

Common Course Outline
CRJU 259
Criminological Perspectives
3 semester hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Criminological Perspectives

Studies major paradigms and theories that form the foundation of criminal justice and criminology; examines the range of explanations of criminal behavior focusing on attempts to integrate perspectives and theories.

Prerequisite: CRJU 202

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- interpret advanced theories in criminology
- analyze the impact of the discipline of criminology on crime, prevention and corrections
- identify sound criminological research methodology
- identify valid resources in criminal justice and criminological research

Major Topics

- I. Fundamental models of crime and criminal justice
 - A. What constitutes a theory, model and paradigm
- II. The Classical Model of crime and criminal justice
- III. The Positivist Foundation – Darwin Onward
- IV. Biological and Physiological Perspectives
- V. Economic theories: Macro to Micro
- VI. Structural and Ecological Perspectives
- VII. Learning and Control Perspectives
- VIII. Sub-cultural and Social Reaction Theories
- IX. Attempts at integration and more recent perspectives
- X. Is an integrated model of crime and criminal justice possible?

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- Written assignments
- Tests/Quizzes
- Attendance and participation

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments.

Other Course Information

This course is a Criminal Justice elective. It is a University of Baltimore Criminal Justice program core course and is identified at The University of Baltimore as CRJU 306, Criminological Perspectives. This course is designed as a “Two-Plus-Two” model with the University of Baltimore. It is taken by CCBC Criminal Justice Program students as an elective and transferred to the University of Baltimore.

It is taught in the classroom using a variety of instructional techniques which are intended to meet the varied learning styles of our diverse student population. These strategies rely on positive interdependence in a cooperative learning environment. Individual accountability is a key outcome of these strategies.