COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE: CCJ 4670 – 001 Women and Crime
INSTRUCTOR: Felecia Dix Richardson, Ph.D.
SEMESTER: Fall 2009
COURSE TIME: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 – 1:45
CLASSROOM: 300 Benjamin L. Perry Classroom Building
OFFICE: 303C Benjamin L. Perry Classroom Building
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 – 12:20; 2:00 – 5:40
PHONE: 599 – 8857
E-MAIL ADDRESS: Felecia.DixRichardson@famu.edu

Course Purpose:
As we approach the 21st century, it must be realized and accepted that women involvement within the criminal processing system (i.e., as offenders, victims, and practitioners) has certainly changed. This change creates a need for an in-depth understanding of the woman’s role within the criminal processing arena. Thus, the purpose of this course is to evaluate and provide a better understanding of women and crime.

The necessity of this course is grounded in the fact that emphasis upon female involvement in the criminal processing system has often been overshadowed by her male counterpart. In addition, the female offender, victim, and practitioner have been neglected as well as misunderstood. This course will attempt to create an understanding of women within the criminal processing system under the roles in which they encounter. This course will take a contextual approach to evaluate women in a broader social, cultural, economic, and political framework.

Behavioral Objectives:
Within this course, each student should be able to:
1) Understand the significance of the historical role of women in America
2) Understand why male and female offenders are treated differently within the criminal processing system
3) Critically assess criminological theories relating to female criminality
4) Acquire a basic understanding of concepts relating to female offenders, victims, criminal justice personnel, and society members (i.e., sexism, oppression, patriarchy, chivalry hypothesis, bifurcated thinking, multiple consciousness, gender, etc.)
5) Acquire an understanding of the global mistreatment of women (i.e., female genital mutilation, bride burning, female infanticide, rape during war, Taliban law, etc.)
6) Understand the treatment of women who are employed as criminal justice practitioners
7) Critically assess and understand female victimization in the United States
8) Understand the plight of incarcerated women
Competencies Evaluated:

A. Upon completion of the historical role of women in America, students will be able to:
   1. Discuss the oppressive treatment of the black female slave
   2. Discuss the black female slave’s reaction toward her oppressive conditions
   3. Know the significance of the women’s rights movement
   4. Recognize the exclusion of women in historical legal documents
   5. Discuss the significance of the Salem Witch Trials as it applies to the control of “untamed females”
   6. Discuss the meaning of patriarchy

B. Upon the completion of criminological theories that apply to female criminality, students will be able to:
   1. Discuss the works of Sigmund Freud
   2. Discuss the works of Otto Pollak
   3. Discuss the works of W.I. Thomas
   4. Recognize the initial view of women presented in criminological theories
   5. Recognize why and how women were initially excluded from criminological theories
   6. Recognize what has caused an increase in female criminological studies
   7. Discuss the works of Freda Adler
   8. Discuss the works of Rita Simon
   9. Discuss the works of bell hooks
   10. Discuss the works of Patricia Hill Collins
   11. Discuss Gordon’s typology

C. Upon the completion of the concepts relating to female offenders, victims, practitioners students will be able to:
   1. Know the reality and impact of sexism
   2. Know the reality and impact of oppression
   3. Discuss the chivalry hypothesis (i.e., who is more likely to receive it and during what stages of crime processing is it more likely to be used)
   4. Discuss the difference between sex and gender
   5. Discuss multiple consciousness
   6. Discuss bifurcated thinking
   7. Discuss gender specific laws and gender neutral laws

D. Upon the completion of the global treatment of women, students will be able to:
   1. Discuss female genital mutilation (i.e., why is it done, what are the various types of procedures, where is it practiced, what are the consequences, etc.).
   2. Discuss the purpose of female infanticide and why it is difficult to end this practice
   3. Discuss the dowry system and the negative consequences for women (e.g., bride burnings or dowry murders)
4. Recognize the reality of ethnic cleansing the cultural realities of rape during war
5. Discuss Taliban law and the implications for women
6. Discuss honor killings
7. Discuss the reasons and lack of prosecutions for “acid throwing” in Bangladesh
8. Discuss Trokosi

E. Upon completion of female offenders, students will be able to:
1. Recognize how women are sometimes processed differently in the Criminal justice system
2. Recognize the types of crimes women are prosecuted for the most
3. Recognize how and why female prostitutes criminal prosecuted
4. Discuss the treatment and views of incarcerated pregnant women
5. Discuss prison and policies relating to custody and visitation of children
6. Recognized the unique features of the female inmate social system
7. Know who are women most likely to kill
8. Recognize the differences between male and female correctional systems
9. Recognize the types of treatment programs generally offered to women
10. Recognize how civil disabilities can have a unique impact upon women with regards to correctional rehabilitative programs, free-world realities, and social services
11. Discuss measures of combating sexual abuse of female inmates by male security officers
12. Discuss the impact of mandatory sentencing on female offenders
13. Recognize the characteristics of female death row inmates

F. Upon completion of the unit on female victims, students will be able to:
1. Recognize various forms of rape (e.g., acquaintance, stranger, GHB)
2. Discuss the criminal justice view of rape victims
3. Recognize how rape cases are processed
4. Discuss domestic violence and criminal justice system’s response to it
5. Discuss sexual discrimination in the work place
6. Discuss implications of sexual harassment
7. Discuss the court’s stance on cyber stalking as well as other cyber crimes that women and girls often experience

G. Upon completion of the unit on female practitioners, students will be able to:
1. Recognize the issues and concerns of the female police officer
2. Recognize the issues and concerns of female correctional workers
3. Recognize the issues and concerns of female lawyers and judges
4. Recognize how female practitioners have been viewed by their male counterparts and society
**Teaching Methods:**
The behavioral objectives listed above will be achieved through various teaching methods, such as, class lectures, group discussions, additional relevant readings, guest speakers, videos, etc.

**Course Expectations:**
Regular class attendance is required. A total of only three unexcused absences will be allowed. Class will begin at 12:30! You are expected to arrive on time. Late entrance into the classroom is disruptive to your fellow classmates and me. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. If you are not present when roll is taken, you will be counted as absent. If you carry a beeper or cellular telephone, please turn these devices off before entering the classroom.

**Grade Determination:**
There will three exams in this course. Each exam will be worth 100 points and will account for 90% of your grade (30% each). In addition to the exams, each student will submit a 5 to 6-page reaction paper on women and crime. The focus can be upon women as victims, criminals, or practitioners in the criminal processing field. An additional topic that may be used is the impact of social policies upon women. The purpose of this paper is to give you the opportunity to express your concerns/comments/views on female criminality. The paper, which will be worth 100 points, will account for the remaining 10% of your grade.

MAKE UP EXAMS WILL ONLY BE GIVEN IF AN EXCUSE IS PROVIDED FROM THE DEAN’S OFFICE.

Incompletes for this course will only be given for the following reasons: medical, involuntary call to active military duty, death in the immediate family, or extenuating circumstances. Documentation must be presented in order for the incomplete to be granted.

**Grade Scale:**

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<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>100 – 90</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>89 – 80</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>79 – 70</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>69 – 60</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>59 – Below</td>
<td>F</td>
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**Academic Honesty:**
Academic honesty is expected of each student in this course. If any student is found responsible for engaging in any violation against the academic honor code, a grade of “F” will be assigned for this course.

**Rules for the Exam:** Upon entering the classroom, please place all backpacks, purses, books, notebooks, etc. on the stage at the front of the room. No cell phones, mp3 players, or any other listening device will be allowed on the desk, in your hands, lap, or anywhere
on your person. Please place these items either in your backpack or purse. You will not be allowed to take the exam if bring them to your desk.

Required Text:

COURSE OUTLINE

Aug. 25 – October 6  Course Overview/ Historical Treatment of Women in American Society/ Criminal Processing/ Female Offending
Reading Assignment Chapters 1 – 4
October 8  1st Exam

Oct. 13 – Nov. 3  Global Treatment of Women/ Punishing and Treating Female Offenders/ Female Victimization
Reading Assignment Chapters 5 – 8 and Articles on the “Global Treatment of Women”
November 5  2nd Exam

Nov. 10 – Dec. 3  Sexual Victimization/ Prostitution/ Female Practitioners in the Criminal Justice System

November 27  Thanksgiving: Class Suspended
Reading Assignment Chapters 9 – 11
December 10  Final Exam (Thursday 10:00 – 12:00)