CRIM 4020-RACE, CRIME and JUSTICE/Fall 2017
School of Criminology and CJ
Northeastern University

Professor: Dr. Ramiro Martinez Jr.
Office and Office hours: 415 Churchill, M Noon-2:00 pm and TH 9:00am-10am and by appointment.
Phone: (617) 373-7066
E-mail: r.martinez@neu.edu
Class Meetings: Snell 111, MWR 10:30am-11:35am

Course Description

- The goal of this undergraduate seminar is to familiarize students with race/ethnicity/immigration crime and justice research by providing definitions, patterns, and social science explanations of crime, violence and the justice system.
- The course will direct attention to criminological research on defining race/ethnicity/immigration, racial and ethnic disparities in criminal victimization and offending and other related facets of the criminal justice system including policing, courts, sentencing, death penalty and juvenile justice. Given societal concern over recent demographic change, the growth of immigration and immigrant status will also be examined when possible.
- We will direct attention to the race/ethnicity research literature on the study of crime and criminal justice, research methods and micro/macro levels of explanation and theory taking into account historical and social forces that influence social perceptions and reactions.
- Students will become familiar with contemporary issues in race/ethnicity/immigrant research on crime and violence and will apply their knowledge in developing a scholarly, original analysis of race/ethnicity/immigration, crime and the justice system.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe racial and ethnic categories; discuss the distribution of racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. and explain the variations in crime and justice related topics.
- Compare victimization rates between racial/ethnic/immigrant groups; compare offending patterns between racial/ethnic minorities and whites; and remind us that crime is predominantly intra-racial not interracial event. There are some exceptions which we will explore.
- Explain how, or if, racial discrimination and social and economic inequality directly impact the crime and criminal justice continuum. Of course exceptions exist.
- Describe the relationship between social structure and crime in American society; discuss the disproportionate involvement of racial/ethnic/immigrants in the criminal justice system; the relationship between inequality and crime and the nature and extent of racial and ethnic economic inequality. Is there a past and present connection to crime and justice system?
Required Readings


Sage journal articles in Student Resources <https://study.sagepub.com/node/29060/student-resources>


Each student selects one article for class presentation before the first week of class ends. Those weekly articles are available in the student resources folder (above). The Armenta chapters are available for presentations. (A couple of reports are also listed. Links are available in GG Internet Sites)

Course Requirements

Two quizzes (each worth 20%) 40%
Two projects (each worth 10%) 20%
One article presentation (worth 10%) 10%
Blackboard questions 20%
Class participation and attendance 10%

Article presentation

Each of you will draw one reading over the semester (See Readings/Journal articles below). You will be expected to present the key findings of each article using the following steps: Outline each article by telling us what it is about. What are the authors doing? How are they doing it? What is the research question(s)? What methods are they using to answer their research question(s) (e.g. survey research, ethnographic research)? Briefly describe and discuss the key findings. And finally, discuss how the article relates to the class topic. These articles can be challenging so note what you found in general terms and avoid mathematical jargon.

Blackboard (BB)

In general Blackboard will be used for assignments, announcements, and discussions. We will also use it to assist class discussion. Please answer at least THREE of the Discussion Questions at the end of each GG chapter. To receive full credit post by 10:00am each week chapter or topic is completed. For example Overview of Race and Crime articles due 10am Wednesday morning. Make sure the specific discussion questions are clearly stated in the Black Board post (BB). While there is no specific length the content should be in complete sentences or paragraphs, informed, well thought out and should not replicate your classmates work.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Readings/Journal Articles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 11</td>
<td>Overview of Race and Crime <strong>(BB)</strong></td>
<td>Overview of Race and Crime</td>
<td>Extent of Crime &amp; Victimization</td>
<td>Dyke &amp; Tester; Lauritsen, Rezey, &amp; Heimer; Tapia. M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 25</td>
<td>Theoretical Perspectives on Race and Crime <strong>(BB)</strong></td>
<td>Theoretical Perspectives on Race and Crime</td>
<td>Policing</td>
<td>Unnever; Eitle et al.; Schnapp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td><strong>Columbus Day, no class</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
<td>Courts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>Courts**(BB)**</td>
<td>Courts</td>
<td>Project 1 due</td>
<td>Koetzle and colleagues; Zettler &amp; Morris; Johnson, B. AA3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>The Death Penalty <strong>(BB)</strong></td>
<td>The Death Penalty</td>
<td>The Death Penalty</td>
<td>Girgenti; Olney &amp; Bonn; Kaplan &amp; Sherman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Corrections**(BB)**</td>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Barnum et al., Steinmetz &amp; Henderson; Bennett. AA 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
<td>ASC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Thanksgiving, no class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Late assignments will not be accepted or graded and make-up exams will be given only under "extenuating" (life-threatening illness) and "documented" (physician’s note) circumstances before the exam is given. If you miss any exam or assignment you will be given a zero.

Course Disclaimer
Every attempt is made to provide a syllabus that is complete and that provides an accurate overview of the course. However, circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. This may depend, in part, on the progress, needs, and experiences of the students. With that in mind I reserve the right to make changes at any time.

Academic integrity:
Please see the NU Academic Integrity Policy (url below)
http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academichonesty.html.
• Acts of academic dishonesty will be referred to OSCCR (Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects individuals from sex or gender-based discrimination, including discrimination based on gender-identity, in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Northeastern’s Title IX Policy prohibits Prohibited Offenses, which are defined as sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship or domestic violence, and stalking. The Title IX Policy applies to the entire community, including male, female, transgender students, and faculty and staff.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, confidential support and guidance can be found through University Health and Counseling Services staff (http://www.northeastern.edu/uhcs/) and the Center for Spiritual Dialogue and Service clergy members (http://www.northeastern.edu/spirituallife/). By law, those employees are not required to report allegations of sex or gender-based discrimination to the University.

Alleged violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Title IX Coordinator within The Office for Gender Equity and Compliance at: titleix@northeastern.edu and/or through NUPD (Emergency 617.373.3333; Non-Emergency 617.373.2121). Reporting Prohibited Offenses to NUPD does NOT commit the victim/affected party to future legal action.
Faculty members are considered “responsible employees” at Northeastern University, meaning they are required to report all allegations of sex or gender-based discrimination to the Title IX Coordinator. In case of an emergency, call 911.

Please visit www.northeastern.edu/titleix for a complete list of reporting options and resources both on- and off-campus.

I look forward to our semester together!