

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS153, Crime and Justice Across the Life Course, Spring 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Judith Randle

Office Location: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6570524029>

Email: judith.randle@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: Tu/Th 9-10am via Zoom

Class Days/Time: M/W 6 - 7:15pm

Classroom: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/6570524029>

Course Webpage: <https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1479316>

Prerequisites: Any 100W

Course Description

Crime and Justice Across the Life Course explores how crime and justice are experienced by individuals over time. The nature and extent of offending and victimization at various ages across the life course is examined. A critical consideration of the criminal career paradigm is also provided.

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a synchronous, online classroom delivery format. Students must have internet connectivity to participate in the classroom activities and submit assignments.

Course Web Page

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website above, <https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1479316>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) on [Spartan App Portal](#) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how crime and justice are experienced differentially at various points across the life course.
2. Demonstrate an empirical understanding of the nature and extent of offending and experiences of victimization over time.
3. Critically evaluate the policy implications that transpire from observing crime across the life course and be able to articulate how this approach might differ from existing policies.
4. Produce detailed, scholarly, and objective assignments that demonstrate their ability to conduct independent research and justify their perspective.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

American Juvenile Justice (Zimring, 2005)
Handbook of Life-Course Criminology (Gibson & Krohn, 2013)
Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 1 (Mortimer & Shanahan, 2003)
Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2 (Shanahan et al, 2016)

All textbooks are available on the course website as PDFs.

Other Readings

All additional readings are available on the course website as PDFs.

Other technology requirements

You must have a web browser and streaming capacity that supports video playback.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2041 <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Weekly Journal Entries- 25%

Students will be assigned weekly readings with an accompanying journal entry. Journal entries are due during every Wednesday class session, or as instructed, and will consist of a one-page reflection on the assigned readings. Students earn full credit for entries which demonstrate engagement with the reading's core terminology, concepts, and/or arguments. (CLO 1, 2 & 3)

Individual and Group Participation - 15%

Regular participation is expected to demonstrate engagement with the material and contribute to the classroom learning experience. Students who do not speak voluntarily will be called on at random during the lecture period to offer their thoughts. (CLO 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Students will be assigned regularly to breakout rooms and are expected to participate in a professional and respectful manner. Each student will be expected to report your findings to the class as a group representative at least once during the semester. (CLO 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Final Examination or Evaluation - 30%

Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.

Students will complete a cumulative **final examination** using key terms and concepts from readings and class discussion consisting of short answer and essay based questions. (CLO 1, 2 & 3)

Final Paper - 30%

Students will conduct independent research to craft a thesis paper, to be assigned and explained extensively in class and will be due during the last scheduled class session of the semester as reflected below. Reliable sources for all assertions should be cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) format. (CLO 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Grading Information

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>99 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>93 to 98%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

Late Assignments/Missed Quizzes

Late assignments will not be accepted, no assignment may be submitted via email, and missed quizzes cannot be retaken for credit.

Classroom Protocol

Regular attendance and punctuality are encouraged. Students who are routinely inattentive, discourteous or who choose not to contribute to in-class discussion and activities, will be noted and may result with up to 10% (one letter grade) deducted from the final grade.

If you do not turn your camera on, use only your name or an appropriate profile picture.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the course website. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

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Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1.26	<u>UNIT 1: CRIME EVENTS AS CHAPTERS, NOT MENU ITEMS</u> Introductions
2	1.31 & 2.2	Core Concepts in Life-Course Theory Handbook of the Life Course Volume 1, Chs. 1, 24 (first 3 pages only), & 25 Week 2 Journal Entry
3	2.7 & 2.9	Core Concepts in Life-Course Criminology Readings: “Life-Course and Developmental Theories in Criminology” (McLaughlin & Newburn, 2010) “Adolescent-Limited and Life-Course Persistent Antisocial Behavior: A Developmental Taxonomy” (Moffitt, 1993) “Two Patterns of Age Progression in Adolescent Crime” (Zimring, 2005) Week 3 Journal Entry
4	2.14 & 2.16	Core Concepts in Life-Course Criminology (cont'd) “A Life-Course View of the Development of Crime” (Sampson & Laub, 2003) <u>UNIT 2: CHILDHOOD INFLUENCES ON THE LIFE COURSE OF CRIME</u> Anti-Social Behavior in Childhood Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 1 Week 4 Journal Entry
5	2.21 & 2.23	Biological and Genetic Contributions to Anti-Social Behavior Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Chs. 2 & 3 NOTE: No Lecture on 2.21 Final Paper Brainstorm - Due 2.23 Week 5 Journal Entry - Due 2.23
6	2.28 & 3.2	Socio-Biological Perspectives Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 4 “Early Childhood Poverty,” <i>Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2, pp. 341-354</i> Week 6 Journal Entry
7	3.7 & 3.9	Neighborhoods & Schools Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Chs. 5 & 6 “Neighborhood, Place, and the Life Course,” <i>Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2, pp. 597-620</i> Week 7 Journal Entry
8	3.14 & 3.16	<u>UNIT 3: INFLUENCES OF ADOLESCENCE ON THE LIFE COURSE OF CRIME</u> Adolescence as Purgatory Zimring, Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 6

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 7 <i>"The Changing Social Construction of Age and the Life Course," Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2, pp. 111-129</i> Week 8 Journal Entry
9	3.21 & 3.23	Peer Group Influence in Adolescence Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 10 Zimring, Ch. 6 Week 9 Journal Entry
10	3.28 & 3.30	Spring Break - No Lecture or Assignments Due
11	4.4 & 4.6	Gang Participation in Adolescence Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 9 Week 11 Journal Entry Final Paper Outline or Draft - Due 4.6
12	4.11 & 4.13	<u>UNIT 4: ADULTHOOD INFLUENCES ON THE LIFE COURSE OF CRIME</u> Crime and Transitions into Adult Roles Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 1: Ch. 18 Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 12 <i>"College for All," Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2, pp. 201-221</i> <i>"Military Service in Lives," Handbook of the Life Course, Volume 2, pp. 277-300</i> Self-Study & Optional Individual Appointments - No Lecture Week 12 Journal Entry - Due 4.13
13	4.18 & 4.20	Adult-Onset Criminality Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Ch. 11 Week 13 Journal Entry
14	4.25 & 4.27	Desistance from Crime Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Chs. 13 & 14 Week 14 Journal Entry
15	5.2 & 5.4	<u>UNIT 5: SYSTEM INFLUENCES ON THE LIFE COURSE OF CRIME</u> The Impact of Doing Nothing (aka Diversion) Zimring, Chs. 4 & 10 <i>"Criminal Justice and the Life Course," Handbook of the Life Course Volume 2, pp. 301-319</i> <i>"Life Course Research and the Shaping of Public Policy," Handbook of the Life Course Volume 2, pp. 623 - 637</i> Week 15 Journal Entry
16	5.9 & 5.11	Incarceration & the Life Course <i>"Does Imprisonment Alter the Life Course?" (Koeffler, 2013)</i> Handbook of Life Course Criminology: Chs. 17 & 18 Week 16 Journal Entry
17	5.16	Course Wrap-Up

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Final Exam	5.18	Final Exam: 5:15 - 7:30pm Final Paper: 5:15pm