

CRIM 471 – Prevention and Deterrence of Crime

Spring 2019

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Office Hours	By Appointment Only		

Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will understand and apply deterrence theories, environmental and situational perspectives of crime, and evidence-based crime prevention practices. Students will learn how to design effective security and crime prevention programs and tactics.

Enrollment:

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the George Mason Academic Calendar. The last day to add this class is **Jan 29, 2019**. The last day to drop this class is **February 12, 2019**. After February 12, 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 Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

Required Reading:

There is no required textbook for this class. All readings can be found in Blackboard under "Course Content" organized by the week they are applicable. In addition to course readings, use of other resources may be assigned. I have also curated an Amazon list of interesting books around the topics we are discussing. **Readings assignments may be changed by the instructor as needed to fulfill class requirements.**

Attendance:

Attendance is expected (20%). Students will be penalized for any absence not approved by the instructor ahead of time. Absences must be for valid reasons as agreed upon between the student and instructor. The instructor reserves the right not to excuse any absence. **Any absence not communicated or approved by the instructor will be 2 points (out of 20) penalized to the student's participation grade.** Missing classes without prior approval will result in significant decreases in the student's grade.

Assignments:

Quizzes (20%): Quizzes will be assigned after each topic of the course. The purpose of the quizzes is to reinforce class topics and gauge student understanding of material. Quizzes must be completed by the start of the next class session. All quizzes will be administered through Blackboard.

Exams (2 x 10%): There will be two exams in this course. The exams will be structured as case studies. The instructor will provide students with information regarding a scenario as well as discuss key parts of the scenario with the entire class. The students will then independently answer questions about the scenario that will require the application of course concepts. Since this is a 400-level course, students will be required to not just remember and understand core concepts, but also be able to apply them in real-world situations.

Recommendation Report (40%): Students will work in teams assigned by the professor to produce a final project. Each team will select a single location to assess for vulnerabilities, known crime problems, and potential crime risks and recommend crime prevention measures based on research and theory. Each team must provide three practical recommendations. For

each recommendation, the team must describe the following: a) *exactly how the crime prevention tactic should be carried out and managed by the place managers*, b) *what the research, theoretical, and logical evidence and reasoning is for the tactic*, and c) *an explanation of how the tactic will work that connects it to theory and research*. At the end of the semester student teams will present their reports to the class before turning in the final project in order to elicit feedback from classmates and the instructor. Recommendation memos must be typed in standard APA format (12-point font, 1 inch margins). Students are required to use their Microsoft OneDrive provided by the university and grant the instructor access to their working folder. This will make it easy for the instructor to provide feedback and assistance to teams throughout the semester. Recommendation reports are due on **May 9, 2018**.

Grading:

A+ 97 - 100	B+ 87 – 89	C+ 77 - 79	
A 94 - 96	B 84 - 86	C 74 - 76	D 60 - 69
A- 90 - 93	B- 80 - 83	C- 70 - 73	F 0 - 59

Students with Disabilities:

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, which 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 of the Honor Code will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity (oai.gmu.edu). See oai.gmu.edu for more detailed information.

Course Schedule:

Below is the schedule of class topics and assignments. **This schedule may be changed by the instructor to fulfill class requirements.** Any change to the class schedule, including due dates of assignments, will be presented to the student in writing.

Class Date	Topic	Assignment Due
Jan 24	Introduction to Crime Prevention/Deterrence	
Jan 31	No Class – Reading Day	
Feb 7	Rational Choice Perspective and Situational Precipitators	Quiz 1
Feb 14	Deterrence Theory and Practice	Quiz 2
Feb 21	Routine Activities, Crime Pattern Theory and Crime Scripts	Quiz 3
Feb 28	Exam Review	Quiz 4

Class Date	Topic	Assignment Due
Mar 7	Exam 1	Project Site Submissions Due
Mar 14	No Class – Spring Break	
Mar 21	Situational Crime Prevention	
Mar 28	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and Defensible Space	Quiz 5
Apr 4	Problem Oriented Policing	Quiz 6
Apr 11	Focused Deterrence	Quiz 7
Apr 18	Exam Review	Quiz 8
Apr 25	Team Presentations	
May 2	Team Presentations	
May 9	Final Exam	