

Course Descriptions

CRIM 5310 (POEC 5310) Research Design I (3 semester hours) This course is the first in a two-course sequence devoted to the research enterprise and the study of data development strategies and techniques to facilitate effective statistical analysis. Topics generally covered include: (1) issues and techniques in social science research with emphasis on philosophy of science, theory testing, and hypothesis formulation; (2) measurement and data collection strategies, reliability and validity of measures and results, sampling, surveys; and (3) examination of qualitative versus quantitative research techniques, working with observational data, field research issues, and triangulation. (3-0) Y

CRIM 5313 (PA 5313, POEC 5313) Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (3 semester hours). This course is an introduction to data analysis, statistics, and regression. The only prerequisite is a sound foundation in algebra. The heart of the course is a rigorous introduction to statistical inference: sampling theory, confidence intervals, and hypothesis tests. The final section of the course covers regression analysis, which is developed in a fairly non-technical way, with an emphasis on interpretation of regression results, using examples from recent research. (3-0) Y

CRIM 5316 (POEC 5316) Advanced Regression Analysis for the Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (3 semester hours). This course provides a detailed examination of the bivariate and multiple regression models estimated using Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), with an emphasis on using regression models to test social and Economic hypotheses. Also covered are several special topics in regression analysis, including violations of OLS assumptions, the use of dummy variables, fixed effects models, and path analysis. Applications are demonstrated with examples drawn from criminology, Economics, political science, public policy and sociology. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6300 Proseminar in Criminology. (3 semester hours) Introduction to graduate study in criminology through exposure to issues surrounding concepts of crime, criminals and societal response. Students learn to examine critically the theoretical, methodological and policy issues in criminology and criminal justice. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6303 (SOC 6303) Etiology of Crime and Criminality. (3 semester hours) Examines the history of criminological thought incorporating the major works of such theorists as Bentham, Beccaria, Marx, Durkheim, Lombroso, Shaw and McKay, Sutherland, Becker, and Merton. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6305 (SOC 6302) Law and Social Control. (3 semester hours) Addresses the legal and theoretical basis of social control and the use of criminal sanctions to deter and punish criminal conduct. Students will learn to critically assess alternative punishment and sentencing models. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6307 (SOC 6301) Extent of Crime and Measurement. (3 semester hours) Problems in Criminology. Examines the major data sources on crimes and criminals and the limitations of such data. Topics also include measurement issues and problems concerning research on the nature and extent of criminal behavior. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6308 (SOC 6308) Victimology (3 semester hours) Examines risks and consequences of crime for its victims. Issues considered include victim-offender relationships, characteristics of victims, the nature of the injuries they experience, and criminal justice procedures that involve them. (3-0) R

CRIM 6309 (SOC 6309) Communities and Crime (3 semester hours) Examines the trends and sources of crime and social disorder across communities. The course emphasizes relationships among crime, fear of crime, neighborhood change, neighborhood responses to crime, and public policies. (3-0) R

CRIM 6310 (SOC 6310) Delinquency and Juvenile Justice (3 semester hours) Examines youth crime, child victimization, and juvenile justice. Students learn the processes by which specific behaviors are identified as delinquent, the historical evolution of juvenile justice, and current policies and practices. (3-0) R

CRIM 6311 (SOC 6305) Crime and Justice Policy. (3 semester hours) An introduction to crime and the efforts to control crime through public policy. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6313 (SOC 6313) Corrections (3 semester hours) Examines the history, forms, and functions of correctional philosophies, institutions, programs, and policies. Topics include the structure and functions of prisons and jails, community corrections, intermediate sanctions, and the growth of correctional control in modern society. (3-0) R

CRIM 6314 (SOC 6314) Policing (3 semester hours) Provides historical, social and political analysis of the roles and functions of policing in America. (3-0) R

CRIM 6315 Violent Crime (3 semester hours) Examines the sources and patterns of violent offending across time and space. Topics include conceptions and typologies of violent crimes and offenders, victim-offender relationships, and efforts to predict and control violent offending. (3-0) R

CRIM 6317 (SOC 6317) Courts (3 semester hours) Examines the objectives, institutions and processes involved in the adjudication of offenders. Topics address the structure and function of the judicial system and principal court actors. (3-0) R

CRIM 6322 (SOC 6322) Crime Prevention (3 semester hours) Examines situational, social, and legislative approaches to the prevention of crime and delinquency. Emphasis on theories, protective factors, implementation and consequences of these approaches. (3-0) R

CRIM 6332 GIS Applications in Criminology (3 semester hours) Examines spatial distributions of crime, criminals, and criminal justice interventions. Students conduct spatial analysis of point patterns and area-based data in studies of the locations of crime events and rates, offenders, police patrolling practices, judicial districts and community corrections and how they relate to physical and social characteristics of neighborhoods. (3-0) R

CRIM 6324 (SOC 6324) Correlates of Crime and Justice. Examines the nature of relationships among attributes and indices at the situational and aggregate levels to various forms of crime and systems of justice. (3-0) Y

CRIM 6340 Qualitative Criminology (3 semester hours) Examines ethnography and other qualitative approaches to studying crime, criminals, and criminal justice, particularly participant observation and informant and respondent interviewing. Topics include phenomenology, case study, in-depth interviewing, ethnomethodology, conversation analysis, historical methods, gaining access, sampling, data collection and analysis, and legal and ethical concerns. (3-0) R

CRIM 6346 Qualitative Research Methods (3 semester hours) This course provides an overview of qualitative research in the social sciences. Students will investigate the assumptions underlying qualitative research approaches and critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of such approaches. Possible

topics may include participant observation, ethnographic interviewing, ethnomethodology, conversation analysis, case study, and the analysis of historical documents. (3-0) T

CRIM 6348 Drugs and Crime (3 semester hours) This course provides students with a survey of the historical context of the legislative initiatives that have been attempted to combat the use of drugs, the relationship between drug use/abuse and crime, and the public policy problems surrounding the control of drugs. (3-0) R

CRIM 6V96 Master Thesis Research (3-6 semester hours). Students conduct masters level research project under the supervision of faculty. (1-6) Y

CRIM 6V98 Analytical Writing Research (3-6 semester hours). Students perform independent research under the supervision of faculty. (1-6) Y

CRIM 7300 Advances in Criminology Theory. (3 semester hours) Examines contemporary criminological theories and the degree to which research has provided empirical support for explanations of crime and criminality. (3-0) Y

SOC 6312 Social-Economic Theories. (3 semester hours) A critical analysis of theories of society and Economy. These include class, culture, solidarity, rational choice, transaction cost theory, principal agent theory, ideology and hegemony, network theory, collective action, bureaucracy, and American exceptionalism. (3-0) R

CRIM 7301 Seminar in Criminology Research. (3 semester hours) Students plan and execute an independent research project. (3-0) R

CRIM 7302 Seminar in Criminology Research
Continuation of CRIM 7301. (3 semester hours) (3-0) R

CRIM 8V01 Independent Study (1-9 semester hours). Provides faculty supervision for student's individual study of a topic agreed upon by the student and the faculty supervisor. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. (May be repeated for credit.) (3-0) R

CRIM 8V99 Dissertation (3-9 semester hours). Provides faculty supervision of a student's dissertation research. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. (May be repeated for credit.). (3-0) Y