

Women and Crime

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Required Texts

Van Wormer, Katherine Stuart and Clemens Bartollas. 2007. *Women and the Criminal Justice System*. 2nd Edition. Allyn Bacon Publishers.

Van Wormer, Katherine Stuart and Clemens Bartollas. 2007. *Voices of Women from the Criminal Justice System*. Allyn Bacon Publishers.

Supplementary books and readings will be determined the first week of class.

All available at Clafin Books.
Call 785-776-3771



Introduction and Course Description

This course, designed for upper-level undergraduate and graduate students, examines women's connections to crime within three venues: as perpetrators, as victims, and as workers in the criminal justice system. Mainstream and feminist criminological perspectives consider these issues as embedded within social forces, taking into account how sexism, racism, heterosexism, and classism affect the lives of individuals and community dynamics. Primary objectives include:

- To learn current literature and theories concerning women and crime in each of the three venues – women as perpetrators, as victims, and as workers in the criminal justice system;
- To examine and analyze various scholarly works which address issues of women and crime;
- To apply knowledge to real-life situations, including connecting to women inmates who have experienced crime first-hand.



Course Evaluation

Course evaluation will be based on a 1000-point system as follows:

Participation and Discussion Papers	
Weekly participation and message boards	100
4 papers @100 points	400
Semester Project	
Book report.....	100
Research and presentation (plus handout)	200
Connecting with Corrections project	
Journal, correspondence, interaction	100
Prison visit and/or reflection paper	100

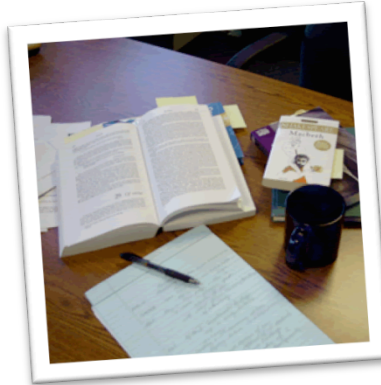
- 900-1000 points = A
- 800-899 points = B
- 700-799 points = C
- 600-699 points = D
- Below 600 = F

Semester Project

The semester project is based on an assigned supplementary reading (to be announced). Included is a book report and class presentation based on issues covered in the book as well as primary research (conducted by you) that addresses current literature, local opinion, and/or media coverage of the issue in question. You will also prepare a handout in a format to be determined in the two weeks of class. For example, students in the past have constructed Fact & Action Sheets, videos, and other creative ventures. Guidelines for the project will be posted on K-State Online.

Connecting with Corrections

The success of this project depends on strict adherence to guidelines posted on K-State Online. Pending approval, each class member will be paired with an inmate in Topeka Correctional Facility. You will correspond with the inmate at least six times during the semester. Near semester end, we will visit the facility, at which time you *may* have the opportunity to meet your correspondent. You are required to keep a journal of the correspondence during the semester, recording your reflections on the process. Following the facility visit, you will submit a five- to eight-page (double-spaced) paper based on your experience and evaluation of this project. Specific guidelines and requirements for the paper will be posted on K-State Online.



Borderline grades, curves, and other grade inflators

Grades for this course will not be “curved,” nor do I offer extra credit points. If you need an “A” in this course, please note the total number of points necessary to earn an “A”. However, if you have any difficulties, I’m happy to work with you to resolve it and work toward a successful course for you. Results of individual grades and assignments may be discussed by email,

Student rights

Refer to information regarding your rights and responsibilities in the undergraduate general catalog: <http://courses.ksu.edu/catalog/undergraduate/>. If you have any condition that will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as outlined, and/or require special accommodations, please notify me during the first week of class.

Honor Code

Please include the KSU honor code on every written assignment, along with your signature (if an electronic submission, simply type your name). The KSU honor code states: ***“On my honor as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.”*** Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper, or project; failure in the course; and/or expulsion from the University. Plagiarism includes using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own, as well as failing to acknowledge indebtedness for the use of others’ works or ideas, published or unpublished, even if the work is paraphrased. For more information, refer to the “Academic Dishonesty” policy: <http://www.ksu.edu/academicservices/fhbook/fhxf.html>

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading Assignment	Assignment Due	Other notes, comments
					Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are to be submitted thru KSOL by on Sunday, 11:59pm during the due week.
1	6/8 - 6/14	Introduction, Course Organization	Ch. 1 Current issues, posted electronically	Supplementary book signup and assignment; begin Connections with Corrections	Watch for signup selections and other announcements! Get your books at Claflin Books
2	6/15 – 6/21	Gender, patriarchy and social control Feminist theory, crime and research	Ch. 3, 4	Discussion paper 1 (D1) Journal entry 1 (J1) Both due 6/21	D1 covers Ch. 1, 3, 4 plus any other supplementary readings covered thus far.
3	6/22 – 6/28	Women criminals Women and substance abuse	Ch. 2, 5	Book reports Due 6/28	Submit through KSOL assignment link
4	6/29 – 7/5	Women and prison Programs, innovation, and advocacy	Ch. 6, 7	D2/J2 Both due 7/5	D2 covers Ch. 2, 5, 6, 7 plus other supplementary readings covered during this segment
5	7/6 – 7/12	Rape and sexual assault Wife and partner abuse	Ch. 8, 9	J3 due 7/12	Continue work; consult with me to be sure you're on target with your semester project!
6	7/13 – 7/19	Global perspectives	Ch. 10	D3	D3 covers Ch. 8, 9, 10, plus other supplementary readings in this segment.
7	7/20 – 7/26	Women in policing and the law Women in corrections	Ch. 11-14	D4 CC Paper due 7/26	D4 covers Ch. 11-14
8	7/27 – 7/31			Presentations and final project due	