

SOCIOLOGY OF VIOLENCE

SOCI3360

Fall Semester, 2012

Online Course

Instructor: Michelle Emerson-Lewis

E-mail: Please use email in our WebCT Vista course to contact the instructor.
If you have difficulties with WebCT Vista, you may use my school email:
memerson@kennesaw.edu. If you need a response immediately, please feel free to use my
personal email: memerson25@gmail.com

Phone: (720) 226-5075 (Cell)

As your instructor, I am here to help you succeed. I can offer assistance through e-mail, by phone, or online in a chat space. Use WebCT mail to set up an appointment if you need help with an assignment or if you would like to talk about the course content.

- Responses to your work: Unless you are notified otherwise, grades and feedback will be posted within one week of the assignment deadline. In general, grades will appear in MyGrades and feedback can be downloaded in the same place where you submitted your work.
- Responses to Student E-mails: I will respond to student e-mails within 48 hours Monday-Friday.

Course Description: This course examines the roots and consequences of violent behavior exhibited by individuals in our society. Topics covered include the social and cultural contexts that breed violence, society's influence on specific crimes, and human social behavior.

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the causes of violent behavior in society.
2. Discuss social implications of violent behavior.
3. Offer policy ideas to combat violence in our society.

Course Requirements:

- Texts:
 - Eller, Jack David. (2006). *Violence and Culture: A Cross-Cultural & Interdisciplinary Approach*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Higher Education. ISBN 0-534-52279-3
 - Mire, Scott and Cliff Roberson. (2011) *The Study of Violent Crime: Its Correlates and Concerns*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press. ISBN 978-1-4398-0747-7
- Access to WebCT and Microsoft Word.

Evaluation: Your grade will be based on the following:

Midterm	20%
Final	20%
Assignments	20%
Discussions	20%
<u>Case Studies</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Final grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

A (90+), B (80 - 89), C (70 - 79), D (60 - 69), F (<60)

Exams: You will have a midterm and a final. Your exams will consist of multiple-choice, T/F, and essay questions. Exams will be given online with a time limit of 3 hours from start to finish. Make-up exams will only be available with prior approval. Dates of the exams are listed on the Course Calendar.

Discussions: Students are required to post weekly to our WebCT Vista discussion board on topics posted. Students are also required to respond to another student's posting, as well. Thus a total of 2 separate postings are required for each module. Late postings will not be accepted. Postings will be graded based on academic relevance and must display some analytical ability. Spelling and grammar count. Criteria for grading your assignments are listed on the Homepage under Grading Rubrics. Due Dates are listed on the Course Calendar below.

Assignments: You will have assignments for the modules that include readings from the Mire and Roberson text (Modules 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 14, and 15). These are posted on Vista under the learning modules. Ten points will be deducted per calendar day for assignments submitted late. Criteria for grading your assignments are listed under Grading Rubrics.

Case Studies: For the Case Studies included in the Eller text (Chapters 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 11), write a reaction paper. These will show up as assignments in Modules 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, and 13. In your reaction papers, you will select one case study from the chapter. Your paper should demonstrate that you have read the case study, that you have understood the conclusions presented in the readings as well as the reasoning that led to those conclusions, and that you have given careful thought and analysis to the implications of the case study. Ten points per calendar day will be deducted for late submissions. Your paper should include two parts as listed below:

- *Summary*, 500 words in length. Your *Summary* should make your reader aware of the fundamental ideas presented in the case study. Include the main points, principal arguments, and conclusions.
- *Evaluation*, 500 words in length. This half of your paper should be an analysis of the case study. How does this study fit in with our study of violence? What makes this case unique, how does it relate to the topic of the chapter, and what can we learn from the case study?

Academic Integrity: Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Disruption of Campus Life Statement: It is the purpose of the institution to provide a campus environment, which encourages academic accomplishment, personal growth, and a spirit of understanding and cooperation. An important part of maintaining such an environment is the commitment to protect the health and safety of every member of the campus community. Belligerent, abusive, profane, threatening and/or inappropriate behavior on the part of students is a violation of the Kennesaw State University Student Conduct Regulations. Students who are found guilty of such misconduct may be subject to immediate dismissal from the institution. In addition, these violations of state law may also be subject to criminal action beyond the University disciplinary process.

Plagiarism and Cheating: No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). When direct quotations are used,

they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged.

Student Support Services: Kennesaw State University welcomes all students, recognizing that variations of abilities contribute to a richly diverse campus life. The Student Development Center offers the following programs: Adult Learner Programs, Minority Student Retention Services, International Student Retention Services, Odyssey Peer Mentoring Program. Please visit the Student Development Center for additional information.

disAbled Student Support Services: A number of services are available to help students with disabilities with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students should visit the office and make an appointment to arrange an individual assistance plan. Students who wish to participate in an activity or program offered by the university and need accommodations should contact the office sponsoring the program at least five days prior to the program so that arrangements can be made. The course strives to meet all Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines and regulations. Please visit the disAbled Student Support Services website for additional information and obtain any necessary accommodations.

Writing Center: The Writing Center is more than a free service available to all members of the university community; it is a place where anyone who writes—those who love it, those who struggle with it, and everyone in between—can come for help in becoming a better writer. In fact, that is the goal of the Writing Center: to produce not just better writing but better writers. Please visit it at:
<http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter/index.shtml>

Drop Date: The last day to drop without academic penalty is October 12.