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 02-40j App - 3/11/03 App 4/1/03

**Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

Contact Person Jamie S. Martin	Email Address jmartin@iup.edu
Proposing Department/Unit Criminology	Phone 7-2720

Check all appropriate lines and complete information as requested. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and for each program proposal.

**1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)**

New Course       Course Prefix Change       Course Deletion  
 Course Revision       Course Number and/or Title Change       Catalog Description Change

CRIM 384 Violence and Victimology

*Current Course prefix, number and full title*

*Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing*

**2. Additional Course Designations: check if appropriate**

This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course.       Other: (e.g., Women's Studies, Pan-African)  
 This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.

**3. Program Proposals**

New Degree Program       Program Title Change       Other  
 New Minor Program       New Track       Program Revision

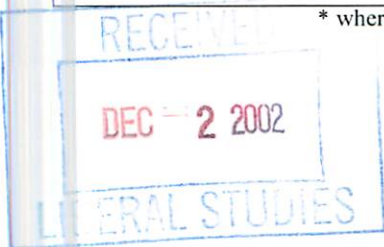
*Current program name*

*Proposed program name, if changing*

**4. Approvals**

		Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	Jamie S. Martin	11-08-02
Department Chair(s)	Jamie Martin	11-08-02
College Curriculum Committee Chair	Robert [unclear]	11/13/02
College Dean	[unclear]	11/13/02
Director of Liberal Studies *		
Director of Honors College *		
Provost *	Mark [unclear]	11/20/02
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	Gail S. Schust	3/11/03

\* where applicable



## **I. Catalog Description**

CRIM 384 Violence and Victimology

3 class hours

0 lab hours

Prerequisites: CRIM 101 and 102

3 semester hours

(3c-01-3sh)

Introduces students to the leading theories and research in the area of violent criminal behavior and victimization. Special emphasis will be placed on patterns of violent offending and victimization over time, victim-offender relationships, and the experience of victims in the criminal justice system. This course addresses major violent crimes including murder, rape, robbery, and assault.

## **II. Course Objectives**

Students will:

1. Examine trends in violent offending and victimization over time and how these trends are measured.
2. Examine the leading theories of violent offending and victimization.
3. Evaluate the different ways in which our criminal justice system aids/ fails victims of violent crime.
4. Critically examine contemporary issues pertaining to violent offending and victimization.

## **III. Course Outline**

- A. Week 1: What is violence and victimization? (3 lectures)
  - Introduction
  - Definitions of violence and victimization
  - How have definitions changed over time
- B. Week 2: Are we really more violent than ever? (3 lectures)
  - Measuring violence and victimization
  - Statistical trends over time
- C. Week 3: Theories of violence and victimization (3 lectures)
  - Victim Precipitation
  - Routine Activities Theory
  - Psychological correlates of violence
  - Sociological explanations

D. Week 4: Theories (cont.), Family violence (3 lectures)

- History of spousal abuse
- Theories of spousal abuse
- Trends in spousal abuse over time

E. Week 5: Family Violence (cont.) (3 lectures)

- Justice responses to spousal abuse
- History of child maltreatment
- Theories of child maltreatment

F. Week 6: Family Violence (cont.) (2 lectures)

- The incidence of child maltreatment
- Justice responses to child maltreatment

**Mid-Term Exam**

G. Week 7: Homicide (3 lectures)

- Theories of homicide victimization/ offending
- Intimate partner homicide
- Stranger homicide
- Serial/ Mass murder

H. Week 8: Sexual Assault (3 lectures)

- Trends over time
- Definitions over time
- Date Rape
- Child sexual abuse

I. Week 9: Sexual assault (cont.), Robbery (3 lectures)

- Legal reform/ Justice Responses
- Definitions of robbery over time
- School-yard bullying or robbery
- Street robberies/ muggings

J. Week 10: Robbery (cont.), Assault (3 lectures)

- Robbery of drug dealers
- Definitions of assault over time
- Hate crimes
- Public assaults

K. Week 11: The role of weapons (3 lectures)

- Trends in weapons use over time
- Knives and injury
- Guns and injury
- Proliferation of and access to firearms
- Does gun carrying decrease violence?

- L. Week 12: Are kids worse today? (3 lectures)
- Historical trends of kids as victims and offenders of violence
  - Who's a kid?
  - Gang violence
  - School violence
- M. Week 13: Are kids worse (cont)?, Women as offenders (3 lectures)
- Justice responses to violent juvenile offenders
  - Trends in female offenders
  - Theories of women as offenders
  - Major differences between men and women as offenders
- N. Week 14: The poor and minorities as victims and offenders (3 lectures)
- The relationship between race, class and violence/victimization
  - Criminal justice responses to poor and minority victims
  - Criminal justice responses to poor and minority offenders

### **Final Exam**

## **IV. Evaluation Methods**

The final grade for the course will be based upon student grades on the following assignments:

- 40% Tests. Two tests will be administered this semester. The tests will consist of multiple choice and essay questions. The second test will be administered during our scheduled final exam time.
- 50% Papers. Students will complete two (2) papers this semester. Both papers will be graded for content and style. One paper will be due during the 7<sup>th</sup> week of class and will require students to answer a research question (provided by the instructor) pertaining to family violence. Students will need to synthesize the course readings and discussions in this paper as well as formulate a logical and intelligent opinion. This paper will be 5 – 7 pages in length and will properly reference all of our pertinent class readings.

The second paper will require students to do independent research on any topic relating to juveniles and violence/ victimization. The topic must be pre-approved by the instructor. This paper must be 6 – 8 pages in length,

with a minimum of eight (8) references. At least four (4) of the references will be from refereed journals.

- 5% **Current Events.** Students will be required to present a current event topic (relevant to violence and/or victimization) to the class on two separate occasions. These oral presentations need to be 5 – 10 minutes in length and should include the following: a summary of the current event, the significance of the event to this course, how the event relates to our class readings/ discussions.
- 5% **Class participation.** Students are expected to be prepared for each class session and make intelligent contributions to our class discussion. We will have a number of discussions and exercises throughout the semester that will require students to have reviewed the assigned readings before coming to class.

Individual faculty will denote a grading scale for the course. For example: A = 90% and above, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, F = 0 – 59%

#### **V. Attendance Policy**

Individual faculty will denote an attendance policy on specific course syllabi.

#### **VI. Required Textbooks, Supplemental Books and Readings**

Doerner, William G. and Steven P. Lab. (1998). *Victimology (2e)*. Anderson Publishing.

Throughout the term, supplemental materials will be placed on reserve in the library. Students will receive a list of these materials and will be expected to read them.

#### **VII. Special Resource Requirements**

Each student is expected to use the Stapleton Library, the World Wide Web, and WebCT to do research, prepare for class, and complete assignments.

#### **VIII. Bibliography**

Birkbeck, Christopher and Gary LaFree. 1993. "The Situational Analysis of Crime and Deviance." *Annual Review of Sociology*, 19: 113 – 137.

Brownstein, Henry. (2000). *Social Reality of Violence and Violent Crime*. Allyn and Bacon Publishers.

- Bruce, Marino. 2000. "Violence Among African Americans." *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 16(2).
- Cohen, Jaqueline, D. Cork, J. Engberg, and George Tita. 1998. "The Role of Drug Markets and Gangs in Local Homicide Rates." *Homicide Studies*, 2(3): 241 – 262.
- Chesney-Lind, Meda and Vickie Paramore. 2001. "Are Girls Getting More Violent: Exploring Juvenile Robbery Trends." *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 17: 142 – 166.
- Crime in the United States. 1998. "Incidents of Family Violence: An Analysis of NIBRS Data." Available electronically at [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/Cius\\_98/98crime/98cius29.pdf](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/Cius_98/98crime/98cius29.pdf).
- Felson, Richard. (1998). *Crime and Everyday Life*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.
- Gullotta, Thomas P. and Sandra J. McElhaney. (1999). *Violence in Homes and Communities: Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment*. Sage Inc.
- Huff, C. Ron (ed). 1990. *Gangs in America*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications.
- Loeber, Rolf and David Farrington (eds). (1998). *Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors and Successful Interventions*. Newbury Park: SAGE Inc.
- Meadows, Robert J. (2001). *Understanding Violence and Victimization (2e)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Moffitt, Terrie. 1993. "Adolescent-Limited and Life-Course Persistent Antisocial Behavior: A Developmental Taxonomy." *Psychological Review*, 100: 674 – 701.
- Nagin, Daniel and Donald Black. 1998. "Do Right to Carry Laws Deter Violent Crime?" *Journal of Legal Studies*, 27(1): 209 – 219.
- Reiss, Albert J., Jr. and Jeffrey A. Roth. 1993. *Understanding and Preventing Violence: A Report on the Panel on the Understanding and Control of Violent Behavior*. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.
- Rosenfeld, Rick, Timothy Bray, and A. Egley. 1999. "Facilitating Violence: A Comparison of Gang-Motivated, Gang Affiliated, and Non-Gang Youth Homicides." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 15(4): 501 – 522.

- Siegel, Jane A. and Linda M. Williams. "Risk Factors for Violent Victimization of Women: A Prospective Study, Final Report." National Institute of Justice.
- Stoff, David M., James Breiling, and Jack D. Maser. 1987. Handbook of Antisocial Behavior. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Toch, Hans. 1992. Violent Men: An Inquiry into the Psychology of Violence. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.
- Tonry, Michael and Mark H. Moore (eds). (1998). Youth Violence. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Wright, Richard, Bruce Jacobs, and Volkan Topalli. 2000. "Managing Retaliation: Drug Robbery and Informal Sanction Threat." *Criminology*, 38(1): 171 – 198.

Course Analysis Questionnaire: CRIM 384  
Violence and Victimology

Section A: Details of the Course

- A1 The proposed course is part of the Critical Issues in Criminology “Group B” controlled electives. It is offered for majors and minors only.
- A2 This course does not require changes in the content of existing courses within our program. While many of our courses touch upon violence and/or victimization, we believe we have a need for a course that focuses on these topics. Existing courses will not need to be revised.
- A3 This course has not been offered at IUP on a trial basis.
- A4 The course will NOT be dual-listed.
- A5 The course will NOT be taken for variable credit.
- A6 This course is frequently found at other higher education institutions. Current examples are listed on the pages immediately following this Course Analysis Questionnaire.
- A7 The content of the course is not recommended by a professional society. Our discipline does not have an accreditation program; instead, one of the two main professional societies (the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences [ACJS]) has published “minimum standards for criminal justice education” (see Appendix B). The standards do not address this course.

Section B: Interdisciplinary Implications

- B1 The course will be taught by a single instructor.
- B2 The course content is specific to our major; we see no conflict with the courses offered by other departments.
- B3 Seats in the course will be restricted to Criminology majors and Criminology Pre-Law majors, and minors.

Section C: Implementation

- C1 Faculty resources are adequate. The proposed course is part of a major program revision. The program revision was designed to fit departmental resources.
- C2 No additional resources are needed.



- C3 No part of the course is grant funded.
- C4 Frequency of course offering: every semester.  
Please see Appendix A for a chart of course offerings.
- C5 Number of sections: three (3).  
Please see Appendix A for a chart of course offerings.
- C6 Number of students per section: 30  
Please see Appendix A for a chart of course offerings.
- C7 Our professional societies have NOT made any recommendations regarding enrollment limits or parameters for a course of this nature.

Section D: Miscellaneous

The proposed course is frequently taught in Criminology and Criminal Justice programs. The content reflects central issues in our discipline. The proposed course supplements existing program content to focus directly on this content.

## CRIM 384: Violence and Victimology

School	Course Number of Similar Class	Catalog Description
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	CJUS 3160: Victims and the Criminal Justice System	A consideration of the relationship between victims of crime and the criminal justice system. Specific topics include an analysis of the characteristics of crime victims, victim reporting and non-reporting patterns, treatment of victims by the various segments of the criminal justice system, victim assistance programs and the issue of compensation and/or restitution for victims of crime.
University of Nevada, Reno	CRJ 463: Victimology	The study of crime victims, victim-offender relationships, treatment of crime victims by the justice system, and social, legislative and psychological impact of victimization.
University of Missouri at St. Louis	350: Victimology	Analysis of major perspectives on victimization. Emphasis on patterns of victimization, the role of victims in the generation of crime, and the experience of the-victim in the criminal justice system.
Bowling Green State University	CRJU 410: Victimology	An examination of the victim in the criminal justice system. The course covers the development of victimology, basic concepts and issues, specific types of victimization and societal/system response to the victim.
Indiana State University	CRIM 375: Victimology	This course provides an in-depth study of the many facets of crime victimization. Coverage will include the key social, economic, and demographic variables associated with crime victims as well as the differences in victimization rates in the United States and other countries. Crime victim assistance programs, victim compensation, and victim participation in the criminal justice process will be covered. Discussion will also include victim-oriented legislation and case law related to crime victims.
Montana State University	JS 401: Victimology	The degree and type of participation of the victim in the development of crime and the way citizens can be victimized by the actual attempts of society to help them.
Northern Arizona University	CJ 350: Violent Crime	Examines patterns of violent crime. Explores theory and research related to the causes and control of violent crime.
Rutgers University	27:202:517. Violent Crime	Investigates and analyzes aggression and violence as forms of individual, group, and societal behavior. Includes an assessment of anthropological, biological, philosophical, political, and socio-logical theories. Combines student presentations and projects with lectures and tutorials.
University of California, Irvine	J138: Victims of Crime	Examines the impact of crime upon a variety of victims, e.g., victims of child and spousal abuse, burglary, arson, robbery, and rape. Considers such topics as victim compensation, victim-offender relationships, and the secondary victimization process.

**CRIM 384: Violence and Victimology**

School	Course Number of Similar Class	Catalog Description
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Overview of the history and theory of victimology. Analysis of victimization patterns with special emphasis on types of victims and crimes. The interaction between victims of crime and the criminal justice system with respect to the role of the victim and the services offered to the victim.

University of Maryland, College Park      CCJS 360: Victimology