CRIME PREVENTION (CRIM 4040)
Fall 2017

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Northeastern University
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
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Office hours: Thursday 8.00-9.00 a.m. (or by appointment)

Teaching Assistant: Andrea Wexler, M.A.
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Lecture Room: Churchill Hall 301

Lecture Days/Time: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9.15-10.20 a.m.

Course Description: This course examines crime prevention as an alternative to criminal justice responses to crime. It reviews current theories of and leading research on the main approaches to preventing crime, including developmental, situational, and community prevention. A special focus is on assessing effectiveness of prevention programs and policies.

Key Objectives:
1. To introduce students to alternative or non-criminal justice responses to crime.
2. To provide students with an understanding of the history, main concepts, main theories, principles, and applications of alternative crime prevention strategies.
3. To further develop students’ skills in assessing program effectiveness.
4. To introduce students to current developments in crime prevention research and policy.
5. To help students apply crime prevention theory and research on what works to addressing real-life crime problems.
6. To further develop students’ writing skills.

Required Readings: Students are responsible for reading the required works prior to class. There is one book and a number of journal articles. All of the articles are available through the library’s e-journals service and on Blackboard. The book, which can be purchased at Northeastern University’s bookstore, is as follows: Welsh, B.C., & Farrington, D.P. (Eds.) (2014). The Oxford Handbook of Crime Prevention. New York: Oxford University Press.

Grading Policy: This course is writing intensive. There will be three separate writing assignments related to a semester-long research paper. For the first assignment students will prepare a summary overview of their paper, focusing on their selected crime type and crime prevention strategy, along with a preliminary list of effective programs and references. This will count for 10% of the course grade. The second assignment will require students to prepare a detailed
literature review, focusing on the effectiveness of and challenges facing their selected crime prevention strategy. This will count for 20% of the course grade. For the third assignment students will prepare a final research paper, which will count for 40% of the course grade. Detailed handouts will be provided for all three writing assignments.

There will also be a midterm exam, which will count for 20% of the course grade. The midterm exam will be based on material covered in the class lectures and required readings.

**Attendance/participation:** Students are expected to attend each class. Attendance will be taken at each class. Attendance and participation will count for 10% of the course grade.

**Grading Scale:**

- A 93-100%
- B+ 87-89%
- C+ 77-79%
- D+ 67-69%
- F 0-59%
- A- 90-92%
- B 83-86%
- C 73-76%
- D 63-66%
- B- 80-82%
- C- 70-72%
- D- 60-62%

**Blackboard:** Students are required to regularly check the blackboard page for the course.

**Lectures and Required Readings:**

**Sept. 6 & 7:** Course Introduction and Overview


**Sept. 11, 13, & 14:** New Directions in Preventing Crime


**Sept. 18, 20, & 21:** Evaluating Crime Prevention


Sept. 25, 27, & 28: Evaluating Crime Prevention (continued)


**NOTE:** The summary overview assignment is due at the beginning of class on September 28.


Farrington, D.P., Loeber, R., & Ttofi, M.M. (2014). Risk and protective factors for offending. (Chapter 3)

**NOTE:** There is no class on October 9; it is Columbus Day.


Schindler, H.S., & Yoshikawa, H. (2014). Preventing crime through intervention in the preschool years. (Chapter 4)


Oct. 16: Midterm exam

Oct. 18 & 19: Community Crime Prevention: Concepts and Theories


Skogan, W.G. (2014). Disorder and crime. (Chapter 9)


Braga, A.A. (2014). High crime places, times, and offenders. (Chapter 16)

**NOTE**: The literature review assignment is due at the beginning of class on October 30.

**Nov. 6, 8, & 9: Situational Crime Prevention: Effectiveness and Policy**


Ekblom, P. (2014). The private sector and designing products against crime. (Chapter 19)


**Nov. 13, 15, & 16: Implementation and Partnerships**

Homel, R., & Homel, P. (2014). Implementing crime prevention: Good governance and a science of implementation. (Chapter 21)


Nov. 20: Public Opinion


NOTE: There is no class on November 22 and 23; it is Thanksgiving recess.

Nov. 27, 29, & 30: Future of Crime Prevention: Part I


Dec. 4 & 6: Future of Crime Prevention: Part II


NOTE: The final research paper is due at the beginning of class on December 6.

Other Class Policies:

The highest standards of academic integrity are expected in this course. All students should remind themselves of Northeastern University’s Academic Honesty and Integrity policy, which can be found in the Student Handbook. Any instances of cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, or other academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with the University’s official policies (also described in the Student Handbook).

The exam must be taken as scheduled. The exam will only be rescheduled for those who have a valid medical note or who have consulted with me prior to the exam. The use of portable electronic devices of any kind—other than computers—is not permitted at any time during class. Please turn off all cell phones, etc. prior to the beginning of class. If you need to use a recording device in class and have a legitimate reason please consult with me first.

Please bring to my attention as early as possible any special educational needs you may have. The University’s Disability Resource Center provides services to students needing special accommodations (see http://www.acessdisability-deaf.neu.edu/).