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|  | **University at Albany, SUNY** **School of Criminal Justice**  **RCRJ 399 Women and Crime**  **Winter 2018** |

Instructor: Luzi Shi

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**Course Description and Goals**

Gender is an important social construction that is built into our daily life. Like other human activities, crime and victimization are shaped by gender. Criminologists have recognized that without gender, the study of criminology is remiss. In this class, we learn both theories and empirical research regarding gendered crime and victimization. By the end of the course, students should have a comprehensive and clear understanding of the following topics:

* Gendered pathways to criminal offending
* Intersectionalities: gender, race, poverty, and crime
* Women as victims of violence and restorative justice
* Women’s fear of crime

**Course Materials**

* There is a required book for this class: Heimer, K., & Kruttschnitt, C. (Eds.). (2006). *Gender and crime: Patterns of victimization and offending*. NYU Press. You can either order the book online such as from Amazon or pick it up from the university bookstore.
  + Most of the readings come from the book. So yes, this book is important.
* Other required readings are available via Blackboard.

**Instruction Contact Information**

* Feel free to e-mail me with any questions or concerns about this course. I will make sure to respond to you within 24 hours.
* Since this class if fully online, all of my communication with students will take place over e-mail. This means that you have to **CHECK YOUR E-MAIL REGULARLY**. I am going to assume that you are checking your e-mail at least **ONCE A DAY**. If you are going to be away from Internet access for more than that amount of time, please let me know beforehand.

**Evaluation Rules**

* The total grade is 100 points. There will be 10 extra credits for you to grab throughout this semester.
* Your performance in this class is evaluated through: 1) quizzes, worth 72% of the total grade; and 2) papers, worth 28% of the total grade
* Quizzes: Each week there will be a quiz of 18 questions (multiple choice and true/false), each question is worth 1 point. Throughout this semester, there will be altogether 72 questions, worth 72 points out of the total grade of 100 points.
* Papers: Throughout the semester, you need to write two essays: one on modules 1 & 2 and one on modules 3 & 4. Each one is worth 14 points and 14% of your final grade. Specific instructions will be posted in the modules.
* Extra Credits: Each week I will post a discussion topic on the discussion board. You are encouraged to post your thoughts/comments on the board as well. Your response should be composed in a logical paragraph, referencing your own experiences and your reflections of the readings. Each time you participate you will get 2.5 extra credits towards your final grade. If your comments are not related to my question, you will not get any points. You can only get 2.5 extra points each week. The top is 10 points.
* Because the quizzes are based entirely on readings, I will go through each week and check to make sure that none of the questions are too tricky, specific, or vague. If any question is answered correctly less than 30% of the time, I'll assume it was unfairly difficult and give everyone credit for it.
* You should be aware that the subjects we cover are generally cumulative in nature. As a result, areas covered early in the course are relevant throughout the entire course.
* If you have questions about the grade you received on an exam, I am happy to answer those questions and to suggest ways that you can do better.
* If you do not think that the grade you received reflects the quality of your work, you may ask for the answers to be graded again. To do so, submit a formal appeal in writing, explaining why you think the grade you received is not a fair reflection of the quality of your work. The new grade, whether high or lower, will then become your finial grade on this assignment.
* There are no opportunities to re-take tests or to do extra-credit work requested by the students in this course.
* At the end of the semester, I will calculate your grade as described above and that grade becomes your final grade. I will not increase any person’s grade solely to change their letter grade. So if you make an 89, you will make a B+, not an A-. No amount of pleading will change this outcome. Particularly common and ineffective are pleas claiming that your grade is this class will cause you to lose a scholarship, prevent you from attending the graduate or professional school of your choice, or lead to some other unfortunate, but unlikely, consequence. Even more ineffective are pleas that contain false statements such as “This is the only B that I received this semester that I can easily debunk with a glance at your transcript.
* Quizzes are always due every Wednesday at 5p.m. It is timed (60 minutes). There is NO opportunity to take the quiz after the due date.
* Late submission of essays will be penalized by 3.5 points for each day they are late. If the submission is late for a few minutes, it is still counted as late for a day. This will max out at 2 days, meaning that the most you can have deducted for late work is 50% (7 points).
* If you are late for the extra credit assignments, you will not get any extra credits.
* It is your responsibility to make sure the submitted essay files are correct and final. If you find you submit the wrong file and resubmit a correct one later after the due date, the correct one will be considered as late submission.
* If you need to miss an exam or any assignment, you *must* *have a University-approved excuse*. The University policy regarding absences and make-up work can be found here: <http://www.albany.edu/undergraduateeducation/attendance.php>. If you need to make up an assignment, you must do so within a week of returning from your excused absence.

**Grading Scale**

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| A: 100-93 | B: 87-83 | C: 77-73 | D: 67-63 |
| A-: 92-90 | B-: 82-80 | C-: 72-70 | D-: 62-60 |
| B+: 89-88 | C+: 79-78 | D+: 69-68 | F: 59 or below |

**Syllabus Change Policy**

* The syllabus is designed to be a resource that students should use throughout the semester. While this syllabus lists readings and test dates, students should use the course website and Blackboard as their primary source for detailed information regarding the course. This is important because the instructor may update or modify assignments and readings throughout the course. In the situation of change or modification, the instructor will post changes under the “Announcements” tab on Blackboard.

**Academic Honor Policy**

* The University at Albany’s Undergraduate Academic Regulations outline the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and for living up to the standards of academic integrity listed therein. Please refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin regarding the University’s policies (and student consequences) about plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty. [http://www.albany.edu/undergraduate\_bulletin/regulations.html](https://by2prd0511.outlook.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=c501yjkgTk-h41nfOGC2lkGRCIokTc8I9PM33mx9-6XWwtwF7ocFzAgfaenXSLEHILxraHoRiKQ.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.albany.edu%2fundergraduate_bulletin%2fregulations.html)
* Plagiarism or any other academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this class. Perpetrators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the University’s regulations.

**Reasonable Accommodation Policy**

* Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, systemic, cognitive, learning and psychiatric disabilities.  If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation in this class, please notify the Director of Disabled Student Services (Campus Center 137, 442-5490). That office will provide the course instructor with verification of your disability, and will recommend appropriate accommodations. Also, please inform me of religious observances and illness that may arise.

**TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR**

*All readings are* ***mandatory*** *and provided on Blackboard.*

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| **Theme** | **Week\*** | **Assignments** | **Evaluations** |
| 1. Gendered Pathways to Offending | #1  (Th, 12/20 - W, 12/26) | * Syllabus * Chapters 1, 2, 4 from textbook | * Weekly 18-question quiz is **due Wednesday 12/26 at 5p.m.** Frist essay is **due Wednesday 1/2 at 5p.m.** * The quiz covers content from all three book chapters. You can take the quiz any time before the due date. Each question is worth 1 point. It is open-book. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. There is **NO** chance to retake it once you have finished it. The quiz will not reopen after the due date. * You can get 2.5 extra credits by participating in the discussion and posting a comment to my assigned discussion topic. |
| 2. Intersectionalities:  Gender, Race, Poverty, and Crime | #2  (Th, 12/27 – W, 1/2) | * Chapters 5, 10, 11 from textbook | * Weekly 18-question quiz is **due Wednesday 1/2 at 5p.m.** Frist essay is **due Wednesday 1/2 at 5p.m.** * The quiz covers content from all three book chapters. You can take the quiz any time before the due date. Each question is worth 1 point. It is open-book. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. There is **NO** chance to retake it once you have finished it. The quiz will not reopen after the due date. * You can get 2.5 extra credits by participating in the discussion and posting a comment to my assigned discussion topic. |
| 3. Women as Victims of Violence and Restorative Justice | #3  (Th, 1/3 – W, 1/9) | * Chapters 7, 8, 9 from textbook | * Weekly 18-question quiz is **due Wednesday 1/9 at 5p.m.** Frist essay is **due Wednesday 1/16 at 5p.m.** * The quiz covers content from all three book chapters. You can take the quiz any time before then. Each question is worth 1 point. It is open-book. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. There is **NO** chance to retake it once you have finished it. The quiz will not reopen after the due date. * You can get 2.5 extra credits by participating in the discussion and posting a comment to my assigned discussion topic. |
| 4. Women’s Fear of Crime | #4  (Th, 1/10 – W, 1/16) | * Ferraro, K. F. (1996). Women's fear of victimization: Shadow of sexual assault?. *Social forces*,*75*(2), 667-690. * Franklin, C. A., & Franklin, T. W. (2009). Predicting fear of crime: Considering differences across gender. *Feminist Criminology*,*4*(1), 83-106. * Woolnough, A. D. (2009). Fear of crime on campus: gender differences in use of self-protective behaviours at an urban university. *Security Journal*, *22*(1), 40-55. | * Weekly 18-question quiz is **due Wednesday 1/16 at 5p.m.** Second essay is **due Wednesday 1/16 at 5p.m.** * The quiz covers content from all three readings. You can take the quiz any time before then. Each question is worth 1 point. It is open-book. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. There is **NO** chance to retake it once you have finished it. The quiz will not reopen after the due date. * You can get 2.5 extra credits by participating in the discussion and posting a comment to my assigned discussion topic. |
| W: Wednesday; Th: Thursday. All December dates are in 2018 and all January dates are in 2019. | | | |