

# COURSE APPROVAL DOCUMENT

Southeast Missouri State University

Criminal Justice, Social Work and Sociology

Department: ~~Criminal Justice & Sociology~~ Criminal Justice & Sociology

Date: 9 November 2017

Title of Course: Social Inequality

Please Check: X New

Revision

Course Number: CJ505

## I. Catalog Description (Credit Hours of Course):

This course aims to provide a critical examination of the meanings, history, correlates, and consequences of both privileges and social inequalities as they relate to the American criminal justice system (3 credit hours).

## II. Prerequisites(s):

Acceptance to M.S. in Criminal Justice or Accelerated M.S. program in Criminal Justice; or consent of instructor.

### Co-requisite(s):

None

## III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course (optional):

## IV. Course Learning Outcomes (Minimum of 3):

- Analyze the role of privilege in the definition of crime/criminality and in the administration of justice
- Identify conceptual and theoretical boundaries of research related to social inequalities and the criminal justice system
- Critique public policy as it relates to social inequalities and the criminal justice system
- Formulate necessary policy revisions that arise from the study of diversity and crime

## V. Names of Faculty Qualified to Teach the Proposed Course:

- Raleigh Blasdell, Ph.D.
- Morris Jenkins, J.D., Ph.D.
- Monica Bixby Radu, Ph.D.

## VI. Course Content or Outline (Indicate number of class hours per unit or section):

- Constructing Inequalities (3)
- Experiencing Difference & Inequality (33 total – divided in subcategories below)
  - Social Class (9)
  - Sex & Gender (9)
  - Race (9)
  - Other Inequalities (6)
- Maintaining Inequalities (6)
- Social Change (6)

### Attached:

- ✓ Copy of example class syllabus and course schedule
- ✓ Memo from Library Dean assessing available and needed library holdings and resources
- ✓ Memo(s) from Chair in affected department(s) stating possible issues and/or conflicts are resolved.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair

Date: 2/9/18

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean

Date: 2/9/18

**CJ505 – Social Inequality (3 credit hours)**  
Course Syllabus  
Fall 2017  
Course Meeting Times/Places: TBA

**Instructor:** Dr. Raleigh Blasdell, Assistant Professor

**Phone:** 573-651-2680

**Email:** rblasdell@semo.edu

**Office:** Brandt 324

**Office Hours:** TBA

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**Course Description:** This course aims to provide a critical examination of the meanings, history, correlates, and consequences of both privileges and social inequalities as they relate to the American criminal justice system (3 credit hours).

**Prerequisites:** Acceptance into Criminal Justice Accelerated or Graduate program.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students who successfully master course content will:

1. Analyze the role of privilege in the definition of crime/criminality and in the administration of justice
2. Identify conceptual and theoretical boundaries of research related to social inequalities and the criminal justice system
3. Critique public policy as it relates to social inequalities and the criminal justice system
4. Formulate necessary policy revisions that arise from the study of diversity and crime

**Required Readings:**

Ore, T. (2001). *The Social Construction of Difference & Inequality (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)*

Alexander, M. (2010). *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

Reiman, J. & Leighton, P. (2012). *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison (10<sup>th</sup> Edition)*

Additional readings provided by Instructor.

**Attendance Policy:** Familiarize yourself with the University's Academic Policy

(<http://www.semo.edu/bulletin/pdf/2008Bulletin.pdf>). Students are expected to attend all classes and to complete all assignments for courses in which they are enrolled. An absence does not relieve the student of the responsibility to complete all assignments. If an absence is associated with a university-sanctioned activity, the instructor will provide an opportunity for assignment make-up. However, it is the instructor's decision to provide, or not to provide, make-up work related to absences for any other reason. A student not present for class during the entire initial week of a scheduled course may be removed from the course roster unless the student notifies the instructor by the end of the first week of an intention to attend the class. Questions regarding the removal process should be directed to the Registrar.

**Students with Disabilities:** Southeast Missouri State University and Disability Support Services remain committed to making every reasonable educational accommodation for students with disabilities. Many services and accommodations which aid a student's educational experience are available for students with various types of disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to contact Disability Support Services to become registered as a student with a disability in order to have accommodations implemented. Please notify the instructor one week before an accommodation is necessary.

**Technology Requirement:** Students must have reliable access to a computer with an Internet connection (such as a cable modem, DSL, or a T-1 connection). Quizzes/Exams will require you to use a JavaScript-enabled web browser. Throughout the semester, students may watch videos that are available on the Internet, which will require the use of speakers. You may also need a webcam and microphone. Accessing course material requires a high speed Internet connection. If you do not meet these requirements, you may need to utilize one of the many labs available on the SEMO campuses, which are free for use with a student ID. All assignments are given in advance, and due dates are strictly enforced.

For any technical problems, contact the Office of Information Technology (<http://www6.semo.edu/helpdesk/>) at [helpdesk@semo.edu](mailto:helpdesk@semo.edu) or 573-651-HELP (4357).

Because this course involves the use of computers on an advanced network system, there may periodically be problems associated with the technology. Any time an event occurs that you believe reflects a problem with the SEMO or course system, contact the instructor immediately. The instructor, in conjunction with the University, will attempt to correct any true errors and develop a fair solution. However, please be aware that the instructor is experienced in the operation of this technology and is able to track in detail your access to the system by date, time, and length of time logged in. Please do not make statements that are patently dishonest about the dates and times you have attempted to complete course requirements or your failure to use prudent judgment in executing your responsibilities for successful course completion.

**Civility:** Every student at Southeast is obligated at all times to assume responsibility for his/her actions, to respect constituted authority, to be truthful, and to respect the rights of others, as to respect private and public property. In their academic activities, students are expected to maintain high standards of honesty and integrity and abide by the University's Policy on Academic Honesty. Alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are adjudicated in accordance with the established procedures of the judicial system. For more, see: <http://www6.semo.edu/stuconduct/>. Students and instructors share the responsibility to cultivate an environment of respect, both in class and in online course interactions. Violations of the student code of conduct will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Emergencies:** In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for SEMO to suspend normal operations. During this time, SEMO may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Moodle, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor the Moodle site for each class for course specific communication, and the main SEMO, College, and department websites, emails, and mobile messages for important general information.

**Academic Dishonesty:** You are responsible for reading the University's Academic Dishonesty Policy (<http://www.semo.edu/facultysenate/bills/11-A-16.htm>). The field of criminal justice is based upon the integrity of those people working in it. It is assumed that students enrolled in this course will live up to the highest levels of academic honesty.

Academic honesty is one of the most important qualities influencing the character and vitality of an educational institution. Academic misconduct or dishonesty is inconsistent with membership in an academic community and cannot be accepted. Violations of academic honesty represent a serious breach of discipline and may be considered grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty is defined to include those acts which would deceive, cheat, or defraud so as to promote or enhance one's scholastic record. Knowingly or actively assisting any person in the commission of an above-mentioned act is also academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for upholding the principles of academic honesty in accordance with the "University Statement of Student Rights" found in the Student Handbook. The University requires that all assignments submitted to faculty members by students be the work of the individual student submitting the work. An exception would be group projects assigned by the instructor. In this situation, the work must be that of the group. Academic dishonesty includes:

- Plagiarism
  - In speaking or writing, plagiarism is the act of passing someone else's work off as one's own. In addition, plagiarism is defined as using the essential style and manner of expression of a source as if it were one's own. If there is any doubt, the student should consult his/her instructor or any manual of term paper or report writing. Violations of academic honesty include:
    - Presenting the exact words of a source without quotation marks;
    - Using another student's computer source code or algorithm or copying a laboratory report; or
    - Presenting information, judgments, ideas, or facts summarized from a source without giving credit.
- Cheating
  - Cheating includes using or relying on the work of someone else in an inappropriate manner. It includes, but is not limited to, those activities where a student:
    - Obtains or attempts to obtain unauthorized knowledge of an examination's contents prior to the time of that examination.
    - Copies another student's work or intentionally allows others to copy assignments, examinations, source codes or designs;
    - Works in a group when she/he has been told to work individually;
    - Uses unauthorized reference material during an examination; or
    - Have someone else take an examination or takes the examination for another

If there is reason to believe a student is cheating or being academically dishonest in any way, any and all procedures available will be instituted to have the student dismissed from the program and/or the University (see current Student Handbook), including ensuring the student receiving a grade of zero. All papers and examinations will be monitored carefully and students found cheating will be reprimanded to the fullest extent possible as allowed by the University and the Department.

**Grievance Statement:** Questions, comments or requests regarding this course or program should be taken to your instructor. Unanswered questions or unresolved issues involving this class may be taken to Dr. Diana Bruns, Criminal Justice Chairperson.

**Course Requirements:** Students' final grades will be determined by grades received on the following:

Assignment	Points	Due Date (due online by 11:55pm Sunday unless otherwise noted)
Midterm Exam	100	Week 8
Final Exam	100	Final Exam Week (by 11:55pm Thursday)
Social Class Analysis	25	Week 4
Sex & Gender Analysis	25	Week 7
Race & Ethnicity Analysis	25	Week 10
Other Inequalities Analysis	25	Week 12
Social Change Paper ^	75	Week 15
Social Change Presentation	25	Week 16

^ Different criteria for undergraduate students and Accelerated/Graduate students.

**Grading Criteria:** Final grades will be assigned according to the point scale below:  
(Undergraduate students in the Accelerated Program will be assessed using the Graduate Grading Scale.)

**Undergraduate Grading Scale**

A = 90-100%  
B = 80-89.9%  
C = 70-79.9%  
D = 60-69.9%  
F = < 60%

**Graduate Grading Scale**

A = 90-100%  
B = 80 – 89.9%  
C = 70 – 79.9%  
F = < 70%

**Course Outline:**

WEEK	TOPIC(S) / DISCUSSION	READING	HOURS
1	Constructing Inequalities	(Instructor-Provided)*	3
2	Social Class	Ore 71-111	3
3	Social Class	Reiman & Leighton 1-117	3
4	Social Class	Reiman & Leighton 117-257	3
5	Sex & Gender	Ore 112-156	3
6	Sex & Gender	(Instructor-Provided)*	3
7	Sex & Gender	Ore 157-210	3
8	Race & Ethnicity	Ore 19-73	3
9	Race & Ethnicity	Alexander 1-139	3
10	Race & Ethnicity	Alexander 140-261	3
11	Other Inequalities	(Instructor-Provided)*	3
12	Other Inequalities	(Instructor-Provided)*	3
13	Maintaining Inequality	Ore 211-236; 253-262; 290-304	3
14	Maintaining Inequality	Ore 419-430; 490-499; 512-524; 525-531	3
15	Resistance & Social Change	Ore 699-744	3
16	Resistance & Social Change	Ore 759-775	3

NOTE: Instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus. Such changes will be posted to Moodle

\* Posted to Moodle