I. Locator Information:
Instructor: Prof. Godpower O. Okereke
Coordinator: Sociology Program
Office: 203 University Center

Office Hours: MW. 8:30 to 11:30 AM
TR. 8:30 to 10:00 AM
Also Available by Appointment

Phone: (903) 223-3163
Fax: (903) 223-3107
E-Mail Godpower.okereke@tamut.edu

II. Course Description:
Crime and Delinquency is a course that is intended to acquaint students with the nature of crime and delinquency in the American society. Emphasis will be placed on the development of criminology as an academic discipline, major theories of crime causation, types of crimes, and the reactions of the American Criminal Justice System to the issues of crime and delinquency.

III. Course Objectives:
Relevant to the above, this course seeks the following objectives:

1. Define crime and the related concepts of law, deviance, and juvenile delinquency.
2. Discuss the nature and extent of crime in contemporary society.
3. Discuss the major theories of crime causation.
4. Identify and discuss the social factors that contribute to crime and delinquency.
5. Outline the operation of the American Criminal Justice System.
6. Evaluate the relative benefits of various forms of punishment.
7. Evaluate proposed crime control policies in light of the theoretical and political assumptions that underlie them.
8. Critically analyze research findings on crime and delinquency.

IV. Student Learner Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students would acquire the ability to:
1. Recognize how crime and delinquency come about.
2. Understand the philosophical explanations of crime and delinquency.
3. Understand the role of politics and public opinion on the crime problem.
4. Relate ideologies and public opinion to various forms of punishment.
5. Recognize the myriad factors that contribute to crime and delinquency.

V. Textbook:

VI. Technology Requirements:
Students must have access to a late model computer with an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Students must have access to a reliable e-mail service and must be able to receive and send e-mails with attachments. The e-mail software and the internet browser must be compatible with Blackboard. Microsoft Word, and Adobe/Acrobat Reader/Writer for pdf files

**Student Technical Assistance:**
Solutions to common problems and FAQ’s for your web-enhanced and online courses are found at this link: [http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/index.php?pageid=37](http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/index.php?pageid=37) If you cannot find your resolution there, you can send in a support request detailing your specific problem here: [http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/gethelp2.php](http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/gethelp2.php)

**Blackboard Helpdesk Contacts:** Office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p
Julia Allen (Main contact) 903-223-3084 j.allen@tamut.edu
Kevin Williams (alternate contact) 903-223-1356 kevin.williams@tamut.edu
Frank Miller (alternate contact) 903-223-3156 frank.miller@tamut.edu
Nikki Thomson (alternate contact) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu

**Note:** The university computer labs provide students with computers that have all of the above course requirements

**A&M-Texarkana Email Address:**
Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

**Drop Policy:** To drop this course, a student needs to complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form; this form is located on the University website ([http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html](http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html)) or obtained in the
Registrar’s Office. Students must submit the signed and completed form to the faculty member for each course indicated on the form for their signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form is submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing either in person, email (Registrar@tamut.edu), or fax (903-223-3140). Incomplete forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission.

VII. Basic Course Requirements:
If you are using internet explorer as your ISP, you have to click on the bar at the top of the screen to be able to download files.

Discussion Topics:
There will be four time-sensitive discussion questions in this course (one in January, one in February, one in March, and one in April). Students are required to regularly log-on to the course web-site and participate in such discussions. Each student will post an original response to the discussion topic and then respond/react to the postings/opinions of at least two other students. All postings must be substantial enough to stimulate further dialog among students and between students and the professor. Points will be assigned based on the quality of all three postings—one original and two reactions to the postings of other students.

Class Notes:
All power-point class notes can be accessed by clicking on the navigation bar “Class Notes.” The notes are mere summaries of information contained in each chapter. Students must therefore read the corresponding chapters in the text along with such summaries to do well on the tests.

Class Attendance:
There will be no required on-line or synchronous chat-room meetings. But, students are expected to periodically go to the course web-site to check for course updates and deadlines. These and similar course information will be posted on the “Announcement” icon on the course web-site.

Class Ethics:
Course materials and website can only be used for course purposes by students who are formally enrolled in the course. The professor expects that students enrolled in this course will conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the duration of the course.

Academic Honesty:
Academic honesty is expected of all students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and copying or undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic
dishonesty, and may be grounds for a grade of "F" in the course and/or other disciplinary actions. Students are responsible for reading and understanding the University Policy on Academic Honesty.

**Due Dates:**
The due dates for all course requirements and activities will be posted on the course “Announcement”. It is therefore, the student’s responsibility to periodically check the course web site to ensure that he or she does not miss any course requirements. It should also be noted that the professor retains the authority to modify/change any aspect of the course and/or due dates. Such modifications/changes will be communicated to students either via emails and/or posted on the course website.

**Examinations and Assignments:**
Dates for all examinations and/or assignments will be posted along with the examination or assignment on the course website. The examination or assignment will have two dates and times: the beginning date and time and the ending date and time. Students must take all such examinations or assignments during the allotted dates and times. Students will not be able to access the examination or assignment once the set time on the last date to complete such examination or assignment is passed. Students should also check the course calendar to see the due dates of various assignments, discussions, and/or tests.

**VIII. Course Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Exam.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam.</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Assignments (10 points each)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Discussion Questions (15 points each)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Possible</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**IX. Grade Assignment:**

- 270 to 300 points                               A
- 240 to 269 points                               B
- 210 to 239 points                               C

**X. Schedule of Activities and Reading List**

Week 1: Chapter 1: Crime and Criminology

Week 2: Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime

Chapter 3: Victims and Victimization
Week 4: Chapter 4: Rational Choice Theories

Week 5: Chapter 5: Trait Theories

Week 6: Chapter 6: Social Structure Theories

Chapter 7: Social Process Theories

First Exam.

Week 7: Chapter 8: Social Conflict, Critical Criminology, and Restorative Justice

Week 8: Chapter 9: Developmental Theories: Life Course and Latent Trait

Week 9: Chapter 10: Interpersonal Violence

Week 10: Chapter 11: Political Crimes and Terrorism

Week 11: Chapter 12: Property Crimes


Week 13: Chapter 14: Public Order Crimes: Sex and Substance Abuse

Week 14: Chapter 15: Technology and Cyber Crimes

Final Exam

XI. Other Relevant Information:

Disability Accommodation: Students who have a request for assistance with disability accommodations are encouraged to contact Carl Greig in the Office of Student and Academic Support Services, Room 225. Accommodation requests are addressed on a case by case basis. The physical facilities of the university have been designed and modified to allow full access to disabled students.

XII. References


