

# **University of Gondar**

## **College of Social Sciences and the Humanities**

### **Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice**

**Seminar in Criminology and Criminal justice (CRCJ3131) guideline**

**AC year: 2019/20, Sem II,**

**Category of Students: CRCJ 3<sup>rd</sup> year/ Regular**

**Course load: 3Ects**

**Course instructor: Bewket Dereje**

**Email: bewketdereje2014@gmail.com**

#### **Course Description:**

This course is structured to provide students with a critical understanding of crime and the criminal justice system. The course primarily focuses to include radical theories so that students will explore various critical theories to analyze the definition of crimes, criminal law, criminal justice policies, the functions and purpose of the criminal justice institutions in historical contexts. The course offers an alternative explanation and understanding to orthodox criminological theories; an alternative perspective that students can draw upon to engage in critical thinking. In addition, the course will help students to be exposed to crime and criminal justice issues that are not adequately addressed in other courses of the curriculum. In this respect, students will review and have independent readings on up-to-date modules which are prepared by UNODC in 2019/2020.

#### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explore the major critical criminological theories;
- Identify the various controversial and critical issues in criminology and the criminal justice system;

- Explain the causes and nature of various common, white-collar, corporate, and transnational crimes drawing upon critical perspectives;
- Analyze the role and function of the state and the various components of the criminal justice system;
- Analyze specific crime types with their legal and societal responses;
- Acquire research and writing skills; and
- Develop critical thinking skills.

**Mode of delivery and assessment of the course;**

The course will be covered through independent reading and term paper writing and presentation of students with the guidance and facilitation of the course instructor. Students are expected to develop two term papers; one individually and the other in a group of 4/5 students.

The individual assignment will be developed with a review of crime theories, crime types, or criminal justice issues of which the title is provided below. Students will select one title and develop a term paper with 8-10 pages. The paper should be a single spaced, computer typed, 12 font size and times new romans style. It must include introduction, main body, conclusion and references. It will have presentation and will be marked out of 50%.

**Titles that can be used and adequately stated by students;** one title/issues will be selected by only one student. But, in case students may be interested in different dimensions of a specific issue. To avoid repetition you may create a group communication channel and inform each other.

1. Radical theories of crime
2. Postmodern theories of crime
3. Convict criminology
4. Environmental crime
5. Developmental crime prevention
6. Cyber crime
7. Crime and place

8. Terrorism
9. Organized crime
10. public sector corruption
11. private sector corruption
12. Firearms trafficking
13. Use of force and firearms
14. Police accountability and integrity
15. Violence against children and criminal justice response
16. Violence against women and girls and criminal justice response
17. Trafficking in person and migrant smuggling
18. Criminal justice response to trafficking in person and migrant smuggling
19. Civil society response to trafficking in person and migrant smuggling
20. Gender and trafficking in person and migrant smuggling
21. Children and trafficking in person and migrant smuggling
22. Crime victimization
23. Access to justice for victims
24. Alternative to imprisonment
25. Restorative justice
26. Recidivism
27. Juvenile justice system
28. Media and crime

The second paper will be done in groups of 4/5 students. The title/issues will be selected by students. It is a kind of mini research based on the interest and observation of students in consultation with the instructor. It will be marked out of 50%.