

CJ 101: Introduction to Criminology | Syllabus Summer 2021

Instructor Information and Availability

Instructor name: Monica J. McKirdy, M.S.

E-mail address: mckirdm@linnbenton.edu

Office hours: Email me anytime!

Office number: IA 216

Course Information

Course name: Introduction to Criminology

Section number: CJ101

CRN: 12966

Scheduled time/days: ONLINE for Summer 2021

Number of credits: 3

Classroom(s): Located in Moodle!

Course Materials

Required:

Schram, P., Tibbetts, S. (2020). *Introduction to Criminology: Why Do They Do It?. Third Edition*. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks California.

- A physical copy can be rented affordably by [following this link](#). You'll save loads of money if you take this option.
- ISBN: 978-1544375731

If you want it, here's a FREE copy of Microsoft 365: <https://library.linnbenton.edu/office365>

Course Description

Presents an overview of criminology, research, data gathering and analysis. Introduces theoretical perspectives on the nature of crime, criminals and victimization and identifies current trends and patterns of crime. Development and conceptualization of crime, including historical perspectives, social and legal definition and classifications. Offered as needed.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion the student will be able to:

- Make conceptual distinctions between crime, ethical violations, status offenses, and other forms of social deviance.
- Explain various criminological theories and their role in the search for explanations for criminal behavior.
- Articulate and demonstrate the primary methods of law enforcement data collection.
- Identify the current trends in law enforcement and corrections.

Technology Recommendations

It is possible that LBCC campuses will need to be closed to the public at times during summer term, depending on public health directives. If this does occur, our class will be delivered fully remotely and we won't be able to meet face-to-face. LBCC is encouraging students to be as prepared as possible for this possibility by encouraging you to obtain the equipment you will need in order to be successful in any modality. Please see the recommended list of equipment below. Students who cannot afford these resources can contact the [Roadrunner Resource Center](#) about funding.

Standard equipment recommendation

- Broadband internet
- A computer with 256g SSD, 8G RAM, i5 6th gen processor (or equivalent functionality) - Device with a microphone and speaker
- Device with a camera
- Students can consult [Standard Recommendation 1](#) or [Standard Recommendation 2](#) if they are looking for a product recommendation

Minimum equipment recommendation

- A wifi hotspot
- A computer with 128g SSD, 4G RAM, i3 6th gen processor (or equivalent functionality) - Device with a microphone and speaker
- Device with a camera
- Students can consult [Minimum Requirement 1](#) if they are looking for a product

Behavior and Expectations

Instructor Responsibilities:

As the Instructor, I will have an online presence in the Moodle classroom daily. I will be available to support student learning when requested by students. I will hold students accountable by following through with course objectives and syllabus content. I will strive to maintain a classroom environment that encourages respectful discussion and behavior that enhances the learning of a diverse student population both online and in a physical classroom. I will grade assignments in a timely manner and give appropriate feedback.

Student Responsibilities:

As the student, you will be prepared to take an active role in your own learning. *If you have trouble accessing a textbook, tell your instructor immediately.* You will complete the required online assignments on time. You are responsible to ask for assistance from me if you need clarification, or to utilize the myriad of support services available to students on campus. You are responsible for all course work assigned as outlined in this syllabus and as modified by me throughout the course. **You are responsible for checking your LBCC email account daily.** You will be respectful of self and others at all times. This entails using appropriate language in online discussions, adhering to campus-wide policies, and observing class and instructor "ground rules." You will silence your cell phone during campus class sessions. Any outside messages (texts, emergency calls, etc.) will take

place outside of the classroom. Because of the dynamic nature of the class, laptops are usually a distraction rather than a tool. Unless you are using your laptop to access the ebook version of our course text, there is no need to have a laptop in class.

Guidelines for communication

Send email correspondence to your instructor directly at mckirdm@linnbenton.edu. You may also use the chat feature built into Moodle, but a direct email will get you a faster response.

Attendance

You will need to login to the Moodle classroom several times per week. Plan on engaging in class activities on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week.

Grading

- There are **three exams** during this course; one covering weeks 1-3, one covering weeks 4-6, and one covering weeks 7-9. Exams are on material covered in the textbook. **Each test is worth 100 points.** These will be administered in the Moodle classroom.
- **Weekly online discussion** posts are *required*. A discussion question will be provided. You must post one answer to the question that meets a minimum of 250 words and uses the week's reading as a way to back up or support your answer. All references, whether the course text or otherwise, must be listed at the end of this post when used. The subject/title of this post must be your surname, so if your last name is Stevens, you would name it "Stevens" in the "subject" field. This first post is due no later than Wednesday at Moodle midnight. **These original posts are worth 10 points.**
- **You also must respond to at least two of your classmates' posts.** If your last name is Stevens, you would name these posts "Stevens Response 1" or "Stevens Response 2." These responses do not need to have citations and just need to be one or two paragraphs. Quality response posts are those that further the discussion by presenting opposite viewpoints, adding to the viewpoint presented, or asking thoughtful questions. Your response posts must be posted by Friday at Moodle midnight. These response posts are worth 5 points each. **Online discussion is worth a total of 200 points (20 total discussion points per week for 10 weeks).**
- **Weekly Blog Post.** In Moodle, there is a blog feature! Each week, you'll use this blog to weigh-in on what you found to be the most interesting class-related aspect. Maybe it was a case study in the textbook, maybe it was something a classmate said in the discussion forum, or maybe it's something from outside of class that reminded you of what we'd learned in CJ101. Plan on writing a full paragraph or two. *The only people who will have access to these blog posts are individuals enrolled in CJ101 with you.* **These are worth 10 points each.**
- **Case Study Analysis Project, due in week 10:** See below for some details

Case Study Analysis Project:

There are many different types of crime covered in the final chapters of the textbook. Students will choose which type of crime they would like to research; students must make this choice via Moodle questionnaire during week 3. Your instructor will then give you a specific crime documentary related to the chosen type of crime, and you will do a thorough study of the case for your final project. See the top

of the Moodle classroom [or follow this link](#) for more details. This project is due by Wednesday of Week 10, but it is broken down into weekly tasks throughout the term so it doesn't seem too overwhelming.

Grading Points Summary:

Syllabus Quiz 10 points
Discussion Forums (10) 200 points
Weekly Blog (9) 90 points
Tests (3) 300 points
Final Project 200 points

800 possible points

Grades:

Grades will be figured on a straight percentage based on the total number of points possible. I encourage you to check in with me about your progress throughout the term to maximize your success and minimize any surprises.

A= 89-100%

B= 80-88%

C= 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F= 59% or below

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

Disability and Access Statement

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](#) for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting,

collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Title IX Reporting Policy

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources: In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](#) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

Class Calendar

Week 1	Chapter 1—Introduction to Criminology Chapter 2—Measuring Crime	•Syllabus quiz due Friday by Moodle midnight •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday
Week 2	Chapter 3—The Classical School of Criminological Thought Chapter 4—Contemporary Classical and Deterrence Research	•Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday
Week 3	Chapter 5—Early Positivism: Biological Theories of Crime	•Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Test opens on Thursday of week 3 •Blog due Sunday REQUIRED: Complete the questionnaire in Moodle by Friday night
Week 4	Chapter 6—Modern Biosocial Perspectives of Criminal Behavior	• Test 1 (weeks 1-3) due Monday (Moodle Midnight) •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday

Week 5	Chapter 7—Psychological/Trait Theories of Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday
Week 6	Chapter 8—Social Structure Theories of Crime, part 1 Chapter 9—Social Structure Theories of Crime, part 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Test 2 opens Thursday of week 6 •Blog due Sunday
Week 7	Chapter 10—Social Process and Control Theories of Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Test 2 (weeks 4-6) due Monday (Moodle Midnight) •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday
Week 8	Chapter 11—Labeling Theory and Conflict/Marxist/Radical Theories of Crime Chapter 12—Feminist Theories of Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Blog due Sunday
Week 9	Chapter 13—Developmental/Life-Course Perspectives on Criminality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Test 3 opens Thursday of week 9 •Blog due Sunday
Week 10	Discussion, Test, and Final Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion posts due Wednesday and Friday •Test 3 (weeks 7-9) due Monday (Moodle Midnight) •Final Project due Wednesday