

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



MASTER SYLLABUS

JUST 310 – CAUSES OF CRIME

**Revised by: Michelle Currier
Updated by: Lisa Colbert**

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CENTER FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE, INTELLIGENCE AND CYBERSECURITY
SPRING 2020**

- A. **TITLE:** Causes of Crime
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 310
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** no
- E. **GER CATEGORY:** NA
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** _Fall/Spring
- G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course introduces various criminological theories to explain the cause of criminal behavior. Specific attention is placed on the primary theorists and the evolution of their corresponding theories and how they relate to current theories associated with biological, psychological, personality, intelligence and gender, and social disorder. Students learn to identify and apply criminological theories to the commission of specific criminal acts. The history of crime and punishment is reviewed, leading to the present day criminal justice system and competing criminological theories.
- H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
45 credit hours or permission of instructor

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Student Course Learning Outcomes (SLO)	PSLO	GER	ISLO
a. Describe the social and historical contexts and foundations of criminology	(2994) 1-apply standards of academic and professional discourse while speaking and writing		1. Communication
b. Contrast the logic and assumptions of various criminological theories within the five dominant criminological paradigms	(2994) 2-Anlayze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/criminal justice contexts.		2. Critical Thinking
c. Apply criminological theory to a range of criminal and delinquent behaviors	(2994) 2-Anlayze and evaluate theory and practice in criminological/criminal justice contexts.		2.Critical Thinking

KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes _____ No x _____

K. **TEXTS:** Brown, S.E., Geis, G., & Esbensen, F. (2015). *Criminology: Explaining Crime and its Context.*

New York, NY: Routledge.

(**E-book *free* to students and available via SLIC at

<https://login.libproxy.canton.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1021286&site=eds-live&scope=site&ebv=EK&ppid=Page-31>)

L. **REFERENCES:** NA

M. **EQUIPMENT:** NA

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

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

- Quizzes
- Exams
- Papers
- Participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Foundations for Criminology
 - A. Crime and Criminology
 - B. The Relativity of Law and Crime
 - C. Production of Crime Statistics
 - D. Distribution of Crime
- II. Theories of Crime
 - A. Deterrence and Rational Choice Theories of Crime
 - B. Individual Theories of Crime: A Biosocial Perspective
 - C. Social Structure Theories of Crime
 - D. Social Process Theories of Crime
 - E. Social Reaction Theories of Crime
 - F. Integration and a Life-Course Perspective
- III. Types of Crime
 - A. Violent Crime
 - B. Economic Crime
 - C. Crimes Without Victims and Victims Without Crimes
 - D. Youth Violence

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: NA