



Spring 2023  
**SOC 334**

Race, Crime, and Criminal Justice  
 Online Asynchronous

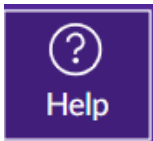
**Professor:** Dorothy R. De Boer, Ph.D.

**Office:** Science B331

**Office Hours:** Monday 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM or 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM and by appointment

**Phone:** 901-270-8077 please call or text between 10 AM and 10 PM.

Please message through Canvas by going to the Help icon and then clicking on Ask Your Instructor a question.



Ask Your Instructor a Question  
 Submit a question to your instructor

**Course Description:** An examination of race in the context of the criminal justice system. Emphasis on the treatment of racial minorities as victims and offenders by law enforcement, courts, and corrections. In this class we will examine current research and theories of racial and ethnic discrimination within America's criminal justice system.

**Course Structure.** This course will be delivered entirely online through the Canvas course management system. Use your UWSP student account to log in to the course from the [Canvas Login Page Links to an external site.](#) If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the Manage Your Account page to do so. All assignments and essays will be submitted on Canvas. Be sure to read the **Canvas announcement every day**. After reading the announcement, please **carefully examine the module of the day**.

**Student Expectations.** In this course, you will be expected to complete the following tasks:

- read textbook daily
- communicate via Canvas message (see directions in syllabus tab)
- complete basic internet searches
- download and upload documents to the Canvas LMS

**Course Requirements.** Students are required to participate in online discussions, take examinations, and complete quizzes. Please always consult the module for the day for expected tasks and class materials.

**Courses Learning Outcomes.** By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand how race and ethnicity are central to crime and criminal justice
- Know the difference between race and ethnicity.
- Understand the different theoretical explanations for the racial and ethnic gap in offending and victimization.
- Understand the nature and extent of inequality in American society with respect to racial and ethnic minorities.

- Explain the most important issues related to police and people of color.
- Explain how race and ethnicity continue to be taken into consideration during the jury selection process.
- Understand that there are significant racial differences in attitudes toward capital punishment.
- Have a statistically accurate understanding of who is in prison and the racial and ethnic composition of the prison population.

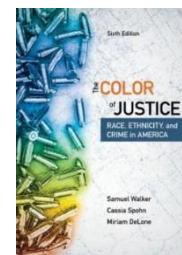
**Course Technology Requirements.** Students will need a stable internet connection for hybrid days (do not rely on cellular) to participate in this course. A webcam and a microphone may prove useful for virtual office hours.

**Technical Assistance.** If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas, you can click the Help button near the bottom left of the Canvas navigation screen. From there, you have the following options:

- Ask a question of your instructor (**this is also how you send me messages**)
- Email Canvas personnel
- Chat with Canvas personnel
- You can also lookup Canvas guides for documentation on issues seek assistance from the IT Service Desk.

### Required Reading

- Walker, S., Spohn, C., & DeLone, M. (2018). *The Color of Justice: Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Cengage Learning. ISBN 978-1-337-09186-2
- Selected articles and audio video material will also be posted on Canvas.



**Students with Disabilities.** The University has a legal responsibility to provide accommodations and program access as mandated by Section 54 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The University’s philosophy is to not only provide what is mandated but also convey its genuine concern for one’s total well-being. If accommodations are needed, please contact the instructor as well as the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC), located in 609 LRC. DATC contact information is (715) 346-3365 (Voice), (715) 346-3362 (TDD only), or via email at [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu)

**Assessment and Grading.** There will be three scheduled exams given. Each exam is worth 100 points. These exams will include a multiple-choice, short essay, and matching questions.

There will be a combination of discussion posts, class essays, and chapter quizzes due weekly. The following is the tentative class plan.

Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Four Quizzes	100
PowerPoint Assignment	50
<u>Five Online Discussions</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	550

Letter grades will be assigned based on the percentage of the points that are earned. Grades will be assigned as follows:

93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
59 or below	F

**Academic Integrity.** The University has clearly articulated its policies governing academic integrity, and students are encouraged to carefully review the policy identified under UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities. If you are not fully aware of these rights and responsibilities, please see the Student Rights and Responsibilities available in PDF format at <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>. Specifically, you may wish to examine Chapter 14–Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures. Any deviation from these expectations will result in academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. The area of most significant potential risk for inadvertent academic dishonesty is plagiarism. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, paraphrasing or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Please be sure to cite all material you use. For the most part, your primary source will be your textbook. More information on citation expectations will be provided in the daily announcements.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities.** Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to participate in this class fully, contact the Office of Student Disability. All accommodations must be approved through the Office of Student Disability Services.

**Diversity.** In order to learn, we must be open to the views of people different than ourselves. In the time we share in discussion or zoom conferences, please honor the uniqueness of your classmates and appreciate the opportunities we have to learn from one another.

**Tentative Class Schedule of Readings.** The topics for the day are listed on the course schedule of readings. The schedule of readings offers a quick guide to the textbook assigned reading; this is not your only expectation. For more detail on the daily expectations and the assignments, you will want to see the module for each day.

**Please Note:** *Material posted on Canvas* (films, news, articles, etc.) are intended to complement your textbook, and these items *are required and will be on the exams*. Again, please see the module for each day.

Week	Topic	Textbook Reading	Task
Week One 1/27-1/27	Introduction to Course. Race, Ethnicity, And Crime: America's Continuing Crisis	Chapter 1 Canvas material	Intro Discussion due 1/30 by 11:59  Chapter 1 Discussion due 1/30 by 11:59
Week Two 1/30 -2/3	Victims and Offenders: Myths and Realities about Crime	Chapters 2 Canvas material	Chapter 2 Discussion due 2/6 by 11:59
Week Three 2/6-2/10	Ethnicity, Social Structure, and Crime	Chapters 3 Canvas material	Chapter 3 Discussion due 2/13 by 11:59 PM
Week Four 2/13 to 2/17	Justice on the Street? The Police and People of Color	Chapter 4 Canvas material	Chapter 4 quiz due Monday 2/20 by 11:59 PM Be sure to review Exam 1 Quizlet
Week Five 2/20-2/24	<b>Exam One</b> over chapters 1 to 4 due Monday 2/27 by 11:59 PM		
Week Six 2/27-3/3	The Courts: A Quest for Justice during the Pretrial Process	Chapter 5	Chapter 5 Discussion due Monday 3/6 by 11:59 PM
Week Seven 3/6 -3/10	The Courts: A Quest for Justice during the Pretrial Process	Chapter 6	Chapter 6 quiz due Monday 3/13 by 11:59 PM
Week Eight 3/13 -3/17	Race and Sentencing: In Search of Fairness and Justice	Chapters 7	<b>PowerPoint "When Does Race Matter in Sentencing"</b> due Monday 3/27 by 11:59 PM
Spring Break 3/20 -3/24			
Week Nine 3/27-3/31	The Color of Death: Race and the Death Penalty	Chapter 8	Chapter 8 quiz due Monday 4/3 by 11:59 PM Innocence Project Discussion due Monday 4/3 by 11:59 PM
Week Ten 4/3 – 4/7	<b>Exam Two</b> over chapters 5 to 8 due Monday 4/10 by 11:59 PM		
Week Eleven 4/10-4/14	True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality		
Week Twelve 4/17-4/21	Corrections in America: A Portrait in Color	Chapter 9	Chapter 9 quiz due Monday 4/24 by 11:59 PM
Week Thirteen 4/24 – 4/28	Minority Youth	Chapter 10	Current Events Discussion due Monday 5/1 by 11:59 PM
Week Fourteen 5/1-5/5	<b>Exam Three</b> over chapters 9 to 11 due Monday 5/8 by 11:59 PM		
<b>FINALS</b>	Exam Three due Monday 5/8		