



CRIM 2015 FDE: Criminological Theory Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Brian Krupp

Office: OA 3021

Meetings: through Zoom, by appointment

Email: dbkrupp@lakeheadu.ca (do not message me through myCourseLink)

Course location: online

Course times: N/A

Course website: available on myCourseLink. (Please ensure that you have full access to the course site. If you do not, contact mycourselink@lakeheadu.ca for help.)

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (on the course website). Your understanding is appreciated.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, you will learn about historical and contemporary theories of criminal behaviour. This will require you to understand the basic elements of a variety of different theories, including their causal arguments as well as the hypotheses and predictions that can be drawn from them. You will also learn about empirical tests and practical applications of these theories.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a student in this course, you will learn to articulate some of the broad principles of social scientific inquiry, such as theory development, hypothesis generation, and empirical prediction. Furthermore, you will develop the skills to describe the major theoretical perspectives in criminology, apply these theories to practical problems in the field, and to think critically about the place of theory in research. In this way, you will develop a deeper appreciation for criminology as a whole, and of the diversity and value of theoretical perspectives in particular.

REQUIRED READINGS

Students are responsible for reading the following two items, in keeping with the schedule at the end of this document:

Akers, R. L., Sellers, C. S., & Jennings, W. G. (2021). *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application* (8th Ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

Krupp, D. B. (2019). *The biology of crime*. Available on myCourseLink.

This means that you are expected to have finished each reading by the end of the assigned week, *before* writing each quiz (see the schedule below). For example, you are expected to have read chapter 1 of Akers et al. (2021) by September 19, chapter 2 of Akers et al. (2021) by September 26, and Krupp (2019) by October 3.

LECTURES

Lectures for each topic will be released and posted on the course website **after** the deadline for each quiz has passed (see below). **You are required to view all available lectures before writing each subsequent quiz and the final exam.** Until you view the assigned lectures, the next quiz will not be available to you. Thus, you should schedule sufficient time to watch the lectures well in advance of the quiz deadlines. Note that you will be evaluated on content drawn from both the lectures and the readings.

EVALUATION

First, students will be required to successfully complete the online Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) course (certificates of completion of the AWARE course are also acceptable, if you previously completed this) and the Paraphrasing Quiz. Although these tasks are not counted towards your course grade, **they are mandatory** and you must score 100% on both before you are able to proceed with the rest of the course. Students will then be evaluated on the basis of: (1) **ten equally weighted short-answer quizzes, worth 70% in total**; and (2) **one final exam, worth 30%**. Here is a summary of each evaluation component:

1. AIM course and Paraphrasing Quiz

First, you will be required to successfully complete all of the modules and quizzes of the AIM course and upload your certificate of completion to the appropriate folder under the “Assignments” tab in myCourseLink by 11:59 pm on **September 19, 2021**. Second, you will be required to successfully complete the Paraphrasing Quiz, which can be found under the “Quizzes” tab in myCourseLink, by 11:59 pm on **September 20, 2021**.

The purpose of these tasks is to ensure that you know how to write and conduct your work with integrity. Until you have successfully completed the AIM course and the Paraphrasing Quiz, you will be given a grade of 0% (zero) on all tests. By “successfully completed,” I mean that you must score 100% on every element of the AIM course and the Paraphrasing Quiz.

You can find the AIM course on myCourseLink. After logging in, go to the home screen (where all of your courses are listed) and click on the “Self-Registration: Academic Support and Training” link on the right-hand side. From there, you will see the AIM course listed in a table, with an option to enroll by clicking on the name. Click this link,

register, and complete each of the modules and each quiz (there are eight quizzes in total). Again, to earn the certificate of completion, you must score 100% on each quiz. Note that this course will typically take one hour to complete, so schedule your time accordingly. To upload your certificate of completion, go to the “Certificates” section of the AIM course and click on the icon (badge) for the certificate. A pop-up window will appear with a link to “Generate Certificate” at the bottom. Click this link and upload the document, which will be downloaded to your computer, to the AIM folder in the Assignments tab on the CRIM 2015 course website. Note that students who have previously earned all seven of the certificates for the AWARE course **do not** need to also complete the AIM course. If you have already earned all AWARE course certificates, you can simply upload these seven certificates instead.

The Paraphrasing Quiz will be selected from a set of preparation quiz questions posted in advance on the course website. Thus, **you will have the opportunity to craft your answers before writing the quiz. I strongly recommend that you do this.** If you prepare in advance, all you will need to do is to simply copy the answers you prepared to these questions and paste them directly into the Paraphrasing Quiz.

2. Quizzes

Quizzes are due each week on Monday by 11:59 pm, but you can write them as early as the preceding Friday at 8:00 am, assuming that you have watched all available lectures by then. Failure to complete a quiz by the deadline will lead to a grade of 0% (zero) on that quiz. **There are no “make-up” tests.** If you are unable to complete a quiz for reasons beyond your control, or if you are facing difficulties that put your success in this course at risk, please inform me immediately. Given sufficient notice and appropriate documentation, I may be able to re-weight your final exam—entirely at my discretion.

All quizzes are **open-book**, but they are **timed** and you must **provide all of your answers in your own words**. I cannot stress this enough: copying or failing to properly paraphrase another source will lead to a charge of academic dishonesty which, *at a minimum*, will result in a grade of 0% on the relevant test and a note in your file if upheld (see the Academic Integrity section below). I will give you a set of “prep” quiz questions in advance, and select some of these questions for each quiz. Using the set of prep questions, you should prepare for the quizzes by reading through each assigned chapter and viewing the lectures, and then typing up your answers to the questions as you go. Save your typed answers in an organized file so that, once you begin a quiz, you can simply copy and paste these answers from your notes to respond to each quiz question. Again, however, you must use your own words: **do not copy from other sources**, such as the lectures, the readings, websites, or other students.

The quizzes are **cumulative**, meaning that they will require you to discuss content from the current week’s reading, but may also ask you to discuss content from previous weeks’ readings and lectures, too. In other words, you should be ready to answer questions from previous weeks’ prep questions, so keep all of your prepared answers together. For example, Quiz 1 is scheduled to be written by September 27; thus, it covers

chapters 1 and 2 of Akers et al. (2021) as well as any lectures posted prior to this date. Likewise, Quiz 2 is scheduled to be written by October 4; thus, it covers chapters 1 and 2 of Akers et al. (2021), Krupp (2019), and any lectures posted prior to this date.

3. Final exam

Like the quizzes, the final exam will be administered on myCourseLink; it will also be cumulative, timed, and **must be written in your own words**. However, the final exam will take place at a specific date and time, to be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the period of December 9 to December 19, with a contingency date of December 20. **You are strongly advised not to plan any commitments, such as travel or work, during this period of time.** It is your responsibility to check the final exam schedule and write the exam on the designated date and time. There will be no rescheduling of examinations to accommodate travel or extracurricular activities. No one will be allowed to write examinations prior to the scheduled date.

Note that I reserve the right to adjust final grades up or down, on an individual basis, in light of special circumstances and/or the student's total performance in the course.

GRADING SCALE

The official Lakehead University grading scale is as follows: A+ = 90-100%, A = 80-89%, B = 70-79%, C = 60-69%, D = 50-59%, E Failed = 40-49%, F Failed = 1-39%, F Academic Dishonesty = 0%.

USE OF RECORDINGS

In this course, in the context of remote instruction and participation, video and audio recordings of class activities will be made to ensure students' and instructors' easy and comprehensive access to those activities. The recordings are confidential and are intended **only** for the use of the course students and instructors. They may otherwise **not** be used or disclosed. During recording, to protect others' privacy, each student should ensure that no one else is present in the location where they are being recorded without that non-student's consent. The recordings are made under the authority of sections 3 and 14 of *The Lakehead University Act, 1965*. Questions about the collection of the images and sounds in the recordings may be directed to Dr. Jennifer Jarman, Chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Orillia campus, jjarman@lakeheadu.ca.

STUDENT COURTESY

With regard to online discussion, students are expected to be respectful, open-minded, and to use good judgement. It ought to be clear from the outset that critical comments and questions should strive to be collegial and constructive, at a minimum.

SCHEDULE DELAYS

While we will try to keep to the schedule below, it may be subject to some adjustment.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to know the University Regulations and, in particular, to heed the Student Code of Conduct on Academic Integrity:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/studentconduct>

Plagiarism and cheating on tests and assignments are serious offenses. Nevertheless, every year I discover acts of academic dishonesty—some committed on purpose and others by accident. The consequences, however, are the same: I *will* report any case of suspected academic dishonesty, as I am obligated to do, and **a grade of zero at a minimum** will be assigned to the work. If, after reading the Student Code of Conduct linked above, you are still unsure whether you may be plagiarizing or committing an act of academic dishonesty, contact me to ask.

COURSE DROP DEADLINE

Please be aware that the deadline to drop this course is **November 5, 2021**.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

If you have a disability that requires accommodations, I strongly encourage you to make use of those accommodations. I am here to assist you, but I need your help in ensuring that you are properly accommodated. More generally, Lakehead University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities. Student Accessibility Services (SAS) coordinates services and facilitates reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Academic accommodations are provided on the basis of documentation of a disability. Additional information is available at the following campus website: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, do not hesitate to ask for help. Email me, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your academic advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus, including:

The Student Success Centre has many programs and support services in place to help you achieve your academic and personal goals while studying at Lakehead University. They provide academic support through tutoring services, career

exploration, cooperative opportunities, and leadership development. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-success-centre>.

The Lakehead University Library provides access to resources, study rooms, and research support both online (via chat) and in person. More details are available here: <https://library.lakeheadu.ca/>.

Public Computer Labs are available on campus, where you may write and print out your work. For more details, go to: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/helpdesk/computer-labs>.

Student Life and Services offers health and wellness resources both on and off campus, as well as opportunities for involvement in health and wellness activities. More information is available here: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/or>.

The Office of Human Rights and Equity: You have the right to an education that is free from any form of discrimination. A wide variety of resources are available here: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/human-rights-and-equity/resources>.

SCHEDULE

Required readings are identified in **boldface**.

Week	Activity	Test
September 7–19	Introduction to Criminological Theory & Paraphrasing Lecture Akers et al. (2017) chapter 1	AIM course (Sept 19)
September 20–26	Deterrence and Rational Choice Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 2	Paraphrasing Quiz (Sept 20)
September 27–October 3	Biological Theories Krupp (2019) , on the course site	Quiz 1 (Sept 27)
October 4–10	Psychological Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 4	Quiz 2 (Oct 4)
October 11–17	Fall Break: no lecture, quiz, or reading	--
October 18–24	Social Learning Theory Akers et al. (2017) chapter 5	Quiz 3 (Oct 18)
October 25–31	Social Bonding and Control Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 6	Quiz 4 (Oct 25)
November 1–7	Labeling and Reintegrative Shaming Theory Akers et al. (2017) chapter 7	Quiz 5 (Nov 1)
November 8–14	Social Disorganization Theory Akers et al. (2017) chapter 8	Quiz 6 (Nov 8)
November 15–21	Anomie and Strain Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 9	Quiz 7 (Nov 15)
November 22–28	Conflict Theory Akers et al. (2017) chapter 10	Quiz 8 (Nov 22)
November 29–December 5	Developmental and Life-Course Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 14	Quiz 9 (Nov 29)
December 6	Integrating Criminological Theories Akers et al. (2017) chapter 15	Quiz 10 (Dec 6)