

**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*

*<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?v=55>*

*or reach out to Sarah Todd at [todds@canton.edu](mailto:todds@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:

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome</u> <u>[SLO]</u>	<u>Program Student</u> <u>Learning</u> <u>Outcome</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO &amp; SUBSETS</u>

	<b><u>[PSLO]</u></b>	<b><u>[If Applicable]</u></b>		
Identify and describe the historical, legal, and social contexts of media depictions of crime.	PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/ criminal justice contexts.		2-Crit Think ISLO ISLO	IA Subsets Subsets Subsets
Critique conventions of messaging, informatioin-production, and "info-tainment" common in contemporary forms of media that focus on crime and justice.	PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/ criminal justice contexts.		2-Crit Think ISLO ISLO	IA Subsets Subsets Subsets
Critically analyze a film, television series, or other popular form of media and its depictions and messaging relating to crime and justice.	PLO 2 – Analyze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/ criminal justice contexts.		2-Crit Think ISLO ISLO	IA Subsets Subsets Subsets
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<b>KEY</b>	<b><u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u></b>
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ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	<b>Communication Skills</b> Oral [O], Written [W]
2	<b>Critical Thinking</b> <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry &amp; Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	<b>Foundational Skills</b> <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	<b>Social Responsibility</b> <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	<b>Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills</b>

\*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:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom/Lab      | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Engagement              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internship         | <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Works/Senior Project |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Placement | <input type="checkbox"/> Research                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum          | <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurship              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning   | (program, class, project)                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service  |  |

K. TEXTS:

Garcia, V. & Arkerson, S.(2017). Crime, media, and reality: Examining mixed messages about crime and justice in popular media. Rowman & Littlefield: Lanham, MA. ISBN-13 978-1442260818.

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