

Dr. J. Adler
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Fall 2022

Office hours: Tues. 11:35-
12:30; Thurs. 8:30-9:30;
and by appointment

AMH 4319:

CRIME & PUNISHMENT IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Required Texts:

Joseph F. Spillane & David B. Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*
Patricia Cline Cohen, *The Murder of Helen Jewett*
Robert Goldman, *Reconstruction and Black Suffrage*
Adam Cohen, *Imbeciles*
Carolyn N. Long, *Mapp v. Ohio*
Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy*

Course Requirements:

This course will examine the history of crime and the development of the American criminal justice system. A mid-semester twenty-four-hour take-home examination, a short research paper, and an end-of-semester, twenty-four-hour take-home examination will be required. The mid-semester examination will be distributed on October 11 (and due on October 12) and will be worth 25 percent of your grade, and the research paper, due on November 17 (at the start of class), will be four pages in length and worth 25 percent of your grade. In addition, 25 percent of your course grade will be based on attendance, which is required, class participation, and a weekly assignment, which will entail a brief essay on a topic posted on Canvas during Tuesday classes and due at the end of the hour, beginning on September 20. To receive credit for attendance, students must participate in the Zoom class meetings, must keep the video feed enabled during class, and must submit the weekly assignment. (If computer problems or other challenges arise or pose particular difficulties for you, please discuss the issue with me at the start of the semester.) The end-of-semester examination, distributed on December 6 (and due on December 7), will also be worth 25 percent of your grade. This course will employ UF's grading scale (A=4.0; A-=3.67; B+=3.33; B=3.0; B-=2.67; C+=2.33; C=2.0; C-=1.67; D+=1.33; D=1.0; D-=0.67; E=0.0). Students cannot pass AMH 4319 unless they submit both take-home examinations and the research paper, and there will be no make-up examinations or extensions, except in cases of medical emergencies. Anyone requiring special accommodations must register with the Dean of Students Office and discuss his or her particular needs with me during the first three weeks of the semester. Students must conform to the university's conduct policy regarding cheating and the use of copyrighted materials, which can be reviewed at www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/. Finally, students are expected to provide professional feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on giving this feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and the course-evaluation results will be available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Zoom Links and Passcodes:

Tuesdays: 974 1557 1918 (class meeting); 54082 (passcode)
Thursdays: 946 5265 4442 (class meeting); 25744 (passcode)
Office hours on Tuesdays: 987 4056 8343; 174590 (passcode)
Office hours on Thursdays: 992 3087 7592; 001472 (passcode)

Lecture/Zoom Schedule and Reading Assignments:

1. Aug. 25 Crime and Punishment in Historical Perspective
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chap. 1

2. Aug. 30, Sept. 1 Criminal Justice in Colonial America
No Reading Assignment

3. Sept. 6, 8 Race and Law in Early America
No Reading Assignment

4. Sept. 13, 15 Crime in Revolutionary America
No Reading Assignment

5. Sept. 20, 22 Violence in the Early Nineteenth Century
Reading Assignment: Cline Cohen, *The Murder of Helen Jewett*

6. Sept. 27, 29 The Invention of the Prison and the Birth of the American Police
No Reading Assignment

7. Oct. 4, 6 Violent Death in Nineteenth-Century America
No Reading Assignment

8. Oct. 11 Midterm Examination

- Oct. 13 Race and Popular Justice in the Late Nineteenth-Century South
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chap. 5; Goldman, *Reconstruction and Black Suffrage*

9. Oct. 18, 20 Scientific Racism
Reading Assignment: Cohen, *Imbeciles*

10. Oct. 25 Immigrants in the Industrial City
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chaps. 2-3

- Oct. 27 No class meeting on October 27

11. Nov. 1, 3 The First War on Crime
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American*

Criminal Justice, chaps. 4, 6-7

12. Nov. 8, 10 Social Conflict and Street Crime in the Late Twentieth-Century City
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chap. 8; Long, *Mapp v. Ohio*
13. Nov. 15, 17 A “Punishment Tsunami”
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chap. 9
14. Nov. 22 Race, Implicit Bias, and Social Justice
Reading Assignment: Spillane & Wolcott, *A History of Modern American Criminal Justice*, chap. 10
15. Nov. 29, Dec. 1 Mass Incarceration and Criminal Justice in Modern America
Reading Assignment: Stevenson, *Just Mercy*
16. Dec. 6 End-of-Semester Examination