GIRLS GONE BAD:
WOMEN, CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Course description

Whether we examine arrest statistics, self-report data, or responses to victimization surveys, there is a strong and persistent sex pattern in crime: males commit more criminal offenses than females and the types of offenses males commit are generally more serious than those of females. The relationship between sex and crime is so strong and persistent that criminologists Gottfredson and Hirschi once proclaimed: "Men are always and everywhere more likely than women to commit criminal acts" (1990: 145). In this course we examine the outlier: women who engage in crime. In the next ten weeks, we answer questions such as: what kinds of crime do women commit? Are particular social categories of women more likely to be involved in crime? Is the gender gap in crime closing over time? What motivates women to commit crime? How does the criminal system react to female criminals? Is justice gender-blind? How do women experience imprisonment and in what ways do their experiences differ from men's?

Course learning objectives

Girls Gone Bad is a QRE course. Thus, in addition to learning about female criminality and criminal justice responses, you will learn the ways in which sociologists ask questions about women and crime, how to locate data that sociologists use in their research and to recognize the various limitations inherent within these data sources. You will also learn how to formulate effective research questions and to design a research study, and gain experience in interpreting numerical evidence and communicating the findings to your audience. By the end of the course, you ought to be comfortable using numbers to make effective arguments, be better equipped to question taken-for-granted assumptions about female criminality, and also know how a sociologist thinks.

Course material

A series of journal, magazine and newspaper articles are found on e-reserve (password = soan), JSTOR, ProQuest, and the New York Times website. The following books are also required:


You are also asked to purchase one of the following two books:


  OR

will lose their class participation grade. No exceptions will be made unless appropriate formal documentation is presented (e.g. note from a doctor, class dean, athletic coach, etc.).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Numerical Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Assignment One, Part 1</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Assignment Two, Part 1</td>
<td>15 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Assignment One, Final</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8 or February 10</td>
<td>Assignment Three, Book Presentation</td>
<td>7.5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>Assignment Two, Part 2</td>
<td>7.5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Test</td>
<td>15 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Assignment Two, Part 3</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Assignment Two, Final</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<td>--</td>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
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Grade range: "A" = 90-100%; "B" = 80-89%; "C" = 70-79%; "D" = 60-69%; "F" <= 59%

**Accommodations**

Students who require an accommodation due to the impact of a disability should meet with me privately to discuss their specific needs. The Office of Disability Services for Students will also help coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities; please visit this URL to learn more: [https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/wellness/disability_services/](https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/wellness/disability_services/)

**Academic honesty**

Carleton's procedures and regulations regarding academic honesty are available at this URL: [http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/dos/asc/academic_regs/?policy_id=21359](http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/dos/asc/academic_regs/?policy_id=21359). I expect my students to practice academic honesty so please review these documents to understand what practices are considered to constitute academic dishonesty.

Jan 16: Why do some girls ‘go bad’?


Jan 17: Assignment 1, part 1 due. Place papers in my SOAN mailbox by 5pm

Jan 18-23: Taking to the Streets: Female Runaways

Readings for Jan 18:


Readings for Jan 20:

  • In class film: Streetwise
Feb 3-13: Women in the Drug Trade

Feb 3 Readings:


Feb 6: Mid-term Break

Feb 8 Readings:

- **In class group presentation of Sexed Work: Gender, Race, and Resistance in a Brooklyn Drug Market**

Feb 10 Readings:

- **In class group presentation of Women in the Drug Economy**

Feb 13 Readings:

unable to attend. However, it is my expectation that you make every effort to attend. I am also happy to reach out to your professors if necessary.

- To prepare for this tour, please review the homepage of MCF-Shakopee: http://www.doc.state.mn.us/facilities/shakopee.htm

**Feb 24 Readings:**


**Feb 27 Readings:**


**Feb 29 Readings:**


**Mar 1: Assignment 2, five page methods plan due.** Place plan in my SOAN mailbox by 5pm
Robin: "I guess you can never trust a woman."

Batman: "You've made a hasty generalization, Robin. It's a bad habit to get into."

Hope you enjoyed the course.
Have a great spring break!

Annette

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2 Batman quote from http://adamwest.tripod.com/b-lectur.htm