I can be found in King 305 King. Office phone number is 8375. Office Hours are Tuesday and Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:50 a.m. and Thursday afternoons, 1:15-3:00 (by appointment only—sign up sheet on my Door)

I. For those of you who have taken courses with me in the past, this syllabus might be something of a shock. I detest syllabi and usually hand out a one-pager to satisfy busybody Deans. This one is a bit more elaborate so as to help students do what the course is designed to do: to facilitate a sophisticated understanding of crime and its importance in the political debate of the day.

II. Equally surprising, I have included some internet citations. Do not confuse that inclusion with an embrace of 21st century technology. Also, please be advised that I insist on a good deal of “book dust” on papers. Your papers should reflect that.

II. Course Requirements:

1. Regular attendance and class participation. If you miss more than 3 classes without a reasonable excuse (college activities, athletics, illness and family issues), you will lose a full letter grade. The teacher reserves the right to go fishing at will.

2. Each student (or teams, if you prefer) shall research, compose and make available to classmates a major research paper of 2-25 pages and with a minimum of 75 footnotes. That paper is due before Fall Break. I expect the paper to explore the literature on a significant criminological issue of your choice and to present testable hypotheses based on that analysis. Testing the hypotheses would be a bonus but is perhaps a bit much.

3. In-class presentations and peer reviews of papers. I will select papers for In-class presentations. My criteria for selection are arbitrary and capricious as well as unexplainable. Each member of the class shall read five (5) of the papers generated in the class. After reading the papers, each of you will provide the author and me e-mailed commentaries with suggestions for improvement, significant questions, and a general critique. These should be at two and one half, 12 point, 8 and a half by 11 pages long. All critiques are due on or before Nov. 15, 2003.

LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED NOR WILL
OUTLINES OR ‘SKETCHES’ SUFFICE. You will, however, be able to redraft the paper on or before the last day of classes based on comments of your colleagues and those of your teacher. Late papers will lose two letter grades. (Someday when your malpractice insurance is lowered, you will thank me.)

4. Do the reading. I have assigned 2 books:
   a. Glaser, Profitable Penalties; Austin and Irwin, It’s About Time.

III. A schedule of events: sorta, kinda, maybe......

Week 1 (Sept. 2-4) Crimes, elements, mens rea, actus reus, malum in se, Mala prohibita.

Week 2 (Sept. 9-11) Myths of Crime, Criminal Procedure

Read Chapters 1 and 2 of Profitable Penalties and Chapter I of It’s About Time.

Week 3 (Sept. 16-19) Violent Crime: Murder, rape, robbery, assault

Get a head start on the reading you need for next week.


I have just completed a review of over 1100 cases of Domestic Violence covering the past decade. The preliminary results of that analysis indicates that a number of presumptions common in the social scientific literature dealing with domestic violence may need to be rethought.

Read Glaser: Chapter 6.

Week 5 (Sept. 29-Oct. 2) Property Crimes—burglary, shoplifting, auto Theft, arson, computer crime. (N.B. Shoplifting = there goes law school or a fiduciary position later in life).

Read Glaser, Chapters 8 and 9.

Week 6 (Oct. 7-9) Who Are the Criminals? Do they start young?

Read Glaser, Chapter 4; Austin and Irwin, Chps 2 & 3
Week 7 (Oct. 14-16) Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n roll—Vice, Victimless?

Read Glaser Chapters 5 & 7; Austin and Irwin, Chp. 8

FALL BREAK-PAPER DUE
Week 9: October 28-30) White Collar Crime, Prison, 3 strikes
Megan, Zero Tolerance, Capital Punishment—How getting
Tough is tough to justify.
Read Austin, Chps. 1, 4, 5, 6 7, 9, 10 and Glaser 3 and 10

The remainder of the semester will be devoted to in class presentations

INTERNET SOURCES

WWW.REFDESK.COM: Helpful with cites and citation formats for articles and
internet.

WWW.FINDLAW.COM: Good source of legal cases and legal news (Supreme Court
Cases)

WWW.MEGALAW.COM: Good linkage site.

WWW.FEDWORLD.GOV: Commerce Dept. Link to most govt. publications.

WWW.LAW.CORNELL.EDU: Great source for recent legal events, law journals and
Has a search engine for specific legal subjects.

WWW.FBI.GOV: Uniform Crime Reports, most wanted, articles and info.

WWW.OJP.USDOJ.GOV/BJS: Statistics on victims, sentencing, and data from the
National Crime Victimization Survey among others.

HTTP://FJSRC.URBAN.ORG: Statistics on defendants processed in Federal Crim
Justice system.

WWW.FEDSTATS.GOV/: Statistics from over 100 governmental agencies, helpful for
data by state and geographic area.

WWW.ICPSR.UMICH.EDU/NACJD: UofM data—federal, state and local data.
WWW.NCPC.ORG/NCPC1.HTM: Crime prevention info and data

WWW.SENTENCE.ORG: info on sentencing, prisons, war on drugs, research findings on three strikes

WWW.OJJDP.NCJRS.ORG: Good stuff on juvenile delinquency prevention and victimization.

WWW.FEMINIST.ORG: egad, what am I recommending? See, also
WWW.CRITCRIM.ORG: postmodern stuff—whatever that is.

WWW.CRIMINOLOGY.FSU.EDU/CJLINKS/DEFAULT.HTM: Good linkage site

http://people.ne.mediaone.net/dianedemelo/crime/crimetheory.html: A good summary of criminological theories from early ideas through radical and feminist criminology. Again, what am I recommending?

www.rand.org: and www.vera.org: Two non profits with some interesting data and links.

www.ncadv.org: National coalition against domestic violence site. Resources and research materials on DV with links to other sites as well.

www.vawprevention.org: Reports and statistics concerning dv and other issues.

www.edlerabusecenter.org: elder abuse sources

http://support.jhsphs.edu/departments/gunpolicy: Johns Hopkins center with data on guns, gun policy, gun injuries.

www.adl.org: Anti Defamation League: hate crimes and some stuff or terrorism.


www.fraud.org: fraud against businesses and the elderly

www.ckfraud.org: check fraud and forgery

www.ustreas.gov/fincen: money laundering

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc: victimization info


www.sec.gov: Securities and Exchange Commission reports

www.ftc.gov: anti trust and consumer protection

www.epa.gov: environmental protection issues

www.aclu.org: ACLU input


www.ndsn.org: civities and drugs.

www.usdoj.gov/dea: DEA website. Lots of drug info


www.supremecourtus.gov: access to Supreme Court cases, the Journal of the Supreme Court.


www.problem-solvingcourts.org: info on DV, mental health, guns and drugs.

www.ndaa.org: National District Attorneys Assoc. (They are Prosecutors).

www.deathpenaltyinfo.org: Death penalty info center—women, juveniles, mentally retarded.

www.adrr.com: alternative dispute resolution

www/hrw.org: human rights watch on prison abuse and prisoner treatment

www.bop.gov: Bureau of Prisons: Stats on incarceration

www.parentsformeganslaw.com: parents group pushing megan’s laws.

www.kci.org: boot camp info for juveniles

www.cicj.org: juveniles
James.Leo.Walsh@oberlin.edu: When all else fails, a fountain of info and a model of modesty.