

## CJUS-P 493 General Topics: Intersectionality and Crime

Syllabus for Spring 2021

Online Asynchronous

**Course Instructor:** Caitlin Ducate  
**Email:** [csducate@indiana.edu](mailto:csducate@indiana.edu)  
**Office:** Zoom  
**Office Hours:** TBD and by appointment

---

### Course Description:

This course examines crime through an intersectional lens. Students will learn how people's various social identities and experiences of oppression influence their experiences of crime and the criminal justice system as both victims and perpetrators. The course will begin by discussing general theories of intersectionality before delving into specific intersectional identities. Special focus will be given to intersections such as class, sexuality, religion, and disability, and how these identities intersect with gender and race. Implications for modern and popular criminological theories will also be discussed.

### Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe how intersectional identities moderate people's experience of crime
2. Apply material learned in class to novel, real-world scenarios
3. Read and summarize journal articles
4. Critically discuss course topics with classmates
5. Take the perspective of people that are different than you

### Required texts:

All required reading will be uploaded to Canvas and accessible via the Modules tab.

### Course Requirements & Grading:

Points for the course are allocated as follows:

Exams:	300 points
Reading Quizzes:	120 points
Research Summaries:	110 points
Discussion Leader:	80 points
<u>Online Participation</u>	<u>100 points</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>710 points</b>

**Exams.** This class will have 3 exams worth 100 points each. Exams will be administered via Canvas. You are expected to complete these exams *independently*—you may not work with a partner.

*Last Updated: Jan 26, 2021*

**Reading Quizzes.** In order to encourage completion of the assigned readings, there will be a weekly reading quiz worth 10 points each administered via Canvas. These are short quizzes designed to check whether you are reading and understanding the articles. Quizzes are due **every Monday at 11:59pm**. You may discuss the readings with your classmates, but you are expected to complete the reading quizzes *independently*.

**Research Summaries.** To facilitate discussion, you will also be required to submit completed Research Summaries to Canvas worth 5 points each (10 points per week). The summaries will be turned in **every Wednesday at 11:59pm** on Canvas. You may discuss the readings with your classmates, but you are expected to write up the summaries in your own words.

**Discussion Leader.** You will be required to sign up to be discussion leader for one discussion. As discussion leader, your job is to **post 5+ high quality discussion questions** about the 2 readings for that week and **monitor a discussion thread**. Discussions run from **Tuesday at 10am to Friday at 5pm**. If you have a scheduling conflict, feel free to post your questions earlier than Tuesday. You are welcome (and encouraged!) to bring in outside readings & material (e.g. from other classes). ***You may consult with me in advance for help with crafting your questions.*** See the rubric for details.

**Participation.** You will also be required to participate in **1 online discussion thread per week**. Participation means responding to **one** of the posted discussion questions on Tuesday or Wednesday and responding to **two** classmates by Friday. Each thread you participate in will be worth 10 points each for a total of 110 points. See rubric for more details.

**Extra Credit.** Students cannot ask for ad hoc (individualized) extra credit opportunities. However, extra credit opportunities may be given throughout the semester.

<b>Grade Minimum %</b>	
A+	97.0
A	93.0
A-	90.0
B+	87.0
B	83.0
B-	80.0
C+	77.0
C	73.0
C-	70.0
D+	67.0
D	63.0
D-	60.0
F	<60.0

## Course Policies and Procedures:

**Contacting Me.** If you need to get in touch with me, send email to [cseducate@indiana.edu](mailto:cseducate@indiana.edu). Please include the course number (P-493) in the subject of the email and use [proper email etiquette](#). I usually check my email twice a day between 10am and 5pm on weekdays and do not check email on the weekends. If I have not responded to your e-mail within 24 hours (excluding Sat and Sun), please send another e-mail with a reminder. *I will not respond to questions about information that can be found on the syllabus.*

**Canvas.** I make heavy use of Canvas in this class for both uploading material and communicating information and reminders. **Most communication from me will be through Canvas Announcements.** You are responsible for keeping up with Canvas notifications, so please check it regularly. I *highly recommend* that you set up Canvas to send you emails or text messages immediately for announcements, due dates, etc. Instructions on setting notification preferences can be found at [this link](#).

**Missed Work.** I realize COVID-19 may place difficult and unreasonable demands on you suddenly. I also realize that you may be living in a situation uncondusive to studying, you may have care obligations, you may be working, etc. Although I expect you to try to manage *known* problems, some problems are hard to predict in advance. If you miss work due to an unforeseen problem, you need to let me know *within 24 hours* of the missed assignment unless you are physically unable to. In many cases, I will allow you to make up the work with or without a penalty, but you *must* let me know the reason for the missed work first.

**Contesting grades.** Students will have 1 week to contest grades beginning on the day they are released. After that time period, all grades are final.

**Tentative Schedule:**

<b>WEEK &amp; DATES</b>	<b>TOPICS</b>	<b>READINGS</b>	<b>QUIZES</b>
<b>SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO COMMON DIMENSIONS</b>			
<b>Week 1</b> Jan 19-Jan 24	Intro to the Course & What is Intersectionality?	Crenshaw (1991)	Syllabus Quiz
<b>Week 2</b> Jan 25-Jan 31	Gender	Krahé et al. (2003) Rimes et al. (2017)	RQ1
<b>Week 3</b> Feb 01-Feb 07	Race, Ethnicity, & Immigration	Tehee & Esqueda (2008) Kim & Sung (2016)	RQ2
<b>Week 4</b> Feb 08-Feb 14	Class	Beijer et al. (2015) Kerley et al. (2015)	RQ3
<b>Week 5</b> Feb 15-Feb 21	<i>Exam 1 on Wed, Feb. 17</i>		
<b>SECTION 2: THE FORGOTTEN DIMENSIONS</b>			
<b>Week 6</b> Feb 22-Feb 28	Sexuality	Milletich et al. (2014) Sigurvinsdottir & Ullman (2015)	RQ4
<b>Week 7</b> Mar 01-Mar 07	Religion	Mason-Bish & Zempi (2018) Tsang & Lowe (2019)	RQ5
<b>Week 8</b> Mar 08-Mar 14	Disability	van der Heijden et al. (2016) Platt et al. (2015)	RQ6
<b>Week 9</b> Mar 15-Mar 21	Age & Incarcerated	Westbrook (2018) Jenness & Festenmaker (2016)	RQ7

---

**Week 10**            *Exam 2 on Thurs, Mar.*  
Mar 22-Mar 28      **25**

---

**SECTION 3: INTERSECTIONAL THEORIZING**

---

**Week 11**            Feminist & Black Feminist            Potter (2006)            RQ8  
Mar 29-Apr 04      Criminology                              Cook (2016)

**Week 12**            Cultural Criminology                      Garland et al. (2016)            RQ9  
Apr 05-Apr 11                              Garland et al. (2017)

**Week 13**            Convict Criminology                      Richards (2013)            RQ10  
Apr 12-Apr 18                              Tietjen (2019)

**Week 14**            Theories of Victimization                Nofziger (2009)            RQ11  
Apr 19-Apr 25                              Button (2018)

**Week 15**            *Exam 3 on Wed, Apr. 28*  
Apr 26-May 02

---

*This course schedule is tentative and subject to change. All changes will be announced in class and/or through Canvas.*

## Indiana University Policies

1. Special Accommodations for Students with Learning Disabilities  
Students with disabilities should contact the Disability Services for Students at 812-855-7578 or <https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/disability-services-students/>. I must be made aware of any necessary academic accommodations well in advance (at least 2 weeks), in-person, during office hours or after class so we can discuss accommodations.
2. Academic Misconduct  
*Academic misconduct* is defined as any activity that tends to undermine the academic integrity of the institution. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, interference, violation of course rules, and facilitating academic dishonesty. The faculty member may take into account the seriousness of the violation in assessing a penalty for acts of academic misconduct. The faculty member must report all cases of academic misconduct to the dean of students, or appropriate official. The university may discipline a student for academic misconduct. This is consistent with university policy (*Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, see especially the section detailing your responsibilities to avoid Academic Misconduct).
3. Religious Holidays  
It is the policy of Indiana University that instructors must reasonably accommodate students who want to observe their religious holidays at times when academic requirements conflict with those observances. This policy is intended to ensure that both faculty and students are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities in the accommodation of students' religious observations. If a conflict with a religious observance exists, a student must make a request to the instructor for a reasonable accommodation for that observance by the end of the second week of the course. Students seeking accommodations for religious observances can find the necessary form here (scroll down to the bottom of the page): <http://www.indiana.edu/~vpfaa/forms/index.shtml>.