COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course will help the student:
• understand the history and development of criminological theory;
• understand classical, positivist, and contemporary schools of theory;
• understand the biological, psychological, and sociological causes and correlates of deviant and criminal behavior;
• critically assess the merits of differing perspectives; and,
• develop reading, writing, and public presentation skills necessary in any environment.

TEXTS (both required)


Additional readings will be handed out in class and/or be available online when relevant.

OFFICE HOURS
Students are encouraged to seek help from the instructor whenever necessary. Posted office hours will be available for walk-in assistance, and appointments can be scheduled for other times.

ATTENDANCE/CLASS PARTICIPATION
Because your participation in class is encouraged so that you may most competently master course materials, your regular attendance is expected. The vast majority of exam questions will be generated directly from lecture notes and in-class discussions. Attentive note taking, then, will ensure
proper preparedness for all exams. It is the student's responsibility to contact another member of the class to get lecture notes and handouts missed as a result of an absence. Class participation points will be distributed through group projects, pop quizzes, and other spontaneous activities that can only be earned through active participation in class. Students who are absent will not be able to earn these points (for exceptions to this rule, see University Policies below). A total of 40 participation points will be available throughout the semester.

**CRIME THEORY MOVIE ESSAY**
Select one motion picture (movie) that you believe demonstrates themes from criminology and then write a 400-500 word essay (approximately 1.5 pages) discussing why you think one or more characters in the film engaged in crime. We will have learned several different theories by the time this is due, so I want to see if you can apply the principles of some to observed behavior. The essay is worth a total of 10 points and will be graded on content, analysis, integration of course material, and spelling and grammar.

*Essay Due: Thursday, 2/25*

**RESEARCH PAPER**
Each student will write a comprehensive research paper evaluating a specific theoretical perspective (worth 100 points). The paper will be a synthesis of the available literature on the particular theory, as well as a discussion and analysis of your views regarding the applicability of the theory. The theory must have been addressed in the text in order to be considered. Deviations from this standard may be discussed with the instructor. The purpose of this exercise is to more fully examine a theory that is of interest to you. You should move beyond the material discussed in class and use primary source documents to the extent they are available. Below is a list of the main elements that must be incorporated into the paper:

- Title Page (title of paper, author name, course name/section, date)
- Abstract (100 word synopsis of the paper)
- Introduction (map of the direction of the paper)
- Review of the Theory (history, original formulation, major theorists)
- Empirical Tests of the Theory (How frequently has the theory been tested and what were the results?)
- Strengths and Weaknesses of the Theory (what is good or bad about this theory)
- Discussion (What is your take on this theory? What are the implications of this theory? Discuss criteria of a good theory and whether this theory meets the expectations learned in class.)
- Conclusion (what is the consensus regarding this theory)
- Reference Page (lists the articles and books from which you borrowed ideas)

The paper must be 8-10 pages, double-spaced, single sided, and must conform to American Psychological Association (APA) writing and formatting standards. The APA Publication Manual (6th edition) may be of great assistance to the student in the composition and organization of this paper. A Title page, Abstract, and Reference page must be attached, but do not count towards the 8-10 page requirement. A standard 12 point font must be used (such as Arial or Times New Roman), and normal margins must be included (1" on all sides).
Note: Students may not cite or copy information from websites. In general, this is not scholarly information. Please note that online journal articles are not considered websites. They are journal articles that have been uploaded to the Internet. Using the library web page to search for journal articles is encouraged. The student must incorporate citations from at least 5 scholarly refereed (peer reviewed) journals in the field of criminal justice. Examples include: Criminology, Justice Quarterly, Crime and Delinquency, and Theoretical Criminology. A comprehensive list of journals is available on the course website. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about these requirements.

Be certain to cite any ideas that are not exclusively your own. It is generally better to cite too often than not enough. Improper citation is plagiarism and will be treated as such. If you have any questions at all, consult the APA Publication Manual or the instructor. The majority of the points for the paper will be based on content; however, form (i.e. spelling and grammar) will also be a major component. A more detailed delineation is available on the course website. There are numerous resources available on campus to assist you with developing your writing proficiency. Interested students should contact the Academic Skills Center (Cent 2104) or the Center for Writing Excellence (Cent 2423) for writing assistance.

It is advised that students begin thinking about their paper early on in the semester. To encourage this, various assignments are due throughout the semester. First, students will be required to turn in a tentative topic. Next, students must turn in a brief (less than one page) outline of the major issues the paper will cover (Hint: see required elements listed above). Third, students will submit a list of journal articles (including: author[s], title of article, title of journal, year, volume, page numbers) that will be incorporated into the paper. Finally, students will turn in a 200 word summary of the main arguments/thesis of the paper. See the webpage for examples of each of these assignments.

All assignments must be typed and are due at the start of class on the due date. Each assignment is worth 10 points. Points will be deducted for substandard submissions or assignments that are turned in late. Two points will be deducted if the assignment is not typed or if it is not turned in at the start of class on the date it is due; students will receive half credit for assignments that are turned in one calendar day late. Assignments that are more than one calendar day late will not be accepted. Ten points will be deducted if the paper is not turned in at the start of class and for each day the paper is late. If you are ill or otherwise plan to miss class for any reason on the day an assignment is due, email the assignment to the instructor prior to class and no points will be deducted.

### Topic:  
**Thursday, 3/10**

### Outline:  
**Thursday, 3/17**

### List of sources:  
**Tuesday, 3/29**

### 200 word summary:  
**Thursday, 3/31**

### FINAL PAPER DUE:  
**Tuesday, 4/26**

**NOTE:** In addition to a “hard copy” of the paper that is to be turned in at the start of class on the due date, students are also required to submit an electronic copy of their paper to the instructor on the day the paper is due. The instructor may submit the paper to turnitin.com to alleviate any potential concerns about plagiarism or other citation-related problems. Failure to submit the electronic version of the paper to the instructor on the due date may result in points being deducted from the paper. In addition, final course grades will not be submitted until the electronic version has been received.
PRESENTATION
Each student will be responsible for presenting his or her paper to the rest of the class at the end of the semester (date and time to be determined by the instructor). Presentations must be between 5 and 7 minutes in length, and should briefly summarize the theory but also focus on building on what was learned in class. That is, students should seek to further inform their colleagues by discussing attributes of the theory that were not directly covered in class. This may include data from recent empirical tests or reformulations and reconceptualizations of the theory. Material from these presentations may be included in the final exam. Students are encouraged to use any multimedia tools that will help to convey their messages (i.e., PowerPoint). The presentation will be assessed by the instructor with a maximum of 20 points available.

EXAMINATIONS
Exams will include a mixture of multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and short essay questions and will cover all the material in the readings assigned in the textbook, additional readings handed out, or anything discussed in class. In short, anything discussed in class or in the text is a potential exam question. No materials may be referenced while taking the exam. Each regular exam will be worth 55 points and the comprehensive (cumulative) final exam will be worth 75 points. Careful evaluation of all assigned readings, along with attentive participation in class discussions should adequately prepare students for all exams. Students who are having difficulty understanding a topic, concept, or approach discussed in either the text or in class are encouraged to seek assistance from the instructor immediately. Most problems can be resolved if addressed early in the semester.

Exam 1: Thursday, 2/11
Exam 2: Thursday, 3/3
Exam 3: Tuesday, 4/5
Comprehensive Final Exam: Thursday, 5/12

Students must come to the exams on time and prepared. This means arriving early and bringing two number 2 pencils along with your student ID. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes after the start of the exam may not be allowed to take the exam. ARRIVE ON TIME.

Make-up exams are highly discouraged. If an emergency arises which necessitates that you miss a scheduled exam, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible. Some special considerations can be made in these circumstances. Make-up exams will be different from the regularly scheduled exam, and may be in a completely different form (i.e., essay). Exam results will be posted on the course website as soon as possible after the exam. Generally, they will be available within 72 hours. NOTE: 72 hours after the scheduled date, a missed exam will automatically become a 0 and cannot be changed for any reason, within the guidelines of University policy.

GRADES
Grades will be assigned based on the total number of points accumulated throughout the semester from all assignments. A total of 450 points will be available. A cumulative outline of a student’s standing in the course will be available on the course website.

Students who would like to challenge the grade received on any assignment may do so, in writing, to the instructor. The written challenge must be submitted to the instructor within 72 hours of when the
grade was posted. A meeting will be set up between the student and the instructor to discuss the merits of the challenge and determine whether additional points may be warranted.

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<th>Percent of Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Summary:</td>
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<td>Paper Sources:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper:</td>
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<td>Presentation:</td>
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<td>Movie Essay</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
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Final grades will be distributed using the following scale:

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**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

It is expected that students will conform to the highest professional and ethical standards at all times. Students are encouraged to study together for exams. However, any student found copying another student’s exam will receive a “0” for that exam. The standard of proof for such an incident is less than that of the criminal justice system; therefore, make certain that you do not act in any way that might lead the instructor to believe you were looking at another student’s exam. If a student witnesses this type of breach in professional conduct, it is his or her responsibility to report it to the instructor as soon as possible.
The paper must be the sole product of the student who turns it in. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Proper citation of another author's work is required. **If a student’s paper is found to contain information not of his or her individual creation without proper citation, the student will receive a “0” for the paper.** Additional administrative actions may be taken at the discretion of the instructor (and within the parameters of University policy). If you have any questions about proper citation procedures, please review the APA manual as discussed above, or contact the instructor.

I consider any academic misconduct in this course as a serious offense, and I will pursue the strongest possible academic penalties for such behavior. The disciplinary procedures and penalties for academic misconduct are described on the Dean of Students website (http://www.uwec.edu/DOS/policies/academic/ch14student.htm) and in Chapter UWS 14—Student Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures. (See University Policies below).

**EXPECTATIONS**

*It is expected that students will:*

1. Come to class on time and prepared. It is understood that the readings assigned for the class period will have been read so that the student can contribute to the discussion and ask the instructor about material that was not clear. The reading load of this course is moderate: the student will read approximately 30 pages each week.

2. Have access to e-mail. Every student has a free e-mail account through UW-EC. Students should check their University e-mail at least daily, as important notices and reminders will be sent to the class via this medium. Students are responsible for this information, and must make arrangements with the instructor if a problem should arise. Contact the instructor if you have an alternative email address that you prefer.

3. Check with classmates to obtain notes and materials handed out in class when absent. Other important materials will be available solely through the course webpage. It is the student's responsibility to visit the site regularly to obtain this information.

4. Not interfere, in any way, with the learning environment in the classroom. Disruptive students will be asked to leave, and further disciplinary action may be taken if necessary.

5. Know and understand all of the information written on this syllabus.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Academic Honesty:** “The Board of Regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the University of Wisconsin System believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the University of Wisconsin System. The University has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.”

**CHAPTER UWS 14—STUDENT ACADEMIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

**Accommodations for Disabilities:** Any student who has a disability and is in need of classroom accommodations, please contact the instructor and the Services for Students with Disabilities Office in Centennial Hall 2106 at the beginning of the semester.
**Dropping this Course:** The last day to drop this course with no record is **Friday, February 5th.** The last day to withdraw from this course, resulting in a “W” on your transcript, is **Friday, April 8th.** See [http://www.uwec.edu/Registrar/calendar/acadregcal15_16.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/Registrar/calendar/acadregcal15_16.htm) for all important academic dates for the semester.

**Absences:** *Religious Observance:* If you wish to be absent from class to observe a religious holiday, make arrangements in advance with the instructor. *Missing Class to Participate in a Required Activity:* To be excused from this class to participate in a required activity for another course or a university-sanctioned event, you must provide the instructor with adequate advanced notice and a written authorization from the faculty member of the other course or from a university administrator. *Other Authorized Absences:* The instructor will provide an opportunity to make up any points missed in class as a result of an authorized absence. The student must contact the instructor before the absence, when known in advance, to make arrangements. In the event of an unexpected authorized absence, the student must contact the instructor within 72 hours of the absence to make arrangements.

**Final Note:** Incorrect dates or other inconsistencies in this syllabus will be clarified in class and/or on the course website as needed. It is the student’s responsibility to attend class to obtain that information.