

CRIM 320: Crime and Place



College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Criminology, Law & Society

Fall 2016

Class #[73930](#)

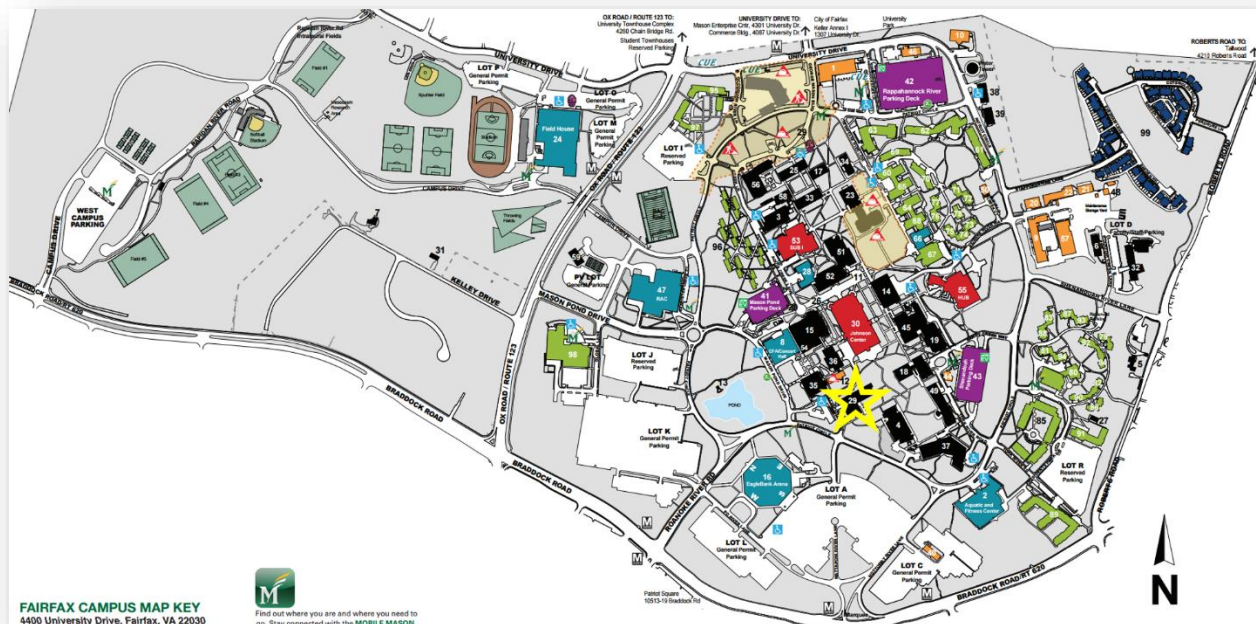
Instructor: matthew d'anna | Phone: 703.993.8315 | Email: mdanna2@masonlive.gmu.edu

Meeting Dates & Location:

02 September – 20 December 2016

Fridays, 4:30-7:10 PM

Innovation Hall 223, Fairfax Campus



Class Materials:

- Weisburd, D., Eck, J.E., Braga, A.A., Telep, C.W., Cave, B., et al. (2016). *Place matters: Criminology for the twenty-first century*. Cambridge University Press, ISBN: [9781107609495](#).
- ESRI ArcGIS (available [here](#), select computer labs across campus, and in this classroom)
- Microsoft Office
- *Other readings, lectures, and software provided as necessary*

Course Description:

The objective of this course is to gain theoretical understanding and practical experience related to crime and place. This will involve the analysis of locations that attract and repel crime, factors related to crime displacement, and the identification and measurement of crime concentrations. These goals are accomplished through the critique of historical and contemporary practices, application of criminological theories, and projects simulating actual research and analysis. This is a hands-on course designed to promote theoretical comprehension and realistic fieldwork. Upon completion of this course students should have a practical appreciation of the relationship between crime and place, and a more nuanced understanding of social science research.

This course utilizes current technology in order to expose students to real crime data. While detailed instructions are provided throughout the semester, students should enter this course with a general comfort with computers and the ability to perform basic functions.

Evaluation: **100 points**

Assignments, 5 total (10 points each):	50 points
Midterm Project:	20 points
Final Project:	30 points

Grade Scale:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>GPA</u>
A+	100-97	4.0
A	96-93	4.0
A-	92-90	3.67
B+	89-87	3.33
B	86-83	3.0
B-	82-80	2.67
C+	79-77	2.33
C	76-73	2.0
C-	72-70	1.67
D	69-60	1.0
F	59-0	0

Assignments:

There are five assignments during the semester. Each is worth 10 points (50% of the overall grade). Four of them involve creating a map, and the fifth is a written brief. Each assignment exposes students to a different skill and/or technology associated with crime and place. While group cooperation is not discouraged, each student must turn in a unique product for each lab.

Midterm:

The midterm consists of a project and presentation, and is worth 20% of the overall grade. Detailed instructions for completing the project will be posted at the beginning of the semester. Drafts may be submitted prior to the project deadline, which is Friday, October 21st, 2016.

Final Project:

The final exam also consists of a project and presentation, worth 30% of the overall grade. Each portion will occur during the final weeks of class. The presentation will be given to the Police Command Staff on **Tuesday, December 20th, 2016 at 5:00 PM** in the Training Center at [City of Fairfax Police Department](#). The project will apply various skills acquired over the course of the semester. More information will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

Extra Credit:

There is an opportunity for 5 extra credit points during the semester. See [here](#) for further details.

Blackboard:

This course is paperless and uses Blackboard extensively. It is recommended to regularly check some of these site components:

- Announcements
- Grades
- Course Content
- Assignments

City of Fairfax Data Disclaimer:

Please complete [Assignment 0](#) immediately.

Disability information:

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Honor Code:

George Mason University has an Honor Code that requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations will be reported to the Honor Committee. See [The Mason Honor Code](#) for further information.

Enrollment:

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Class.

After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the Dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Class for selective withdrawal procedures.

Faculty Evaluation:

University-sponsored scantron-type student evaluation of courses are provided towards the end of the semester. Students will complete the form and a student monitor will submit them to one of various faculty evaluation drop boxes around campus. Candid, honest, and fair feedback is welcome and appreciated.

Course Outline:

Date	Class #	Topic	Reading	Given	Due
9/2/2016	1	Introduction, Orientation, and Overview		Assignment 0	
9/9/2016	2	What is Crime? What is Place? Intro to ArcGIS	Chapter 1	Assignment 1	Assignment 0
9/16/2016	3	ArcGIS: Crime Points	Chapter 2	Assignment 2	
9/23/2016	4	Crime and Place Theories	Chapter 3	Midterm	Assignment 2
9/30/2016	NO CLASS				
10/7/2016	5	ArcGIS: Crime Areas		Assignment 3	
10/14/2016	6	Midterm Preparation	Chapter 4		Assignment 3
10/21/2016	7	MIDTERM PRESENTATIONS			
10/28/2016	8	Crime Analysis	Chapter 5	Final Exam	
11/4/2016	9	ArcGIS: Crime Concentrations		Assignment 4	
11/11/2016	10	ArcGIS: Crime Forecasting	Chapter 6	Assignment 5	Assignment 4
11/18/2016	11	Crime Prediction	Chapter 7		Assignment 5
11/25/2016	NO CLASS				
12/2/2016	12	Final Exam Preparation			Final Exam I
12/9/2016	13	Temporal Analysis			Final Exam II
12/16/2016	14	Final Exam Preparation			Assignment 1 Extra Credit Final Exam III
12/20/2016	15	FINAL EXAM, 5:00 PM at Fairfax PD (3730 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030)			