

# SOC G160: SOCIOLOGY OF CRIMINOLOGY

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	10/06/2015
Top Code	220800 - Sociology
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S), • Pass/No Pass (B)
California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)	• Cal-GETC 4 Social & Behavioral Sciences (4)
Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)	• IGETC 4 Social&Behavioral Sci (4)
California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE-Breadth)	• CSU D0 Sociology & Criminology (D0)

## Course Description

This course offers a sociological analysis of crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal justice system, emphasizing the intersections of race, gender, class, and sexuality in relation to crime and victimology. It explores the historical and social construction of crime, criminality, and social control, while providing fundamental theoretical explanations of criminal behavior within the context of diverse social identities. Transfer Credit: CSU; UC. C-ID: SOCI 160. C-ID: SOCI 160.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Course Outcomes
2. Analyze the nature, extent, and causes of crime using sociological theories of criminology and empirical research.
3. Evaluate the impact of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, and age on victimization patterns, arrest rates, charges, sentencing, and treatment within the criminal justice system.
4. Analyze historical developments and contemporary issues in criminal justice, including the evolution of laws, policing practices, and corrections policies.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Define the major concepts in criminology.
- 2. Define the concept of social norms and explain why they exist in all cultures as a way to maintain social control.
- 3. Compare and contrast the sociological theories used to explain crime and criminal behavior.
- 4. Describe examples that illustrate the major criminology theories.

- 5. Compare and contrast the principles, procedures, and methods used by sociologists in the collection of crime-related data.
- 6. Analyze criminal patterns and trends.
- 7. Analyze society's means and methods of addressing criminal behavior.
- 8. Analyze crime rates and variations of criminality as they exist historically and cross-culturally and propose explanations for these variations.
- 9. Examine the role of the police, courts, and corrections as a means to enforce, sanction, and punish criminal acts.
- 10. Analyze the legal and criminal justice system as a social institution.
- 11. Define and identify the types of crime and the people who commit them.
- 12. Differentiate between actual crime and perceptions of crime.
- 13. Analyze how race, gender, sexual orientation, age and class affect arrest, charging, and sentencing.
- 14. Assess various types of intervention and prevention programs developed to reduce criminal behavior.

## Lecture Content

Sociological analysis of crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal justice system. Explores the history and social construction of crime and criminality and examines the definition of crime and its violations as well as the laws and methods used to control criminal behavior. Discuss measurement of crime and basic theoretical explanations of criminal behavior. Topics include: Major sociological theories of crime Definition and social construction of crime History of criminal law, policing, punishment and corrections Types of crime Crime data and social research on crime Crime intervention and prevention Criminal sentencing and incarceration Race, ethnicity, gender, age, class, sexuality, and crime Deviance and social control Victims and Victimization Violent and property crime White-collar and organized crime Crime and substance abuse Police, law enforcement, and the court system Competing perspectives on due process and criminal control models Issues in crime and criminal justice system

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- DE Live Online Lecture (02S)
- DE Online Lecture (02X)

## Reading Assignments

Textbook and current case studies.

## Writing Assignments

Journals and other written observations.

## Out-of-class Assignments

May involve visiting criminal justice facilities.

## Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Report writing and research paper.

## Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Research paper.

## **Eligible Disciplines**

Sociology: Masters degree in sociology OR bachelors degree in sociology  
AND masters degree in anthropology, any ethnic studies, social work, or  
psychology OR the equivalent. Masters degree required.

## **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required Siegel, Larry J.. Criminology, 11th ed. Cengage, 2012