

**CJ311 Criminal Behavior****Credit hours:** 3**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: 2.5

Lab: 0

Other: 0

**Catalog course description:**

Both Life-course and Biosocial perspectives of crime and offending are examined. Research issues covered include: criminal behavior across developmental stages, the influence of biology and molecular genetics on behavior, and programmatic intervention.

**Pre-requisites:** SOC232 with a “C” or better.**Co-requisites:** None**Course learning outcomes:**

- describe crime and criminal behavior across the life-course and developmental stages
- explain the influence of biology and genetics on human behavior
- understand trajectories, transitions, and turning points through life and their impact on criminal behavior
- apply life-course and biological theories to policy interventions

**Topics to be studied:**

The major research issues covered in this course are: stability and change in criminal behavior across developmental stages; the influence of biology and genetics on human growth and behavior; trajectories, transitions, and turning points through life; social change and its link to individual change, and programmatic intervention.

**Relationship of course to program or discipline learning outcomes:**

Demonstrate proficiency in the vocabulary pertaining to the Criminal Justice field.	X
Explain the history and evolution of the CJ system in the US.	
Explain the investigative process and applicable laws.	
Demonstrate a basic understanding of the law and the legal system in the US.	
Examine the history and theories of and current practices within the corrections system.	
Explain ethics and how it applies to the CJ system and various CJ professionals.	X
Recognize the root causes of crime and criminal behavior and the role criminological theory plays in the study of CJ.	X
Display decision making and critical thinking skills as they relate to CJ.	
Apply learned concepts by bridging the gap between theories and practice.	X
Display an advanced level of understanding of CJ theories and concepts.	X
Demonstrate a proficiency in writing, research, and critical thinking pertaining to the CJ field.	X
Recognize the underlying societal problems that lead to crime and victimization.	X
Utilize CJ theories and concepts to combat social problems and distribute resources effectively.	

**Relationship of course to general education learning outcomes:**

<b>Composition and Rhetoric:</b> Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	X
<b>Science and Technology:</b> Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	X
<b>Mathematics and Quantitative Skills:</b> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
<b>Society, Diversity, and Connections:</b> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	X
<b>Human Inquiry and the Past:</b> Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	X
<b>The Arts and Creativity:</b> Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	
<i>Updated 05-03-2016</i>	

**Special requirements of the course:**

None

**Additional information:**

None

**Prepared by:**

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**Date last edited:**

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