



## Social Sciences, Human Services & Criminal Justice Department

### CRJ 204/ Criminal Justice and the Urban Community

**3 Credits/3 Lecture hours**

**ZERO TEXTBOOK COST COURSE**

**CRJ 204 - 1401 (17377)**

**TuTh 2:00PM-3:15PM**

**Fiterman 404**

**Professor:** Satenik Margaryan, Ph.D.

**Day and times:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00PM-3:15PM

**Classroom:** Fiterman 404

**Professor:** Satenik Margaryan, Ph.D.

#### **Student hours:**

- ◇ Mondays 1 pm -2 pm on [ZOOM](#)
- ◇ Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:45am to 10:45am in person (Office N-656 at 199 Chambers)
- ◇ And by appointment requested at [smargaryan@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:smargaryan@bmcc.cuny.edu)

**E-mail:** [smargaryan@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:smargaryan@bmcc.cuny.edu)

**Phone:** 212 776 6391 (you can text to this number too)

#### **I. Course Description**

This course takes a critical approach to the study of crime and justice in urban settings. Course materials examine contemporary crime-related issues that affect urban communities within a historical and sociological context. The course highlights the intersections of deviant behavior and the criminal justice system within the structures of class, race, gender, and power inequalities. Topics explored may include racial profiling, juvenile delinquency, media representations of crime, policing, the war on drugs, and prisoner re-entry.

Prerequisites/Co-requisites: CRJ 101, CRJ 102.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- \* To provide students with an understanding of the special characteristics of urban settings that affect crime and justice.
- \* To develop an overall understanding of the current state of problems and solutions regarding crime in urban settings.
- \* To learn how current urban methods of criminal justice are supported by empirical evidence.
- \* To teach students the implications of today's urban crime and justice as it relates to social policy.

### **What makes this course a Zero Textbook Cost course?**

This course does not require students to purchase textbooks, using materials that are freely available or are available through the Library. In this course, you will access all materials through Blackboard.

### **Required Texts**

Punished | Policing the lives of Black and Latino boys | An electronic version of this full text is available from the BMCC Library for free. Author: Victor Rios Publisher: NYU Year: 2011 ISBN: 9780814776384

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/detail.action?docID=865849>

All of the required readings for this course are listed in the course timeline below, and will be posted in Open Lab. You must access these materials for the course in OpenLab, so make sure you have access today.

### **Use of Technology**

#### **I. BMCC OpenLab**

BMCC's OpenLab is an online platform where the College's students, faculty and staff can come together to learn, work, play, share ideas and build community.

All our course materials will be posted on BMCC OpenLab site:

<https://openlab.bmcc.cuny.edu/crj-204criminal-justice-and-the-urban-community/>

Please follow these steps to register for the course on the OpenLab:

1. Sign up for an OpenLab account with your BMCC email address– it's a quick and easy process! Here are the instructions.
2. Go to our course site here: <https://openlab.bmcc.cuny.edu/crj-204criminal-justice-and-the-urban-community/>
3. Click on "Request Membership" under the logo of the class.

Once you are a member of the class, you will be able to view all the course materials and post and comment on the site. If you have any trouble with any of these steps, you can email me.

## II. BMCC Blackboard

Once you register for the course, you will be enrolled in BMCC Blackboard site for the class. You will find the course syllabus and first few announcements on Blackboard. You will use Blackboard to take your exams and other assignments. Your grades will also be posted on Blackboard. Please note that all teaching materials will be placed in OpenLab only.

## II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: *What you should be able to do by the end of the semester...*

	<i>You will be able to...</i>	<i>Types of Assessments</i>
<b>Course Student Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Describe</b> the special characteristics of urban settings that affect crime and justice.</li> <li>● <b>Discuss</b> the implications of urban crime and justice as it relates to social policy.</li> <li>● <b>Describe</b> how current urban methods of criminal justice are supported by empirical evidence.</li> <li>● <b>Demonstrate</b> an understanding of the current state of problems and solutions regarding crime in urban settings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Essay exams or assignments</li> <li>● Multiple choice exams</li> <li>● Discussions</li> <li>● The Research papers</li> <li>● Individual presentations</li> </ul>
<b>General Education Goals</b>	<p><b>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</b> – Students will understand and apply the concepts and methods of the social sciences.</p> <p>Student behaviors include being able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● demonstrate an understanding of the unique theories and methods of a social or behavioral science</li> <li>● analyze and interpret a social, economic, political, cultural, philosophical, or historical issue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Essay exams or assignments</li> <li>● Multiple choice exams</li> <li>● Quizzes</li> <li>● Discussion Participation</li> <li>● Research papers</li> <li>● Individual presentations</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Information &amp; Technology Literacy-</b> Students will collect, evaluate and interpret information and effectively use information technologies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter outlines</li> </ul>
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### III. YOUR KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

#### ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING RUBRIC

##### Participation

Participation in the academic activity of each course is a significant component of the learning process and plays a major role in determining overall student academic achievement. Academic activities may include, but are not limited to, attending class, submitting assignments, engaging in in-class or online activities, taking exams, and/or participating in group work. Each instructor has the right to establish their own class participation policy, and it is each student's responsibility to be familiar with and follow the participation policies for each course.

*In other words: Ask questions. Be curious. You are more than welcome to have a different interpretation of the reading/video/issue than a classmate or me; just be sure to share your perspective in a productive and supportive manner.*

Your class participation matters.

##### Evaluation and Grading Criteria

##### Research Project Paper

Research Paper: For this assignment, you are required to write a research paper of 2,000 – 2,500 words (8-10 pages). The final research paper is due on December 14th. The research question for your paper will center on changes in criminal activity and law enforcement in your neighborhood.

To write a well-written, informed, and thoughtful research paper you will complete and submit the following steps/assignments:

Consider topic areas for study (email the topic for feedback)

1. Draft your research question (Step One: Topic and Research Question)
2. Prepare an outline of your paper/area of focus

3. Submit draft of an annotated bibliography (Step Two: Annotated Bibliography)
4. Gather and submit background data about your neighborhood (quantitative) (Step Three: Neighborhood)
5. Submit final paper and presentation

Your final grade for the paper will be based on how well you are able to collect and analyze the various types of data and synthesize the information into a coherent narrative to support/respond to your research question.

## Final Presentation

You are asked to present your findings in a power-point presentation submitted online. You may use a video of yourself presenting it, or record your voice.

## Final Exam

One final exam will be given. The final exams will constitute 25%% of the student's final grade.

**Exam Policy.** A review document will be provided to all students to assist in preparing for the exam, although the best preparations are through reading and outlining the book chapters, attending classes and taking notes.

## Evaluation & Requirements of Students

The instructor may revise this grading pattern. Final grades may be determined as follows:

<b>Research Project: Final Paper</b>	25%
<b>Assignments (Steps 1, 2, &amp; 3)</b>	25%
<b>Presentation</b>	10%
<b>Participation</b>	15%
<b>Final Exam</b>	25%

A 93% and above	A- 90-92%	B+ 87-89%	B 83-86%
B- 80 - 82%	C+ 77-79%	C 73-76%	C- 70-72%
D+ 67-69%	D 63-66%	D - 60-61%	F Below 60%

## Course Schedule\*

DATE	TOPICS OF DISCUSSION	ASSIGNMENT DUE
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WEEK 1		
8/25 & 8/30 & 9/1	<p>Introduction the class and the subject.</p> <p>Description of the final project</p>	<b>Review Syllabus</b>
	<p><u>Sociological Imagination and Humanizing Language</u></p> <p>*Mills (1959): Sociological Imagination.</p> <p>*The Power of Labels: Exploring our use of humanizing language <a href="https://fortunesociety.org/wordsmatter/">https://fortunesociety.org/wordsmatter/</a></p> <p>*Cox, A. (2020). The language of incarceration. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/2632666320940859">https://doi.org/10.1177/2632666320940859</a></p>	
WEEK 2		
9/6 & 9/8	<p><u>What makes a community?</u></p> <p>*“Sidewalk Life” (Jane Jacobs, Chapter from The Life and Death of Great American Cities) <a href="https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Death_and_Life_of_Great_American_Cit/P_bPTgOoBYkC?hl=en&amp;gbpv=1&amp;pg=PP1&amp;printsec=frontcover">https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Death_and_Life_of_Great_American_Cit/P_bPTgOoBYkC?hl=en&amp;gbpv=1&amp;pg=PP1&amp;printsec=frontcover</a></p>	
	<p><u>Researching Community: Images of Community in Criminological Thought</u></p> <p>* Chapter 1 in Wilcox, P., Cullen, F. T., &amp; Feldmeyer, B. (2017). Communities and crime: An enduring American challenge. <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=12">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=12</a></p>	
WEEK 3		
9/13 & 9/15	<p><u>Studying Our Social World   1st Steps of Scholarly Research</u></p>	<b>Step One is Due</b>

	<p>* Chapter 1: Research Process in Crow, I., &amp; Semmens, N. (2007). Researching criminology.  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=332713&amp;ppg=20">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=332713&amp;ppg=20</a></p>	
	<p><u>Researching the Fear of Crime</u></p> <p>* “Researching the fear of crime” in Crow, I., &amp; Semmens, N. (2007). Researching criminology.  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=332713&amp;ppg=249">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=332713&amp;ppg=249</a></p>	
<b>WEEK 4</b>		
9/20 & 9/22	<u>The Geography of Mass Incarceration</u>	
No classes on 9/27/2022 9/29/2022	<p>*Introduction from <u>Jessica T. Simes (2021): Punishing Places: The Geography of Mass Imprisonment:</u>  <a href="https://content.ucpress.edu/title/9780520380325/9780520380325_intro.pdf">https://content.ucpress.edu/title/9780520380325/9780520380325_intro.pdf</a></p>	
<b>WEEK 5</b>		
10/6 No classes on 10/4/2022	<p><u>Researching the Community: Community as the Truly Disadvantaged</u></p> <p>* Chapter 4 in Wilcox, Pamela, et al. Communities and Crime : An Enduring American Challenge, Temple University Press, 2017.  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=71">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=71</a></p> <p>Film: <b>The Myth of Pruitt-Igoe</b></p>	
<b>WEEK 6</b>		
10/11 & 10/13	<u>Researching the Community: Community as a Criminal Culture and a Broken Window</u>	

	<p>* Chapter 6 in Wilcox, Pamela, et al. <i>Communities and Crime : An Enduring American Challenge</i>, Temple University Press, 2017.  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=130">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=5124754&amp;ppg=130</a></p>	
<b>WEEK 7</b>		
10/18 & 10/20	<p><u>Criminalizing and Imprisoning Communities of Color   Real People, Real Lives, Real Implications</u></p> <p>*Rios, Punished:  Preface &amp; Chapters 1 – Dreams Deferred  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=865849&amp;ppg=22">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/reader.action?docID=865849&amp;ppg=22</a></p>	<b>Step Two is Due</b>
<b>WEEK 8</b>		
10/25 & 10/27	<p><u>Criminalizing and Imprisoning Communities of Color   Real People, Real Lives, Real Implications</u></p> <p>*Rios, Punished: Chapter 4 – The Coupling of Criminal Justice and Community Institutions and Chapter 5 – Dummy Smart, and Chapter 6 – Proving Manhood</p>	
<b>WEEK 9</b>		
11/1 & 11/3	<p><u>Criminalizing and Imprisoning Communities of Color   Real People, Real Lives, Real Implications</u></p> <p>*Rios, Punished: Chapter 7 &amp; Conclusion</p>	
<b>WEEK 10</b>		
11/8 & 11/10	<p><u>Red-Lining and the White Flight</u></p> <p>* How Decades of Racist Housing Policy Left Neighborhoods Sweltering  By Brad Plumer and Nadja Popovich</p>	



	<p>Photographs by Brian Palmer Aug. 24, 2020  <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/24/climate/racism-redlining-cities-global-warming.html">https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/08/24/climate/racism-redlining-cities-global-warming.html</a></p> <p>*A 'Forgotten History' Of How The U.S. Government Segregated America. NPR 2017  <a href="https://www.npr.org/2017/05/03/526655831/a-forgotten-history-of-how-the-u-s-government-segregated-america">https://www.npr.org/2017/05/03/526655831/a-forgotten-history-of-how-the-u-s-government-segregated-america</a></p>	
<b><u>WEEK 11</u></b>		
11/15 & 11/17	<p><u>The American Suburbia</u></p> <p>*Chapter 3 in Research in Urban Sociology, edited by Mark Clapson, Emerald Publishing Limited, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central,  <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/detail.action?docID=655556">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/bmcc/detail.action?docID=655556</a></p>	
<b><u>WEEK 12</u></b>		
11/22  No class on 11/24	<p><u>Researching Community: Gentrification</u></p> <p>*“Introduction: Aspects of Change,” London, Aspects of Change . London: Centre for Urban Studies: xiii– xxiii; xxiv– xxvi; xxx– xxxi.  Brown-Saracino, Japonica. The Gentrification Debates : A Reader, Routledge, 2010.</p> <p>*“Super-gentrification: The Case of Brooklyn Heights, New York City,” Urban Studies , 40 (12): 2487– 2492. In Brown-Saracino, Japonica. The Gentrification Debates : A Reader, Routledge, 2010.</p>	<b>Step Three is Due</b>
<b><u>WEEK 13</u></b>		
11/29 & 12/1	<p><u>Solutions to Community Driven Disorder</u></p> <p>*Pizarro, J. M., Sadler, R. C., Goldstick, J., Turchan, B., McGarrell, E. F., &amp; Zimmerman, M. A. (2020). Community-driven disorder reduction: Crime prevention</p>	

	<p>through a clean and green initiative in a legacy city. Urban Studies.</p> <p>*Somers, Meredith (2019). How a hybrid housing policy is opening doors to good neighborhoods. MIT <a href="https://mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/how-a-hybrid-housing-policy-opening-doors-to-good-neighborhoods">https://mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/how-a-hybrid-housing-policy-opening-doors-to-good-neighborhoods</a></p> <p>*</p>	
<b>WEEK 14</b>		
12/6 & 12/8	<p><u>Student Poster Presentations &amp; Discussion</u></p> <p>Bringing It All Together Crime and Justice in the Urban Community</p>	<p><b>Final Presentation is Due</b></p> <p><b>Final Paper is Due</b></p>
12/15	<b>Final Exam</b>	

\*Please note that this syllabus and course sequence, including materials covered on quizzes and exams are subject to change contingent on class progress, unscheduled activities, or other unanticipated factors.

#### HELPFUL INFORMATION

##### **BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement**

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism. Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's Web site, [www.bmcc.cuny.edu](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu). For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

##### **Gender-Inclusivity**

BMCC community members have the right to use and be referred to according to their preferred name, title, and/or personal pronouns. Everyone also has the right to use all spaces according to their self-identification, including restrooms and locker rooms. To learn more about how to change your preferred name and affirm your gender identity at CUNY (including requesting a new ID card and/or email address), go here: <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/student-affairs/lgbtq/>

Anyone who has experienced harassment related to gender or sexual identification, who needs assistance, or who wishes to file a complaint, can contact the Office of Compliance and Diversity: <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/about-bmcc/compliance-diversity/>.

### **FREE BMCC STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

BMCC is committed to the health and well-being of all students. It is common for everyone to seek assistance at some point in their life, and there are free and confidential services on campus that can help.

**Advocacy and Resource Center (ARC)** <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/student-affairs/arc/> room S230, 212-220-8195, [arc@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:arc@bmcc.cuny.edu). If you are having problems with food or housing insecurity, finances, health insurance or anything else that might get in the way of your studies at BMCC, contact the Advocacy and Resource Center (formerly Single Stop) for assistance. Please contact us at [arc@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:arc@bmcc.cuny.edu), call 212-220-8195, or come by the office at room S230. You may also contact the Office of Student Affairs, S350, 212-220-8130, [studentaffairs@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@bmcc.cuny.edu), for assistance.

**Counseling Center** [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/counseling](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/counseling), room S343, 212-220-8140, [counselingcenter@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:counselingcenter@bmcc.cuny.edu). Counselors assist students in addressing psychological and adjustment issues (i.e., depression, anxiety, and relationships) and can help with stress, time management and more. Counselors are available for walk-in visits.

**Office of Compliance and Diversity** <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/about-bmcc/compliance-diversity>, room S701, 212-220-1236. BMCC is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive learning environment free of unlawful discrimination/harassment, including sexual harassment, where all students are treated fairly. For information about BMCC's policies and resources, or to request additional assistance in this area, please visit or call the office, or email [olevy@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:olevy@bmcc.cuny.edu), or [twade@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:twade@bmcc.cuny.edu). If you need immediate assistance, please contact BMCC Public safety at 212-220-8080.

**Office of Accessibility** [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility), Students who need academic accommodations in connection with a disability must initiate the request with BMCC's Office of Accessibility (OA). Students need to register with the Office of Accessibility in order to officially disclose their disability status to the College and to determine eligibility for appropriate reasonable accommodations (including any prior IEPs or 504s). Please contact the OA at the start of the semester (or as soon as possible) to coordinate any accommodation request/s: [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility), Room N360 (accessible entrance: 77 Harrison Street), 212-220-8180, [accessibility@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:accessibility@bmcc.cuny.edu).

**HAVE A HEALTHY FALL 2022 SEMESTER!**