STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK

MASTER SYLLABUS

COURSE NUMBER – COURSE NAME
JUST 204 – Crime and the Media

CIP Code: 45.04
For assistance determining CIP Code, please refer to this webpage
or reach out to Sarah Todd at todd@canton.edu

Created by: Michelle L Currier, PhD

Updated by:

School of Science, Health, and Criminal Justice
Department: Criminal Justice
Semester/Year: Fall 2024
A. TITLE: Crime and the Media

B. COURSE NUMBER: JUST 204

C. CREDIT HOURS: (Hours of Lecture, Laboratory, Recitation, Tutorial, Activity)
   
   # Credit Hours: 3
   # Lecture Hours: 3 per week
   # Lab Hours: per week
   Other: per week

   Course Length: 15 Weeks

D. WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE: Yes ☐ No ☑

E. GER CATEGORY: None: ☒ Yes: GER
   If course satisfies more than one: GER

F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED: Fall ☐ Spring ☑ Fall & Spring ☒

G. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

   This course focuses on the social constructions of crime and justice and the ways in which a variety of media inform and mediate interpretations, beliefs, and understanding of crime in the U.S. Special attention is paid to news media, social media, television, and film. Areas of the criminal-legal system analyzed include policing, prisons, and lawyers/courts, as well as other special topics or emerging concerns.

H. PRE-REQUISITES: None ☒ Yes ☐ If yes, list below:

   CO-REQUISITES: None ☒ Yes ☐ If yes, list below:

I. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: (see key below)

   By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Student Learning Outcome (SLO)</th>
<th>Program Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>GER</th>
<th>ISLO &amp; SUBSETS</th>
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(see key below)
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<tr>
<th><strong>PSLO</strong></th>
<th><strong>If Applicable</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Identify and describe the historical, legal, and social contexts of media depictions of crime.</td>
<td>PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/criminal justice contexts.</td>
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<td>Critique conventions of messaging, information-production, and &quot;info-tainment&quot; common in contemporary forms of media that focus on crime and justice.</td>
<td>PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/criminal justice contexts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critically analyze a film, television series, or other popular form of media and its depictions and messaging relating to crime and justice.</td>
<td>PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/criminal justice contexts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISLO #</td>
<td>ISLO &amp; Subsets</td>
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| 1      | Communication Skills  
Oral [O], Written [W] |
| 2      | Critical Thinking  
Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS] |
| 3      | Foundational Skills  
Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR] |
| 4      | Social Responsibility  
Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T] |
| 5      | Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills |

*Include program objectives if applicable. Please consult with Program Coordinator*

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:**  
   Yes ☐  No ☒

   If YES, select one or more of the following categories:

   - [ ] Classroom/Lab
   - [ ] Internship
   - [ ] Clinical Placement
   - [ ] Practicum
   - [ ] Service Learning
   - [ ] Community Service
   - [ ] Civic Engagement
   - [ ] Creative Works/Senior Project
   - [ ] Research
   - [ ] Entrepreneurship

K. **TEXTS:**


L. **REFERENCES:**

   n/a

M. **EQUIPMENT:** None ☒  Needed:

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

   Exams, discussions, papers, and final project

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**
A. Introduction to Contemporary and Historical Media Treatment of Crime
B. News Media, Social Media, and Crime Waves
C. Framing and Narrating Crime in the News
D. Crime in the Movies
E. Crime Television
F. Policing and Crime
G. Courtrooms and Lawyers in the Media
H. Prison in the Media
I. Media’s Social Construction of Crime and Justice

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: None ☒ Yes ☐