

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: SOCI2336 - Criminology
Revised: December 2019

Department: Behavioral Science

Discipline: Sociology

Course Number: SOCI2336

Course Title: Criminology

Available Format: Internet

Campuses: May include Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Dual-Credit

Course Description: The course surveys various theories of crime, with an emphasis on understanding the social causes of criminal behavior. The techniques for measuring crime as a social phenomenon and the characteristics of criminals are examined. This course addresses crime types (such as consensual or white-collar crimes), the criminal justice system, and other social responses to crime.

Prerequisite: No prerequisite for conventional sections; must be TSI compliant in reading for Internet sections including dual credit.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Textbook: Siegel, Larry J., *Criminology: The Core*, 7th edition, Cengage

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for all course formats and campuses.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Approval number 45.0401.51 25

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Define key concepts associated with criminology.
- Identify major criminological theories.

- Describe the major categories of crime.
- Explain the various methodological approaches used to research crime and criminal behavior.
- Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the criminal justice

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: See instructor's course information sheet for information on assessment that may include the following: pretests and posttests, quizzes, discussions, essays and/or other types of assessment tools.

Course Evaluation: Refer to instructor's course information sheet for specifics on coursework and grading.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's course information sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;

3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Nondiscrimination Policy: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement: If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the

instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php> Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Course Information Sheet for Criminology, Soci2336

Professor Brant Farrar

- **SOCI 2336.001 (TR 1:00PM to 2:15PM-Room 155-Levelland)**

Office Hours and Location:

Listed on Blackboard

Email Address: bfarrar@southplainscollege.edu (preferred method of contact)

Office Telephone: (806) 716-4657 → If you leave a message speak clearly, include your name, class you are in, phone number, and a short message. I have several courses and sections that I teach so it is important that you include your class information in the message.

COVID19 Statement from SPC President Robin Satterwhite:

1. In compliance with GA-38, SPC will not require any person to wear a face covering. However, we support anyone who chooses to wear a face covering to maintain safety as greater numbers of students, employees, and visitors come to our different campuses.
2. In compliance with GA-38, SPC will not require any person to receive the COVID-19 vaccine to visit our campuses or attend class. However, we strongly recommend getting the vaccine to better protect yourself and others from the COVID-19 virus.
3. Students, faculty, and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for a 14-day period. Faculty should be prepared to accommodate students who are quarantined so they may continue their education without any unreasonable delays. If students, faculty, or staff test positive for COVID-19, they should contact their healthcare provider immediately to determine appropriate healthcare treatments, and they should contact DeEtte Edens to evaluate their quarantine requirements. Students should also contact their instructor to notify them they will be quarantined and to receive instructional guidance from their instructor.
4. **Consistent with the latest CDC recommendations, we have revised our guidance for students, faculty, and staff who have a known exposure or have tested**

positive. Anyone with a known exposure should wear a mask for 10 days and should seek a COVID-19 test on day five after exposure. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you should immediately self-isolate and seek a COVID-19 test. Please immediately notify your instructor, supervisor, and DeEtte Edens, Associate Director of Health and Wellness, any time you test positive for COVID-19. Anyone who tests positive is required to self-isolate for five days. Following the five-day isolation period, if you are asymptomatic or your symptoms are resolving, you may return to work or class but should wear a mask for five additional days. If you are still symptomatic, please contact DeEtte Edens at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376 prior to your return date.

5. Signs have been posted across all campuses encouraging anyone to go home and seek medical attention if they are experiencing any of the signs of COVID.
6. We encourage all faculty, staff, and students to diligently continue personal health and safety protocols such as handwashing, covering coughs/sneezes, and considering vaccinations.

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376.

SPC Return to Campus Plan Comprehensive Resources:

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/return-to-campus-plan.php>

And

Actual Return to Campus Plan:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/SPCReturnToCampusPlans.pdf>

Funding for student assistance during Covid: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/paying-for-school/financial-aid/arp.php>

***Contact method:** Once the session has started, you are to use the e-mail link within your Blackboard course. You will log into your Blackboard account (do NOT use the Send email link on that page) and click on your SOCI2336 course in order to be able to access that e-mail account. Once you are in the course, you will see the "Course – e-mail" link on the left-hand side of the page. I will typically respond to all student messages within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends and/or holidays unless I have notified you differently.*

Textbook: Siegel, Larry J. Criminology: The Core, 7th edition, Cengage. You may purchase a used book as this course does not require access to the publisher's on-line content.

Classroom Behavior:

I have few classroom rules but feel obligated to discuss disruptive behavior* and what it means in a college classroom. First, we are all adults therefore I would appreciate having your attention when I lecture and when another student is speaking. That means that you will direct comments to the entire class and not just to those seated near you. Do not get “personal” when discussing topics (this entails that a student should not verbally attack or be attacked by anyone in the classroom). Secondly, it is very rude to send text messages, read papers or sleep in class. If you feel the need to do any of these you may be asked to leave and return the next class day after meeting with me to discuss the matter in question. Lastly, cell phones are commonplace but are inappropriate in class. If you have one, please mute or turn it off during class. If you feel the need to use your cell phone in any manner (calling, texting, checking the time) you should be aware that this is not appropriate and will not be tolerated. If you are texting in class I will ask you to leave and you will be counted absent for that day as you cannot concentrate on two things at once. If you are expecting a phone call for emergency reasons please notify me BEFORE class. SMART WATCHES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED DURING EXAMS. Such devices MUST be put away before the exam begins. Failure to do so may result in a zero for that exam. Tobacco products of any kind may not be used during class including but not limited to pipes, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, SNUS, and/or electronic cigarettes.

To further clarify: *Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to being rude to an instructor or other students, walking out of class before class ends, making “side comments” to other students, or any other non-adult behavior as defined by the instructor. See the Student Guide for details regarding SPC policy concerning student conduct.

Disruptive behavior in an online classroom setting entails any behavior that will inhibit the process of teaching, on the part of the professor, or learning by students. Such behavior is rare but can be very detrimental to the learning environment. Please be respectful, courteous, and considerate of your fellow classmates. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact your professor.

Attendance:

- **Attendance will be taken every class meeting.**
- There are no “excused absences” in this course. It is the student’s responsibility to attend class. Notes will be online, but if you miss a class discussion you should watch the video of the discussion and/or get notes from a classmate. I do not need to see a doctor note for missing class.
- **IF you are sick and contagious when an assignment is due, DO NOT COME TO CLASS** and risk getting your fellow students (and me) sick. Email me your assignment BEFORE the beginning of class. ***Better safe than sorry...if you have any symptoms of Covid-19...STAY HOME!!!
- You must attend the class you have enrolled in to receive attendance credit, if issues arise related to work schedules or child care please speak to me about possible ways we can deal with such matters.
- If a student misses two exams they may be dropped from the course with an “X” or “F” based on their current grade in the course.
- If you are going to miss class communicate with the instructor before you miss class or immediately following your absence.
- The only time I would need a doctor note is if you are hospitalized and cannot complete the work for the course.

South Plains College email and Blackboard:

- Your official SPC email will be the official way that I contact you. ***Outline versions of the PowerPoint will be provided through Blackboard.*** Provision of the PowerPoint notes is so that you can concentrate on what I am saying rather than only writing down what is on the PowerPoint.
- *****When emailing professors you should use correct spelling, grammar and punctuation. Do not use text speak or computer shorthand.***** This will increase the clarity of your message/question and give the impression that you care about the course.
- Also, if you email a professor you should expect a response within a reasonable timeframe so act accordingly. I try and reply within less than 24 hours during the week and 48 hours for emails received during the weekends. Students MUST check their email and blackboard accounts on a REGULAR BASIS (this means daily or at least every other day). This is especially important while we are dealing with the Covid-19 virus.

Mental Health Services:

- Free counseling services are available through the Student Health and Wellness office in building 8 on the Reese campus. Counseling is available for ANY issues students may be experiencing. If you have any questions do not hesitate to speak to me. I have interest in your success as a student AND an individual!
([http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=1130#Health and Wellness](http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=1130#Health_and_Wellness))

COURSE WORK

All course work is in Course Content in the Blackboard course.

- **1-Syllabus Agreement Quiz (25 points)**
 - The purpose of this quiz is to ensure you have received and understand what is required of you in this course.
- **10-Chapter Quizzes (30 points each, 300 points total)**
 - Then, there is a thirty-question multiple choice and true/false quiz for each of the chapters of the textbook that the course will cover. The chapter quizzes are 45 minute timed quizzes and will close at the deadline. These are "open book" quizzes but you will probably not have enough time to look up all the answers without reading and studying the material prior to taking the quiz. Do not click on the link until you are ready to take the test as once you enter the quiz and get out of it, you cannot re-enter the quiz. Quizzes will not be accepted after you surpass the time limit or after the deadline so plan ahead. Late quizzes aren't accepted. Practice quizzes are available to use as a study tool and are taken from the same test bank as the chapter quizzes. If you fail to submit 6 quizzes you may be dropped from the course. Your TOP 10 quiz grades will count towards your grade for this portion of the class.
- **4-Crime Journal (50 points each, 200 points total):**

- You will have a Semester Long Crime Journal Project assignment. It is detailed in a separate handout available on Blackboard. This handout is currently available and will remain so for the entire semester.
- **4-Exams (100 points each, 400 points total):**
 - If you experience an extreme emergency or conflict prior to an exam and notify me BEFORE the exam one attempt will be made to allow the student to complete the missed exam following provision of documentation (speak to me regarding what will constitute valid documentation). If the student misses this makeup exam the student will have earned a zero for the missed exam.
 - **If there is a conflict with a religious holiday, please let me know now. All exam dates are listed in the syllabus.**
 - **Exam format:** Exams will be based on a combination of lecture, assigned readings, videos and class discussions. If you miss class you will miss vital information. Exams will be timed. Once a student begins an exam they must complete said exam in one session. Exams may be a combination of true/false, multiple choice and essay questions designed to test your knowledge and understanding of concepts covered during the course of this class.
 - **Exam Delivery:** Exams will be taken online through Blackboard. No proctor service will be required. Students will be given at least 24 hours (1 day) in which to complete the exam. A longer period of time may be allowed by the professor.
- **Letter to Future Students (25 points)**
 - Students will have the opportunity at the end of the semester to write a letter that will advise future students
- **1-Essay (150 points)**
 - Additional details regarding this assignment will be posted in Blackboard under "Course Content".

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. (This means no "texting" abbreviations or shortcuts!) This includes discussions.

Writing Tips for all written work in the course:

1. All written work should be typed or computer generated, double spaced, with one inch margins in a standard 12 pt. font. Acceptable files are .docx, .rtf or .pdf. Do NOT submit .pages, google docs or other types of files. Points will be deducted if you use a file that is not on the acceptable file list.

2. Any references used should be listed at the end of the paper using APA style and within the body of the text according to APA procedure. Using reference material without proper documentation constitutes plagiarism which is a serious academic offense. Wikipedia is not considered a valid academic source. Do not use it!

3. For the assignments in this class, it is better to write using first or third person pronouns. Therefore, it is appropriate to use "I, me, mine" or "he, she their, we." It is not appropriate to use "you" or "your." Please avoid writing in 2nd person.

4. Be sure to proofread your work for grammatical and spelling errors. Use the "enable html" button within the email, assignments, and discussion functions to run a spell check. Also remember that "healthy" paragraphs are usually comprised of at least three sentences organized around a central idea.

Academic Integrity: See Common Course Syllabus. Students found guilty of plagiarism in this course will receive a grade of zero (0) for the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an "F" should a second offense occur.

- This course requires students to submit only their OWN WORDS for all parts of the assignments and discussion. Give proper citation for any information taken from any source including the textbook, Internet sites or any other source. For this course, the main source of information is your textbook and you are to cite the page number where you found the information that you use.
- I know students want to help each other but when another student provides you with past questions and/or answers, that is a violation of academic integrity and could result in failure for the class. The same is true if you provide another student with questions and/or answers.
- Using on-line websites that provide questions and/or answers is also a violation of academic integrity and could result in failure for the class.
- For further information and examples please see <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/library/cslibrary/vl/plagiarism.php> or <http://tlt.its.psu.edu/plagiarism/tutorial> .

Point Breakdown:

Syllabus Agreement Quiz-----25 points
Chapter Quizzes (10 @ 30 points)-----300 points
Crime Journal (4 @ 50 points)-----200 points
Exams (4 @ 100 points)-----400 points
Paper-----150 points
Letter to Future Students-----25 points

TOTAL POINTS-----→1100

GRADING SCALE:

900 to 1100	A
800 to 899.9	B
700 to 799.9	C
600 to 699.9	D
599.9 and below	F

Students are encouraged to come by during office hours to discuss their grades and any other class related questions as I do not discuss grades through email.

Student Appeals: See *SPC Student Guide* and/or *SPC General Catalog*.

Sociological perspective: Students will use what is termed the Sociological Perspective since you are now students of Sociology. This perspective stresses the social context in which people live and steps away from what is termed "person blaming." Sociologists look beyond individuals and individual experiences. This perspective strives to understand human behavior by placing it within its broader social context. Depending on a person's characteristics such as gender, age, race, sexual orientation and religion among others, we each have different experiences. Sociologists using this perspective (and that includes you, the student) evaluate people and behaviors in terms of what is typical or atypical (or not typical) by studying society and finding general patterns of behavior. They do NOT judge others or their behaviors with terms such as good/bad, moral/immoral or right/wrong. Do NOT use these terms in your assignments or discussion posts or you will lose points.

Accommodations: See Common Course Syllabus section. Please note: Instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided.

Calendar and Checklist: See the "Start here" area of the course for the full course calendar with checklist.

Deadlines are EVERY Tuesday at NOON. Remember that the official deadlines are when the work is DUE but I recommend that you set your personal deadlines for when you DO your work a couple of days before the official deadline. The policy for this course is that late work is not accepted.