University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

CRJU 49373 Crime and Film

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 10203 Composition II or ENGL 24103 Advanced Composition

Effective Catalog: 2025-2026

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on films as a reflection of ideas concerning crime, victimization and criminal justice. Traces societal trends, profiling the emergence of stereotypic depictions of crime and society's response to crime.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Distinguish the social nature of crime.
2. Examine the social construction of law.
3. Analyze the nature culture.
4. Investigate the depiction of crime in film.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Communication Skills (written and oral)
Students will communicate proficiently. Students will use essay format for written presentation of research projects and discuss particular aspects of various topics in a seminar setting.

Ethical Decision Making
Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will examine ethical dilemmas within crimes and films and develop ethical frameworks to resolve specific ethical issues.

Global and Cultural Perspectives
Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topic

A. Police corruption
B. The Court Room
C. Corrections