

**Northeastern University
College of Criminal Justice
CJU520
Communities and Crime
Summer 2007**

I. INSTRUCTOR

Steven G. Catalano
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II. OFFICE HOURS

By appointment but I am available to meet with students prior to and after each class.

III. REQUIRED TEXT

Reading packet available at NU Reprographics

IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course provides students with an overview of issues related to communities and crime. Examines sociological aspects of community context, behavior, and functioning, and how communities are implicated in both crime-generating and crime-preventing processes. Familiarizes students with historical and contemporary literature surrounding the communities and crime relationship, as well as how the study of human behavior generally, and crime particularly, should examine the interaction of persons and places.

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete the course will have a working knowledge; both academic and practitioner-based, of community-based crime prevention and control strategies and programs based on readings, class discussions and in-class presenters.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and to attend all classes. **Attendance is mandatory.** Exams and quizzes will be based upon readings from the text, additional readings as assigned, and class discussions. In fairness to all, grades for late papers and missed exams will be lowered by one grade (i.e. a grade of A will be lowered to B, a B will be lowered to C, etc.) **for each class that it is late. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.** Permission to take a missed exam must be obtained from the instructor prior to the exam.

Additional information regarding the topic for the writing assignment will be provided in class, however the paper will be 6-8 pages in length, typed and double-spaced.

Students are expected to participate in class discussions. As we proceed through the course material, students will be encouraged to share their professional observations and experiences relevant to the appropriate lecture. During the course, the instructor may use excerpts from various books, periodicals, and articles. The syllabus may be amended during the semester.

VII. GRADING

Attendance	10%	Midterm	25%
Quizzes	15%	Final	25%
Writing assignment	25%		

VIII. PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING POLICY

Plagiarism and cheating are prohibited. While taking exams and quizzes, students are not to look at other student quizzes or exams, consult their books, notebooks or any other material except the quiz or exam in front of them. The paper that the student writes should be his/her original work. Students are required to submit an original work done for this course, not a work prepared for another course. Any words included from another source should be properly quoted and cited. Students can speak to each other about the papers but students are not to write collaboratively with other students. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an automatic **F** on that paper, exam or quiz and will be referred to the University for formal proceedings. Please refer any questions on this policy to the professor.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Assignment
Week of July 2	Crime in the United States, 2005 Criminal Victimization, 2005 Contacts between Police and the Public, 2005 Making Every Encounter Count: Building Trust and Confidence in the Police Boston Police Department – 1999 Boston Public Safety Survey Institute for Policy Research Report: Resident Survey Findings
Week of July 9	Community Policing: What Is the Community and What Can It Do? Community Responsibilities in Neighborhood Policing Community Mobilization – The Foundation for Community Policing Chiefs Concerns: A Gathering Storm – Violent Crime in America
Week of July 16	Disorder, "Broken Windows," and Serious Crime Fear and Withdrawal from Urban Life Witness Intimidation What Can Police Do to Reduce Crime, Disorder, and Fear?
Week of July 23	The Routine Activity Theory – A Model for Addressing Specific Crime Issues Controlling Crime Before It Happens: Risk-Focused Prevention Shifting and Sharing Responsibility for Public Safety Problems
Week of July 30	Analyzing Repeat Victimization Understanding Risky Facilities This Works: Preventing and Reducing Crime
Week of August 6	Disorderly Youth in Public Places The Weed and Seed Strategy Safe Streets, Sound Communities Gun Violence Among Serious Young Offenders
Week of August 13	The Benefits and Consequences of Police Crackdowns The Tool Bag – Effective Tactics

Fixing Broken Windows