

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: SOCI2336 - Criminology
Revised: December 2019

Department: Behavioral Science

Discipline: Sociology

Course Number: SOCI2336

Course Title: Criminology

Available Format: Face-to-Face, online

Campuses: May include Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Dual-Credit

Course Description: The course surveys various theories of crime, with an emphasis on understanding the social causes of criminal behavior. The techniques for measuring crime as a social phenomenon and the characteristics of criminals are examined. This course addresses crime types (such as consensual or white-collar crimes), the criminal justice system, and other social responses to crime.

Prerequisite: No prerequisite for conventional sections; must be TSI compliant in reading for Internet sections including dual credit.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Textbook: Hagan, Frank E, *Introduction to Criminology*, 10th edition, Sage

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for all course formats and campuses.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

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Student Learning Outcomes:

- Define key concepts associated with criminology.
- Identify major criminological theories.
- Describe the major categories of crime.

- Explain the various methodological approaches used to research crime and criminal behavior.
- Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the criminal justice

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: See instructor's course information sheet for information on assessment that may include the following: pretests and posttests, quizzes, discussions, essays and/or other types of assessment tools.

Course Evaluation: Refer to instructor's course information sheet for specifics on coursework and grading.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus. When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's course information sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Nondiscrimination Policy: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

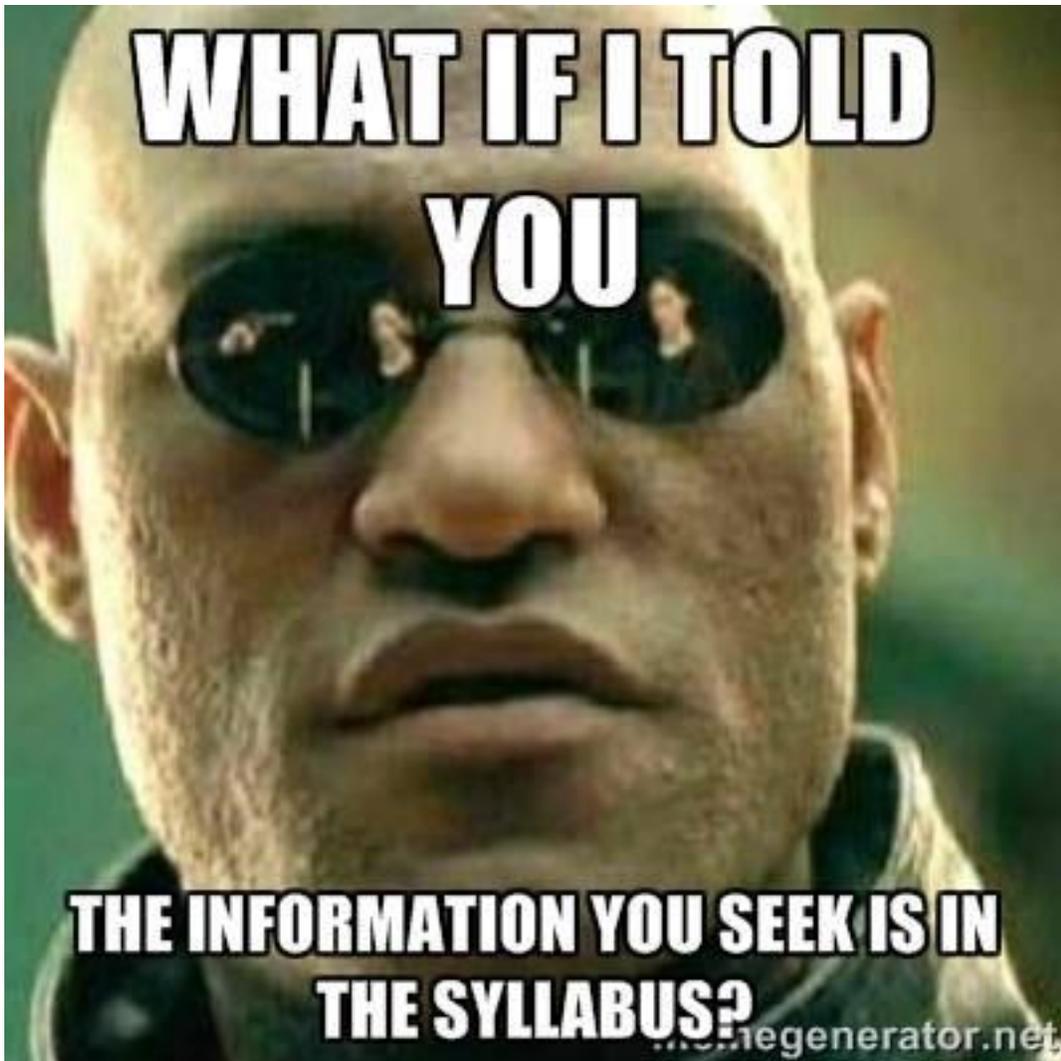
Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement: If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are

otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.



Every semester I receive numerous e-mails from students regarding information readily available in **THIS SYLLABUS**. E-mails containing such questions as “when is this assignment due?” or “when is the exam?”. These repetitive e-mails can become extremely frustrating to faculty. I have worked diligently to supply you with as much accurate information as I can in the syllabus, in the assignment handouts, and on the Blackboard page for this course. Please LOOK FOR YOURSELF prior to asking me. If you have looked and still need to e-mail me, by all means do so. Please make sure your e-mail contains your **NAME**, **YOUR COURSE** (e.g., psyc-2301, psyc-2314, huma-2319), and your class time/day of the week. This will help reduce the frustration level and benefit both of us. Thank you.

“I am Jane Doe. I am in your psyc-2314 on Thursday at 9:30 am. I am emailing concerning _____.”

**SOCI-2336.451
Criminology
On-Line**

Fall 2022

Instructor: Rick Herbert

E-mail: rherbert@southplainscollege.edu ← BEST METHOD OF CONTACT!

Office: R405D (Reese Center, Building 4)

Office Hours:

M & W: 9:00 am to 9:30 am AND 12:15 pm to 1:00 pm in REESE, Room 405D

T & R: 9:00 am to 9:30 am AND 12:15 pm to 1:00 pm in PLAINVIEW

Friday - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in REESE, Room 405D

AND BY APPOINTMENT – CONTACT ME AND I WILL MAKE TIME!

Office Phone: (806)716-4039

Voicemail generally not returned for 24 hours due to travel between campuses.

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:

SOCI 2336 Criminology

The course surveys various theories of crime, with an emphasis on understanding the social causes of criminal behavior. The techniques for measuring crime as a social phenomenon and the characteristics of criminals are examined. This course addresses crime types (such as consensual or white-collar crimes), the criminal justice system, and other social responses to crime.

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|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Approval Number..... | 45.0401.51 25 |
| maximum SCH per student..... | 3 |
| maximum SCH per course | 3 |
| maximum contact hours per course..... | 48 |

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Define key concepts associated with criminology.
2. Identify major criminological theories.
3. Describe the major categories of crime.
4. Explain the various methodological approaches used to research crime and criminal behavior.
5. Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the criminal justice system.

B. Academic Integrity:

It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Cheating:

Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

Plagiarism:

Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

If a student cheats or shows plagiarism on a paper or exam, that grade will be zero, and the student will be dropped from the class.

C. Student Conduct:

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom.

Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as the administration of the college may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.

Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide

The student handbook clearly defines appropriate classroom conduct (see previous three paragraphs). A student can be asked to leave the class for inappropriate conduct. You should not disrupt the class since you interfere with the learning process for your peers. Talking, sleeping, cell phones ringing, or other disruptive behaviors will result in a warning and then can result in the student being dropped from the class. If you must leave the classroom for a bathroom break by all means do so. You do not need to raise your hand and ask permission, you are an adult and capable of deciding for yourself. However, excessive entrances and exits for the classroom are disruptive. If you an issue that requires constantly leaving the classroom, it would be better to not attend that specific class period.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY (mainly face-to-face classes)

Our regularly scheduled class time is specifically structured for you to learn the course material required to successfully complete the class. It is **NOT** an opportunity for you to use your **cell phone, laptop, or other electronic device for socializing, gaming, or listening to music.** If you choose to use **our class time** for such activity, you are not utilizing class time for its intended purpose, so you are **NOT PRESENT.** That means you **ARE ABSENT.** **You may be physically in the classroom, but you are not mentally present.** I will count you as absent and deduct those points from your attendance grade. Five absences will get you dropped from my class. Wearing earbuds or headphones is not only a distraction for you, it is a distraction for other students in the

classroom as well. On top of the distraction, it is **incredibly disrespectful to me**, as well as your fellow students. If you have no interest in learning the course material, do not enroll in the class. **You are wasting my time, your time, and taking up space that someone who wants to learn is being denied.**

D. Diversity Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

E. Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

F. Non-Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

G. Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

H. Course Syllabus Statement

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

II. SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS:

A. Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus. For n-line courses, “attendance” is monitored by when you log on, how long you stay logged on *WITH ACTIVITY*, and the frequency with which you log on. Logging on just leaving your computer running with Blackboard open will do nothing more than increase your electric bill. If you have LP&L as a provider, you already pay too much. Please log on and participate.

B. Assignments:

You will have a paper assignment, a semester-long crime journal assignment, as well as Discussion Boards activities. Both of these assignments are detailed in separate handouts available on the Blackboard page for our class. These handouts are currently available and will remain so for the entire semester.

C. Grading Policy/Procedure:

You will have four (4) exams, each worth 100 points (400 points total), the paper assignment worth 100 points, the semester-long crime journal assignment worth 100 points total, the Discussion Boards assignment worth 100 points. This gives you a complete total of 700 points over the course of the semester. Your grade will be based upon a percentage of the total points with 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, and below 60% = F. No one exam or assignment is “grade adjusted” or “curved”. Every section of my courses is evaluated at the end of the semester once all grades are complete.

D. Special Considerations:

1. If you have to miss an exam or an assignment deadline for emergency reasons, I will do my best to accommodate you **IF YOU CONTACT ME PRIOR TO DUE/TEST DATE**. Only extreme situations, military necessity, and/or family emergencies, will be considered.
2. **The last to drop a course is Thursday, December 1, 2022.** Any students who have missed lectures, had difficulty completing projects, or anticipates difficulty in completing the course to their satisfaction or expectation are encouraged to consider the withdrawal option. Students are asked to discuss his/her progress with the instructor prior to making such a decision.

E. Use of Language:

This is a college course, you are expected to use proper college-level English in this course. To this end, South Plains College has developed the following policy:

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays. Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

All material turned in, with the exception of any in-class writing assignments, MUST BE TYPED, PROOFREAD, AND ORIGINAL (not plagiarized material originating from anyone other than the student without proper referencing).

F. Expectations/Responsibilities:

This syllabus provides you with my expectations of you and what is required for successful completion of this course. You are expected to read the syllabus and be familiar with its contents. You are responsible for all material covered in class. I am willing to make myself available to help any student that requests help. It is my goal for every student to take some useful knowledge away at the end of this course. Although not everyone will work in the criminal justice field as professionals, we are all humans on the same small and irreplaceable planet and we are all responsible for learning more about each other. To that end, I will go to all reasonable means to help any student in any way I can. Please do not wait too long to ask for assistance. If you do, I will be unable to help.

Tentative Course Schedule

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Readings</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday August 30 (1) | introduction | none |
| Thursday September 1 (2) | intro to crime | chp 1 |
| Tuesday September 6 (3) | intro to crime | chp 1 |
| Thursday September 8 (4) | research | chp 2 |
| Tuesday September 13 (5) | characteristics | chp 3 |
| Thursday September 15 (6) | characteristics | chp 3 |

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| Tuesday September 20 (7) | victimology | chp 4 |
| Thursday September 22 (8) | victimology | chp 4 |
| Tuesday September 27 (9) | CRIME JOURNAL DUE EXAM I | all above |
| Thursday September 29 (10) | classic theories | chp 5 |
| Tuesday October 4 (11) | bio/psyc theories | chp 6 |
| Thursday October 6 (12) | soci theories | chp 7 |
| Tuesday October 11 (13) | soci theories | chp 7 |
| Thursday October 13 (14) | integrated theory | chp 8 |
| Tuesday October 18 (15) | integrated theory | chp 8 |
| Thursday October 20 (16) | CRIME JOURNAL DUE EXAM II | all above |
| Tuesday October 25 (17) | violent crime | chp 9 |
| Thursday October 27 (18) | violent crime | chp 9 |
| Tuesday November 1 (19) | property crime | chp 10 |
| Thursday November 3 (20) | property crime | chp 10 |
| Tuesday November 8 (21) | white-collar crime | chp 11 |
| Thursday November 10 (22) | white-collar crime | chp 11 |

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|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Tuesday November 15 (23) | CRIME ANALYSIS PAPER DUE white-collar crime | chp 11 |
| Thursday November 17 (24) | CRIME JOURNAL DUE EXAM III | all above |
| Tuesday November 22 (25) | terrorism | chp 12 |
| Thursday November 24 | THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY | |
| Tuesday November 29 (26) | terrorism | chp 12 |
| Thursday December 1 (27) | organized crime | chp 13 |
| Tuesday December 6 (28) | public order crime | chp 14 |
| Thursday December 8 (29) | cybercrime | chp 15 |

Exam IV & CRIME JOURNAL