CRIM 4949 SENIOR CAPSTONE SEMINAR-FALL 2014
2:50-4:30pm: Monday and Wednesday, Snell Library 043

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Office Days and Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 9:30-11:30am, and by appointment.

Teaching Assistant: Steven Zane, J.D., M.A., Hayden Hall 502B; E-mail: s.zane@neu.edu
Office Days and Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-2:30pm, and by appointment.

Course description and objectives:
According to the course description, “The Senior Capstone Seminar requires students to question and to reflect on their knowledge of crime and justice in the context of their academic and experiential learning. Students are expected to develop their critical thinking skills through class discussions, writing assignments, and presentations.” Capstone is also listed as a writing intensive course. The selected readings and class assignments are designed to enhance your critical thinking about a crime and justice topic of your choice. Written assignments will be evaluated based on your ability to write clearly about generated interests, facts, and theories that lead to a crime control policy. Below a diagram relates these general course objectives:

Course Readings

Books:
Cook, Kevin. 2014. Kitty Genovese: The Murder, the Bystanders, the Crime that Changed America: WW Norton & Company.
**Articles:**

*Books available through the NU bookstore and in the reserve section of the library;** Articles are posted on Blackboard.

**Course Requirements and Grading Points:**

* Semester papers (60 points total): Two short papers and a longer concluding paper should relate a topic that focuses your interest in crime and justice policies. The short papers are worth 15 points, and the research work that you conduct for them should be incorporated in your final semester paper. First instructors draft for the short papers counts for 5 points. Your final semester paper is worth 30 points. All papers should draw on scholarly references. The format for the short papers and the semester policy paper will be discussed and posted on Blackboard.

* Class quizzes (20 points): Individual and group readiness assessment quizzes facilitate class discussion and reward those prepared to discuss the assigned reading. The quizzes will be first taken individually and then as a group. There will be a total of 30 points on the quizzes from which you can obtain the maximum 20 point value. You will need to purchase a basic “ResponseCard clicker,” one that works with TurningPoint, available in the NU book store.

* Chapter facilitator and responder (10 points): Each class member will facilitate and respond to several chapter readings. The facilitator summarizes and presents three questions related to the assigned reading. The facilitator will post the summary and questions by 5PM before the day of the class on Blackboard. Facilitator summaries should be between 300 and 500 words. Responders will react to the discussion board post based on their own reading of the chapter(s). Responder posts should be between 200 to 300 words. Responders must post their comments by 9AM the morning of class.

* Class participation (5 points): Showing up having read the assigned chapter, and contributing to class discussions will earn you maximum credit.

*Group participation (5 points): Class members will be organized in groups. Group participation and peer reviews count towards your group participation grade. If you take care in reviewing each other’s drafts and actively participate in your group, you will receive maximum credit.

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<th>Grading Criteria</th>
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Submission of writing requirements:
• You are required to submit your writing assignments through Blackboard’s journal and TurnItIn program. Your writing must be independent of others, which means that you cannot plagiarize another paper as if it was your own. Your paper must be based on proper academic formatting and referencing as posted on the NU library website: http://www.lib.neu.edu/online_research/help/citations_footnotes.

**Due Dates:**

• Schedule for facilitator presentations will be posted on Blackboard.

• Due dates for memos and position paper:
  
  o First short paper: Receive first draft comments from your working group 9/29; Submit second draft for instructor’s review 10/6; Submit final draft within a week after comments received.
  
  o Second short paper: Receive first draft comments from your working group 10/27; Submit second draft for instructor’s review 10/29; Submit final draft within a week after comments received.
  
  o Semester position paper: Semester paper outline, 11/12; Submit first draft comments to your working group, 11/24; Final paper due, 12/3.

**Additional course rules:**

• No internet surfing, instant messaging, texting, or Facebooking during class time. Laptops are for the exclusive purpose of taking notes. Cell phones should not to be used in class.

• Students must act in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy in the NU student handbook (Pp. 36-37: http://www.northeastern.edu/admissions/pdfs/UndergradHandbook.pdf), which includes making sure that your work is your own and appropriately referenced.

• Students with documented disabilities will be fully accommodated following stated NU procedures.

• If you are unable to complete an assignment or attend class because of a family emergency or illness, you should email us. Please put the course name in the subject heading.

• Unless sufficient medical or family justification is provided, a late submission will be subject to a half-point penalty for each day past its posted due date.
Course Schedule*

Sept 3:  Introduction: Critical thinking about crime and justice
Sept 8:  Can offenders change? Read Mike Tyson’s Op-Ed; Read Konigsberg article
Sept 10: A theory of offenders: Read Gottfreson and Hirschi article
Sept 15: A crime control policy: Read Wilson and Kelling article
Sept 17: Generated interests: Read Cook, Chps. 1 to 6
Sept 22: Social facts: Read Cook, Chps. 7 to 10
Sept 24: Facts about the perpetrator: Read Cook, Chps. 11 to 15
Sept 29: Generated myths as facts: Read Cook, 16 to 21.
Oct 1:  First short paper: Discussion and posting of introduction
Oct 6:  First short paper: Instructor’s Draft Due
Oct 8:  A safe city as a social fact: Read Singer, Intro., and Chap. 1
Oct 15: Theories of modernity: Read Singer, Chps. 2 and 3
Oct 20: Old and new theories about crime: Read Singer, Chps. 4 and 5
Oct 22: Sources of knowledge about youth offending: Read Singer, Chps. 6, 7 and 8
Oct 27: Second short paper: Posting and discussion of introduction
Oct 29: Second short paper: Instructor’s Draft Due
Nov 3:  Exclusionary policies: Read Clear and Frost, Chps. 1 and 2
Nov 5:  What’s wrong with exclusion? Read Clear and Frost, Chps. 3 and 4
Nov 10: What’s right about inclusionary policies? Read Clear and Frost, Chps. 5, 6 and 7
Nov 12: Course semester policy paper outline due
Nov 17: Globalization Seminar
Nov 19: Prepare papers (no class)
Nov 24: Course paper presentations
Dec 1:  Presentations continued
Dec 3:  Evaluating capstone and each other: Semester paper due

*Schedule tentative and subject to change