

SOCI 3360 – SOCIOLOGY OF VIOLENCE

T/R 5-6.15 pm

Social Science Bldg. 2021

Fall 2014

Professor: Dr. Eliza Markley

Office: Room #233, Pilcher Building

Phone: 770-794-7981

Email: Use email system in D2L

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 3.30-4.30 pm

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Eller, Jack David. 2006. *Violence and Culture: A Cross-Cultural and Interdisciplinary Approach*. Thomson-Wadsworth.

Alvarez, Alex and Bachman, Ronet. 2014. *Violence: The enduring Problem*. Sage Publications.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

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. This course aims to:

1. Provide students with a basic understanding of the study of violence.
2. Explore and critique different theoretical perspectives on the causes of violence.
3. Discuss social implications of violent behavior.
4. Offer policy ideas to combat violence in our society.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Regular class attendance and participation** in class discussions and activities are expected. Excessive tardiness will be counted as absences. It is not enough to attend class. You must participate in class discussions. Attendance and participation are worth 10% of the final grade. (For instance, if you miss four classes two points will be subtracted from your final grade. For five or more classes missed four points will be subtracted from your final grade.)

2. **Discussant:** Each student will have to discuss material from an assigned case study. More info will be provided in class. This represents 15% of your final grade.
3. **Exams:** There will be two exams: Midterm and Final Exam. Tests will cover material from in class lectures and discussions, videos, handouts and the textbook. Each test is worth 25% of the final Grade.
Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams will only be given when **prior** arrangements have been made with the instructor. Students **must** demonstrate a documented cause for missing the examination. All make-up exams must be taken directly after the final exam.
4. **Literature Review:** You will be responsible for completing a review of current literature on a class-related topic of your choosing. Your final paper will be 6 to 8 pages in length and will include: an introduction, literature review, recommendations for future research, and a conclusion. A minimum of 10 peer-reviewed references are required (Scholarly Articles, Books, Dissertations, etc.). You are welcome to use internet sources; however, internet sources will **not** be counted as a peer-reviewed reference. Additional details will be provided in class. The Literature Review is worth 25% of the final grade.

GRADING:

The final grade will be assigned as a letter grade, based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100	D = 60 – 69
B = 80 – 89	F = 59 and below
C = 70 – 79	

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in rare circumstances. An Incomplete grade for the course may be given **ONLY** when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control, is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. The instructor and the department chair shall have sole discretion in granting an Incomplete grade.

COURSE POLICIES:

Electronic Devices: No laptops, ipads, ipods, cell phones, cameras, voice recorders, or any other electronic devices may be used in this class unless it is deemed necessary for your learning, which must be determined by the Office for disabled Student Support Services (documentation is required; see below).

Arriving Late / Leaving Early: Students who are more than 10 minutes late to class or who leave class more than 10 minutes early will be counted as absent.

Extra Credit: The professor may provide extra credit opportunities throughout the semester for the entire class. There will be no extra credit assignments offered to individual students.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduates Catalogs. Section III 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 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.

NOTE:

This syllabus is for planning purposes only. It is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. However, every effort will be made to keep changes to a minimum. Students should regularly check GeorgiaView Vista for announcements.

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Aug 19	Introduction	
Aug 21	Cross-Cultural Approaches to Violence	Eller Chapter 1
Aug 26	Measuring Violence	Eller Chapter 1 Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 1
Aug 28	Theories of Violence	Eller Chapter 2 Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 2
Sept 2	Theories of Violence (cont'd)	Eller Chapter 2 Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 2
Sept 4	Nonviolent Societies - Case Studies Discussants Case Study 1: Discussants Case Study 2: Discussants Case Study 3:	Eller Chapter 3
Sept 9	Violent Societies - Case Studies Discussants Case Study 1 (Traditional societies): Discussants Case Study 2 (Complex societies): Discussants Case Study 4 (Complex societies):	Eller Chapter 4
Sept 11	Nonviolent and Violent Societies – comparison Discussants:	
Sept 16	Gender & Intimate Violence	Eller Chapter 5
Sept 19	Gender & Intimate Violence (cont'd) / Case Studies – Discussants Case Study 1: Discussants Case Study 2:	Eller Chapter 5
Sept 21	Religious Violence	
Sept 25	Religious Violence (cont'd) / Case Studies Discussants Case Study 4: Discussants Case Study 5:	Eller Chapter 6 & 7
Sept 30	Terrorism	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 9
Oct 2	Political Violence	Eller Chapter 8 & 9
Oct 7	Political Violence (cont'd) / Case Studies Discussants Case Study 2: Discussants Case Study 3: Discussants Case Study 4:	
Oct 9	Midterm	
Oct 14	Violence in American society <i>Film: Bowling for Columbine</i>	Eller Chapter 10 and 11.
Oct 16	Aiding and abetting violence – guns, drugs, alcohol, media	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 3
Oct 21	Aiding and abetting violence (cont'd) – Media (video games) <i>Film: Game Over</i>	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 3
Oct 23	Assault and murder – at workplace and school	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 4
Oct 28	Violence in the home	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 5
Oct 30	Violence in the home	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 5
Nov 4	Stranger danger	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 6
Nov 6	Stranger danger	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 6
Nov 11	Rape and sexual assault	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 7
Nov 13	Sexuality and violence Discussants:	Enloe, “Masculinity as a Foreign Policy Issue”

	Film: <i>Tough Guise</i>	
Nov 18	Mob violence and genocide	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 8 and 10
Nov 20	Nonviolence Film: <i>Gandhi: Pilgrim of Peace</i> Literature Review DUE	King, "Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam"
Nov 25-27	NO CLASS – FALL BREAK	
Dec 2	Violence prevention	Alvarez and Bachman Chapter 11
Dec 4	Catch-Up / Final Review	
Dec 10	Final Exam	

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