

MASTER SYLLABUS

CRMJ 2055 GANGS, CULTS & DEVIANT MOVEMENTS (Formerly PST 2055) NASHVILLE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICE SCIENCE

Instructor:

Office/Office Hours: By appointment

Phone:

Email:

Classroom & Times:

Course Credit: 3

Course Description:

An examination of gang problems in the United States. Topics include precepts and current philosophies of Paganism, Neo-Paganism, Witchcraft, Satanism, Santeria, and Brujeria. Examines ceremonial and magical rituals, signs, symbols, secret alphabets, ritualized abuse, and Cult-Occult crime investigation. Explores psychological and sociological effects of media on adolescents.

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Define societal gang problems in the United States.
- Illustrate the sociological and psychological effects of the media on adolescents.

Course Competencies:

1. Recognize identifiers including behaviors, symbols and criminal activities of contemporary street gangs.
2. Discern between non-destructive groups and those groups who exhibit behaviors that are endangering to society.
3. Recognize trends in anti-government hate groups and extremists.
4. Identify Prison Gangs and Security Threat Groups in Correctional Settings.
5. Understand the differences between "normative" magico-religious traditions and 'deviant' forms of traditions.
6. Effectively interpret altars, shrines and ritual sites of modern day occult groups.
7. Understand the process of objective assessment in investigating ritualistic crime scenes.
8. Effectively be able to communicate with members of non-traditional groups.
9. Preserve and Protect Constitutional freedoms and Civil Rights.

Textbook:

Gangs, Graffiti and Violence: 2nd Edition. Leet, Rush, Smith; ISBN 1-928916-02-3

Additional Source(s):

1. *Gang Investigations; A Street Cop's Guide*. Watkins, Ashby; ISBN 978-0-7637-3391-9
2. Various DVD's produced by BSO
3. *Gangland* a History Channel documentary
4. Guest Speakers

Disclaimer: Textbooks frequently change editions, so please be sure to check with the school bookstore to verify the current ISBN of the textbook before purchasing the textbook.

Attendance:

You must attend at least 40 of the 45 hours to pass. Roll will be taken each class session. Absences will be reported. If you miss over 4.5 hours, you will be asked to drop the course. If you miss over 4.5 hours and do not drop the course, you will receive an “FA” or “FN” for the final grade. **Exceptions may be granted by permission of the INSTRUCTOR ONLY!**

Grading Criteria:

Coursework	Percentage

Grade Scale:

Percentage	Grade

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. “Plagiarism may result from: (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your works” (A Writer’s Reference, 331). Academic dishonesty may be defined as, but is not limited to, intentionally trying to deceive by claiming credit for the work of another person, using information from a web page or source without citing the reference, fraudulently using someone else’s work on an exam, paper, or assignment, recycling your own work from another course, purchasing papers or materials from another source and presenting them as your own, attempting to obtain exams/materials/assignments in advance of the date of administration by the instructor, impersonating someone else in a testing situation, providing confidential test information to someone else, submitting the same assignment in two different classes without requesting both instructors’ permission, allowing someone else to copy or use your work, using someone else’s work to complete your own, altering documents, transcripts or grades, and forging a faculty/staff member’s signature.

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course.

If a student believes that he/she has been erroneously accused of academic dishonesty and if his/her final grade has been lowered as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

Classroom Conduct Policy:

Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The instructor has primary responsibility for control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity. He/she can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct which violates the general rules and regulations of the College. Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but is not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (e.g., offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevents concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (e.g., disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games, etc.). Each student should refer to the current Nashville State Student Handbook for guidelines for student conduct.

Use of Cellular Telephones and Pagers in Classrooms:

Students who are required to carry pagers and/or have cell phones for employment and/or family responsibilities must inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester concerning the necessity for the pager/cell phone. The instructor and student will discuss the need(s) for the pager/cell phone and a decision will be made by the instructor concerning the use of the pager/cell phone. In cases where pagers/cell phones are required and allowed by the instructor, the pager/cell phone must not disrupt the classroom. Students who violate the terms of agreement on the use of pagers/cell phones will forfeit the use of the privilege. **Students will not be excused to make telephone calls during examination periods.**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) STATEMENT:

Nashville State Technical Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any accommodation(s) for this class, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Students should not be given special accommodations in the classroom unless an accommodation form from Student Disability Services is completed and distributed to the faculty member.

- Student Disabilities Coordinator: (615) 353-3721 Office: S-114

It is the student's responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student's academic standing.

NOTE:

This syllabus is a master syllabus. Specific course requirements are subject to revision at the discretion of the individual instructor. A course syllabus will be provided the first day of class.

Course Outline

1. Introduction
 - a. Objectives
 - b. Purpose of Research
 - c. Techniques of Research
 - d. Groups and Movements
2. Street Gangs
 - a. Approaches: Criminal Justice vs. Social Issues
 - b. History of Gangs and Gang Research
 - c. Case History of Gang Origins
 - d. Structure and Membership
 - e. Criminal Activities
 - f. Psychological Needs of Gang Affiliates
 - g. Contemporary Street Gangs
 - h. Identifiers
 - i. Prison Gangs
3. Extremists and Hate Groups
 - a. History of Hate in the United States
 - b. The Identity Movement
 - c. Islamic Extremists
 - d. Identifiers
4. Destructive Cults and Deviant Religious Groups
 - a. Millennial Groups and Threats to Law Enforcement
 - b. Origins and Formation
 - c. Criminal Acts
 - d. Issues: Cult or New Religious Movements?
5. Magico-Religious Groups
 - a. What is the Occult?
 - b. Magick: Thaumaturgy & Theurgy
 - c. Normative vs. Deviant
 - d. Ritualistic Crimes
6. Paganism
 - a. Neo-Pagan
 - b. Wicca
 - c. Shamanism
7. African Diasporic Religions
 - a. Santeria
 - b. Palo Mayombe
 - c. Voodoo
 - d. Brujeria
8. Santanism
 - a. Self-Styled
 - b. Religious
 - c. Clandestine
9. Criminal Investigations
10. Guest Speakers