

CRIM 471 – Prevention and Deterrence of Crime

Fall 2019 - Online

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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 **September 3, 2019**. The last day to drop this class is **September 17, 2019**. After September 17, 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:

There is no attendance requirement for this class. This class is asynchronous in schedule. Students are required to complete the assignments on their own schedule.

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 Saturday at 11:59PM at the end of each week. All quizzes will be administered through Blackboard.

Case Studies (20%): There will be 4 case studies that are due over the course of the semester. These are small exercises that require you to solve an example problem regarding crime prevention and deterrence. Case studies will be due every few weeks and will be posted to Blackboard at least 1 week before they are due. Case studies will usually require writing 1 – 2 pages or equivalent work. Each student can freely skip 1 case study for the semester. Students must email the instructor to express their intention to skip the case study prior to the due date, otherwise the case study will be counted as incomplete. Case studies must be turned in on Blackboard by Saturday at 11:59PM at the end of the due week.

Exams (2 x 10%): There will be two exams in this course. The exams will be largely multiple choice based. The instructor will provide students with information regarding a scenario. The students will 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. Students will have one week to complete the exam. The exam is due by Saturday at 11:59PM at the end of the exam week.

Recommendation Report (40%): Each student 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 student must provide three practical recommendations. For each recommendation, the student 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 students will have the option to present their recommendations to the instructor before turning in the final project in order to elicit feedback. Recommendation memos must be typed in standard APA format (12-point font, 1-inch margins, proper citations) between 5 – 7 pages long. Recommendation reports are due on **Dec 11, 2019**.

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.

Week	Topic	Assignment Due by End of Week
Aug 25	Introduction to Crime Prevention/Deterrence	Quiz 1
Sep 1	Situational Precipitators Rational Choice Perspective	Quiz 2
Sep 8	Deterrence	Quiz 3, Case Study 1
Sep 15	Routine Activities Perspective	Quiz 4
Sep 22	Crime Pattern Theory	Quiz 5
Sep 29	Offender Mobility, Crime Scripts	Quiz 6

Week	Topic	Assignment Due by End of Week
Oct 6	Geographic Profiling, Repeat Victimization	Quiz 7, Case Study 2
Oct 13	Review	Exam 1 Recommendation Site Selection
Oct 20	Situational Crime Prevention	Quiz 8
Oct 27	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and Defensible Space	Quiz 9, Case Study 3
Nov 3	Problem Oriented Policing	Quiz 10
Nov 10	Focused Deterrence	Quiz 11
Nov 17	Cyber Crime	Quiz 12, Case Study 4
Nov 24	Thanksgiving Break	
Dec 1	Optional Presentations	Recommendation Report
Dec 8	Final Exam	Exam 2