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Course Details

BCJ340 - CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

Course Revision Date: 02/2015



Professor: Mohamad Khatibloo

Welcome Message:

Welcome, I would like to encourage you to get started on your Criminal Behavior course, as soon as your time allows. This course will help build on your knowledge and skills to help you gain further understanding of the field of Criminal Justice. Please review the course materials, course description, textbook, syllabus and resources to get a solid overview of the expectations of the course. We are here to help you through the course, as you take another step closer to completing your degree.

Welcome to your course in Criminal Behavior! I am your professor, Dr. Mohamad Khatibloo. This course explores how criminal behavior may be prevented from a psychological perspective. Good luck as you work through this course. Remember, the CCU staff and faculty are here to help if you need us.

3 units of credit

Course Description

This course provides a detailed look at crime, what may lead to it, and how criminal behavior may be prevented—all from a psychological perspective. This course offers a comprehensive look at this complex field by focusing on serious crimes, particularly those involving violence.

Course Objectives

- Investigate the multiple causes, manifestations, and developmental pathways of criminal behavior.
- Become aware that the study of criminal behavior and delinquency, from a psychological perspective, has shifted from a personality focus toward a more cognitive and developmental focus.
- Identify social, family, and psychological developmental risk factors that lead to delinquency and crime.
- Explore the genetic and biological aspects of criminal behavior.
- Analyze the relationship between alcohol abuse and crime and delinquency.

Textbook

Criminal Behavior

Curt R. Bartol and Anne M. Bartol, 2014

Pearson

ISBN.13: 978-0-132-97319-9

All course examinations are based on the contents of the textbook required for this course. To successfully complete the examinations, you will need the textbook.

You may rent the textbook from the [CCU rental library](#) or you may purchase the textbook from another source.

Syllabus

Your Course Grade

Your grades on course examinations are determined by the percentage of correct answers. The university uses the following grading system:

- A = 90% – 100% correct
- B = 80% – 89% correct
- C = 70% – 79% correct
- D = 60% – 69% correct
- F = 59% and below correct

Your grade in this course will be based on the number of points you earn. Grades are based on the percentage of points you earned out of a total of 500 points:

Four Unit Examinations

100 points each 400 points total 80% of your grade

Final Examination

100 points 100 points total 20% of your grade

Mastering the Course Content

In order to successfully complete this course, we recommend that you do the following before beginning:

- Be sure that you have the correct edition of the course textbook. Check the ISBN number of your textbook with the ISBN number listed on the cover page of this study guide.



- Review the Table of Contents in the study guide. **You will only be responsible for the chapters in the textbook that are listed in the Table of Contents.**

Each study guide contains several components selected and developed by the faculty to help you master the content of the course. Each chapter in the study guide corresponds to a chapter in the textbook. Study guides vary depending on the course, but most will include:

- Learning Objectives
- Overviews
- Self Tests
- Summaries
- Key Terms

The most efficient way to complete this course is to read the material in both the study guide and textbook in the sequence in which it appears, generally from beginning to end.

Read the Overviews and Summaries

Before reading a chapter of your textbook, review the corresponding learning objectives, overview, key terms and summary sections in the study guide. These were prepared to give you an overview of the content to be learned.

Review the Self-Tests

After you have reviewed the study guide summaries, look at the items on the self-tests. As you identify your areas of relative strength and weakness, you will become more aware of the material you will need to learn in greater depth.

Read and Review the Chapter

Once you have the scope and organization of the chapter in mind, turn to the corresponding chapter in the textbook and read the material carefully. Keep the learning objectives, self test, critical analysis questions and/or case study questions in mind as you read.

Highlight important concepts and information in your study guide and write notes in the study guide as you read the textbook. These notes will help you study for the unit and final examinations.

Check Your Mastery of Each Chapter

When you feel that you have mastered the concepts presented in the chapter, complete the study guide self test without referring to the textbook or your notes. Correct your responses using the answer key provided in the study guide. Your results will help you identify any areas you need to review.

Final Examination

Final examination requests can be submitted online through the Coast Connection student portal, via U.S. mail, or by calling the Testing Department at (714) 547-9625.

If you would like to request a final exam online, log into the Coast Connection student portal and click on *My Academic Plan*. Select the course you are working on and submit the Final Exam Request form located at the bottom of the page. ALL INFORMATION MUST BE FILLED IN.

A final exam scheduling form is also located on the last page of the study guide and can be mailed or faxed to the university. Please fill out ALL required fields if you choose to submit your final exam request using this form.

Submitting Final Examinations via the Internet

For online submissions, once you have logged into the student portal, click on *My Academic Plan*, select the course you are working on, and then click *Take Exam* to complete the final examination. Your proctor must input the unique password he/she was sent in order to unlock your final examination questions. Remember to keep a copy of your answers for your own personal records.

Submitting Final Examinations by Mail or Fax

Mail your completed and signed final examination answer sheet to:

California Coast University Testing Department 925 N. Spurgeon Street Santa Ana, CA 92701

Final examination answer sheets can also be faxed to the Grading Department at (714) 547-1451. Please do not resize your fax.

Proctors

California Coast University requires that all undergraduate students complete all final examinations—with the exception of general elective courses—under the supervision of a proctor.

The proctor is selected by the student and approved by the university. A proctor can be any reputable person *EXCEPT a relative, someone who resides with the student, or a current/former California Coast University student*. Typical examples of approved proctors include friend, neighbor, job supervisor, co-worker, librarian, counselor, etc.

Proctors will have the following responsibilities:

- Ensure that all final examination materials are kept secure and confidential.
- Ensure that the student completes the examination without any outside assistance of any kind other than the course textbook, notes and other study materials.
- Verify the student's identification based on a government-issued photo ID. Proctors will need to verify the student's name and date of birth.
- Sign the final examination answer sheet (unsigned answer sheets will not be graded).
- Return the signed and completed answer sheet to California Coast University for grading and evaluation via mail, fax, or through the student portal.

Your Overall Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)

In addition to receiving a passing grade for each course, all students must maintain a required overall G.P.A. of 2.0 (C) on a 4.0 scale in order to graduate.

- A = 4 grade points
- B = 3 grade points
- C = 2 grade points
- D = 1 grade point
- F = 0 grade points

Students who do not meet the overall G.P.A. requirement by the end of their program must pay the current cost of tuition to repeat courses until they improve their overall G.P.A.

Be sure to keep a copy of all work you submit to the university.

Writing Assignment

Each course requires students to complete a total of FOUR Writing Assignments. The Writing Assignments give students the opportunity to demonstrate a level of subject mastery beyond the objective unit examinations, which reflects his/her ability to analyze, synthesize, evaluate and apply his/her knowledge.

Writing assignments are judged on the quality of the response. Word count is NOT one of the criteria that is used in assigning points to writing assignments. However, students who are successful in earning the maximum number of points tend to submit writing assignments that are **350-500 words (1-2 pages) per question**.

Accessing and Submitting Writing Assignments Through the Student Portal

Log into the student portal, go to *My Academic Plan*, and select the course you are working on. Choose Writing Assignment 1, 2, 3, or 4 to see the writing prompts. YOU MUST SELECT AND ANSWER ONE PROMPT FROM EACH WRITING ASSIGNMENT SECTION. Begin your written response in the text box directly below the writing prompts. The text editor will automatically include all necessary identification information (i.e., your name, student number, course number, and writing assignment question) once you submit your writing assignment for evaluation. Be sure to save a copy of your work prior to clicking the Submit button.

Accessing and Submitting Writing Assignments by Mail

- Students receiving coursework by mail will find the Writing Assignment questions included separately from the study guide as a part of their coursework packet. If you are submitting your Writing Assignments by mail, you will need to include your name, student number, course number, course title, Writing Assignment number (i.e. Writing Assignment 1, 2, 3, or 4) and identify the question number you are answering followed by the actual question itself (in bold type). Your writing assignments will need to be typed double-spaced, using a standard font and 12 point type size.
- Writing Assignments can be mailed to the following address:

California Coast University Testing Department 925 N. Spurgeon Street Santa Ana, CA 92701

Submitting Writing Assignments by E-Mail

- Writing Assignments can be submitted via e-mail to essays@calcoast.edu
- E-mailed essays need to be sent as a Word attachment. Please adhere to the same formatting guidelines as mailed Writing Assignments.

Plagiarism

All work must be free of any form of plagiarism. Put written answers into your own words. Do not simply cut and paste your answers from the Internet and do not copy your answers from the textbook.

Plagiarism consists of taking and using the ideas, writings or inventions of another, without giving credit to that person and presenting it as one's own. This is an offense that the university takes very seriously. An example of a correctly prepared written response may be found by visiting the Coast Connection student portal. You can find this in the portal by clicking on *Student Resources* and then *Writing Basics*.

Citation Styles

The *majority* of your response should be your own original writing based on what you have learned from the textbook. Be sure to provide a citation and a reference for any materials used, including the required textbook. The following points are designed to help you understand how to provide proper citations and references for your work:

- Sources are listed in two places.
- The first, a *citation*, is briefly listed within your answer. This includes identifying information that directs the reader to your list of references at the end of your writing assignment.
- The second, a *reference*, is at the end of your work in the list of references section.
- All sources cited should follow APA style and provide enough identifying information so that the reader can access the original material.

More detailed information about citations and references can be located on the Coast Connection student portal. You can find this in the portal by clicking on *Student Resources* and then *Writing Lab*.

Unit Exam

Each course contains four unit examinations and a final examination. Unit examinations consist of 25 objective (multiple choice) test questions. The final examination consists of 100 objective (multiple choice) questions.

Unit examinations are open-book, do not require a proctor and are not timed. This will allow you to proceed at your own pace. As you go through the study guide, it will prompt you on when to complete a unit exam (approximately after every three to six chapters). The Table of Contents in the study guide will also give you an overview of which textbook chapters are covered in each of the four unit exams. It is recommended that you check your answers against the materials in your textbook for accuracy.

Submitting Your Unit Examinations via the Internet

Students may access the online testing features via the Coast Connection student portal. Multiple choice unit examinations may be completed and submitted online.

Go to the California Coast University homepage at www.calcoast.edu and click on the student login icon at the upper right hand corner. After logging into your account, click on *My Academic Plan* and select the course you are working on to complete the unit examination. More detailed instructions on completing the examination online will be provided on that page.

Remember to keep a copy of your answers for your own personal records.

Submitting Your Unit Examinations by Mail or Fax

Send your completed unit examination along with any writing assignments to the following mailing address:

California Coast University Testing Department 925 N. Spurgeon Street Santa Ana, CA 92701

Unit examination answer sheets can also be faxed to the Grading Department at (714) 547-1451. Please do not resize your fax.

Challenging a Test Item

We make every effort to ensure that all examination items are fair, free of errors, and can be answered by reading and understanding the material in your textbooks. However, problems sometimes arise in the selection or interpretation of test items. For example, you might argue that two alternatives could be correct, based on the material you read, or that the correct answer is not among the choices. Occasionally, a typographical error might make a question difficult to answer.

If you encounter a problem with a test item while taking your exam, you may "challenge" it by providing a brief explanation along with the page number(s) from the textbook in which the correct answer can be found. Likewise, you may also submit a test item challenge after your exam has been graded if you feel a test item was scored incorrectly. Students may submit up to two test item challenges for each unit exam and up to four test item challenges for the final exam. Test item challenges are not permitted for the pre-test. You may submit test item challenges via the Coast Connection student portal or by U.S. mail.

Submitting Your Test Item Challenges via the Internet

Please log into the Coast Connection student portal for specific instructions on challenging a test item. You will submit your test item challenges directly through the student portal.

Submitting Your Test Item Challenges by Mail

- For each test question you wish to challenge, fill in option "F" on the answer sheet for that question.
- On a separate sheet of paper, indicate your name and student ID number, identify the examination you are working on (i.e., Unit Exam 1, 2, 3, etc.), and the specific question number you are challenging.
- Write out the question and its given choices and explain why you are "challenging" the test item.
- Provide a page reference from the textbook to support your answer. If you do not provide a page reference, we may not be able to give you credit.
- Mail your multiple choice answer sheet and test item challenge documents to the Testing Department.

The information you provide is important to us. It will help us further validate and correct any possible errors in the testing materials. If you follow the Test Item Challenge procedure, your challenge will be reviewed and if correct, you will be given credit. You should allow an additional week for the review and scoring of your examination.

Repeating a Unit Exam

Requests to retake a unit examination will only be honored if the final exam has NOT been sent.

Students may retake one unit examination per course, free of charge. The cost for each additional, repeated exam will be \$90. Payment must be paid in full prior to repeating a unit exam and can be done via the student portal or by submitting a Repeat Unit Exam form.

Please contact the Testing Department for more information. When repeating a unit exam through the student portal, the original grade will be cleared out once you click "Re-take."

Learning Activities

BCJ 340 Criminal Behavior

Learning goes beyond the textbook, exams, and writing assignments. To help you find out more about the field of Criminal Justice, we have developed some learning activities that will hopefully get you thinking about some new things and exploring some new ideas. [We suggest you spend about 5 hours per Unit exploring and engaging in the learning activities listed below.](#)

As you complete your studies in your course on Criminal Behavior, we hope you find these activities interesting and thought-provoking. Enjoy!

Unit 1

Consider a mental exercise on deviant behavior: conjure up a picture of a crowded supermarket just after working hours, when most people are eager to get home after a busy day. The checkout counters have long lines of carts overflowing with groceries. One counter—an express line—takes 10 items only. You have 15, but you get in line anyway. People behind you in the line stare. Your behavior is not acceptable. You are a nonconformist, a deviant. Should you be punished? Why/why not?

If you want to know more about the criminal justice system and its characteristics, function, cost, and impact, go to the "Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics." Please visit the site: <http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook>

Unit 2

Consider the statistical and analytical aspects of crime data, please visit the site: www.jrsainfo.org/ibrrc/index.html

The Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) is a national nonprofit group of state-level statistical analysis centers. The group gathers data from across the country, conducts studies on criminal justice issues, and helps people find information on topics related to criminal justice programs and research. The JRSA website discusses the National Incident-Based Reporting System

(NIBRS). Consider student membership to gain access to valuable information.

Consider visiting the website: www.unodc.org / The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is a resource for investigating international crimes such as corruption, human trafficking and migrant smuggling, illicit drugs, money laundering, and organized crime. The URL above will take you to information and reported crime data for several countries. Check this data to compare the crime patterns in other countries to those in the United States. What are your thoughts about the effects of drugs on human behavior?

Unit 3

Many experts believe the rise of street gangs and gang activity have ties to socioeconomic changes in our society. Consider visiting the site: www.streetgangs.com to learn more about street gangs.

Gang activity has many faces and groups, consider viewing episodes of the series Gangland through the History channel at the following link: <https://www.history.com/shows/gangland-undercover> . Here you will learn about many varied gangs and their own internal hierarchy, structure and mannerisms. Consider how the promise of gang life does not materialize for its members and how many realize that a life in the gang may not be as they once thought. Further, review the reasoning why many younger males and females join gangs.

Unit 4

Research has shown that many criminals have suffered lives on the lower end of the socioeconomic ladder of society. As such, many have developed feelings of anger, hatred, etc. and have acted upon these feelings as reasoning of their criminal acts. Consider visiting: www.splcenter.org. The Southern Poverty Law Center is a nonprofit organization that combats hate, intolerance, and discrimination through education and litigation. Review their mission, objectives and some of the cases they have brought forth.

The impact of guns in our society has long and deep history. Consider visiting www.atf.gov. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms provides information on firearms use, guns in circulation, and programs aimed at reducing the possession of illegal firearms. Can you see the efforts this agency puts forth to help reduce the illegal use of firearms?

+ Course Resources

To view the School Resources, click here

Download BCJ340 Study Guide

The study guide was designed to help you further understand the materials in the textbook and master the course content. Each study guide chapter corresponds to a chapter in the textbook.

Although this study guide is developed by California Coast University, it may contain materials provided by the publisher of the textbook.

Unit Exams

Unit Exam 1	Unit Exam 2	Unit Exam 3	Unit Exam 4
Grade:	Grade:	Grade:	Grade:
Score:	Score:	Score:	Score:
Posted:	Posted:	Posted:	Posted:
Received:	Received:	Received:	Received:
Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0
Take Exam	Take Exam	Take Exam	Take Exam

Writing Assignments

Writing Assignment 1	Writing Assignment 2	Writing Assignment 3	Writing Assignment 4
Grade:	Grade:	Grade:	Grade:
Score:	Score:	Score:	Score:
Posted:	Posted:	Posted:	Posted:
Received:	Received:	Received:	Received:
Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0	Attempts: 0
Complete Writing Assignment	Complete Writing Assignment	Complete Writing Assignment	Complete Writing Assignment

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