

Adams State College Extended Studies
CRJ 415
THEORIES OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR
SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Barbara A. Borland
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COURSE CREDIT: Three Credit Hours

PREREQUISITES: SOC 201: The Sociological Imagination

REQUIRED TEXT:

To order textbooks or obtain information about book titles you may go to www.exstudies.adams.edu and click on the "ASC Bookstore" icon.

Use **Section Number: 749** to order books from Bookstore site.

Bernard, T.J., Vold, G.B., & Snipes, J.B.. (2002). *Theoretical criminology, 5th Ed.* London, UK: Oxford University Press. ISBN #0-19-514202-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An advanced, in-depth analysis of the major theories of crime and delinquency. Examines theories in historical context, with emphases on biological, psychological, sociological, and political frameworks.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

During this course, we will explore the nature and causes of crime by:

- Considering major theories of criminal behavior.
- Defining major types of criminal behavior and using theoretical understanding to explain the behavior.
- Understanding the different theoretical paradigms in relation to their use by the police, courts and corrections.
- Reviewing and studying some of the contemporary issues and problems confronting criminal justice practitioners when using theory to explain crime.
- Considering future directions of criminological theory.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Assignments: There are two components to the requirements of this course. The first portion requires the student to locate articles dealing with criminal activity and relate the articles to specific chapters of the text using theory. There are 5 different article exercises that are required using different sections of the text. The other component is testing. There are two tests involved in this course: One to be taken after reading through chapter 8, and a final to be taken after completion of the text. These are short answer and essay in format, and are proctored exams.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

Each assignment is graded on a 100 point scale.

Mid-term & Final Exam. Each worth:	Article Reviews - 5 articles 20 points each.	Final Grade
100-90 A	100-90 A Theories are explained and discussed in relation to the article completely. Grammar correct.	300-270 A
89 -80 B	89-80 B Good, but not complete use of theories to the article. Grammar mostly correct.	269-240 B
79-70 C	79-70 C Adequate, but not complete use of theories and application to the article. Grammatical errors.	239-210 C
69-60 D	69-60 D Inadequate use of theory and application to the articles. Poor grammar.	209-180 D
	59-0 F Failure to turn in all assignments, or do work.	179 - 0 F

ADA Statement: Students seeking academic accommodation should contact this instructor prior to beginning the course of study.