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() Proposal for this W-course (see instructions here)

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I. Writing Summary

This course is primarily designed for seniors majoring in criminology. It is anticipated that most of the students will have taken many of the lower level required courses by the time they enroll in CR 401 and that they will have formed opinions on many of the issues to be discussed in the class. Two types of writing will take place in this class: 1) Writing to stimulate thought and to

summarize and idea; and 2) writing to integrate learning and think creatively about a topic.

Writing to stimulate thought and to summarize and idea will be accomplished through the free write exercise on plagiarism

completed in class. Students will then be requested to take their free write and revise it based on the incorporation of outside sources. Students will be required to turn in both the free write exercise and the revised one page paper. Students will be given an opportunity to rewrite and resubmit their revised paper based on the comments provided to them during the first grading.

Writing to integrate learning and think creatively about a topic will be accomplished by having the students complete a minimum of six, three page papers on issues included in the course. literature related to each topic. Students are expected to take their initial position on an issue and critically present material demonstrating the pro and con positions. Position papers are to be

documented using current literature related to the subject. Grades for these position papers are based on how well the student states

discussions about relevant topics. Major topics for consideration this semester will be gun control, capital punishment, drug legalization, domestic violence, plea bargaining, victims' rights, and private prisons. Students will be asked to take a pro/con position on a particular subject and give a class presentation.

Week 1 - Introduction

Course Requirements

Position Papers

Grading

Incomplete Grades

Misconduct

Issue 1 - Is Crime Functional?

Pro - Emile Durkheim, from Rules Of Sociological Method, pages 4 - 9.

Con - Jeffrey H. Reiman, from The Rich Get Richer And The Poor Get Prison: Ideology, Class, And Criminal Justice, pages 9 - 14.

Free Write In Class Paper On Plagiarism

Week 2 - Issue 2 - Are General Theories Of Crime Possible?

Pro - Charles Tittle, from "The Assumption That General Theories Are Not Possible," in Robert F. Meier, ed, Theoretical Methods In Criminology, pages 16-22.

Con - W. Byron Groves and Graeme Newman, from "Against General Theory In Comparative Research," International Journal Of Comparative And Applied Criminal Justice, pages 22 - 30.

Revised Version Of Plagiarism Paper Due

Week 5, Issue 5 - In Criminal Justice Free Of Systematic

Pro - William Wilbanks, from The Myth Of A Racist Criminal Justice System, pages 96 - 98.

"Racial Discrimination In The Criminal Justice System: Evidence From Four

Dragan Milovanovic, ed. Racial Discrimination

pages 194 - 200.

Week 10 - Issue 10 - Should Elderly Offenders Get Lighter

Proposal For Change," Prison Journal,
pages 236 - 238.

Each student will write in class during the first week a one page paper defining plagiarism. The student will then be requested

will turn in their in class free write as well as their revised one page paper. Students will have the option of revising and resubmitting their one page revised paper based on the comments they receive from the first grading. This assignment is valued at ten (10) points.

student will receive a "0" for this assignment and be given one opportunity to revise their submission. This assignment is designed to acquaint the student with the concept of plagiarism so that the

E. Required Reading

1. Taking Sides: Clashing Views On Controversial Issues In Crime

And Criminology, Richard Monk, editor. Guilford, CT: The
Doubleday Publishing Group, Inc. 2nd edition, 1999