- D 62 - 63
- D- 60 - 61
- F 0 - 59 OR 7 MISSED CLASSES