

SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

HATE CRIME

CRJU 341

Spring 2014

Section 1, MWF 11:30-12:20 (HMC 3)

Section 2 MWF 12:35-1:25 (HMC 3)

Dr. Daniel Price

Office Hours M, 2-3; W/F 10:15-11:15

and by appointment

dprice@westfield.ma.edu

HMC-146

O- 572-8146

C (413) 203-1643 no calls after 10

Course Website on Plato/Vista

THEMES

Hate Crime is unique in that it is targeted at a group or class of people rather than just the victims. When someone burns a cross on a person of color's lawn, the crime is intended to terrorize all people of color, not just the family who owns the lawn where the cross was burned. Hate crime is also unique in that the explicit motive for the crime is clear, hatred of a group or class of individuals. As a Jew, I have always wondered why my affiliation with a particular religion, ethnicity, or race would cause some people to want to hate, harm or even kill me. The pursuit of answers to this question will be the central theme of the course as well as the topic of your first paper. We will also consider the following:

1. Hate crime, like most other social and legal issues, involves controversy and debate. We will consider two important questions. Do we need a special category of crime for hate crimes? What groups should be protected under hate crime laws?
2. What are the characteristics of those who commit hate crimes? Here we will look at sociological, psychological, and other explanations of hate crime? We will also look at the importance role that groups play in facilitating hate crimes as most offenders are member of organized hate groups like the KKK and Aryan Brotherhood.
3. It is also important, as noted in my question above, to look at the groups that are the victims of hate crimes. What is it about the victimized groups that makes them others want to harm or even eliminate them? Conversely, what causes some groups to stop being hated or hated less? Anti-Semitism, now limited to a small extremist fringe, used to be socially acceptable in America. What caused that change?
4. Our fourth topic major topic is fighting hate crime. Although hate crime will never be eliminated, we will look at and evaluated legal, law enforcement, and education related initiatives to fight hate crime.
5. Finally, we will look at the future of hate crime and important issues such as the internet as a tool for spreading and fighting hate, America becoming a "minority-majority" country in the next twenty years, the War on Terrorism, and immigration.

FORMAT

This course will follow a seminar format. Students are expected to have completed the assigned readings for each unit before the unit begins and to come to class prepared to participate in discussions. I will use lectures to explain some of the more difficult material in the assigned readings and to present material that is not in the assigned readings. Unit guides with important questions for week's subject matter will be provided to help students focus on their reading and to be prepared for class discussions.

Given that we will be having essay exams, we will focus on broad themes more than specifics and details in class. We will often apply the theoretical knowledge that we glean from the readings to current events.

Sessions will include group work, analysis of both print and audiovisual media, and other short writing assignments. Completion of these assignments will be weighted into your "Attendance/Participation Grades." To me, a successful class is one where there is a great deal of interaction between students and the instructors and between students. My goal is to facilitate the exchange ideas in a focused and structured forum. I will often ask questions and will ask for volunteers to answer them. If that fails then I will randomly select students to answer them. I will also class on students to discuss their papers. I will be noting and making record of both the quality and quantity of your participation. Speaking in front of groups is one of the most important skills that you will develop in college.

EVALUATION

Exams. You will have two take-home exams. Each exam (see course schedule) will be worth 20% of your total grade and will include approximately five essay questions, of which you will answer four. Both exams will be open note/open book. The first exam is scheduled on the syllabus and the second exam will be distributed on the last day of class. Exam two is not a final and only covers material from the second half of the course. Further information is provided on the sheet labeled "exams, quizzes and assignments"

Cause of Hate Crime Paper. (20% of total grade) You will write a 5-7 page paper outlining what you believe are the key causes of hate crime. Rather than explain Hate Crime in general, you will focus on a specific individual, event, or targeted class to make your case. For example you might choose to explain the causes of the Holocaust in Nazi Germany, the murder of Matthew Sheppard, the bombing of African-American churches in the 1990s, or the forces that created a hate criminal like Mathew Hale.

Policy Paper (20%). Each student will investigate a hate crime problem or issue either in the United States or globally and write a 5-7 page paper that discusses the background of the problem, provides two policy recommendations to deal with the problem, and chooses one of the recommendations. Students will obtain the material for writing their papers through assigned readings and outside research. A handout discussing the specific requirements for both papers will be distributed separately. I will

be happy to review paper drafts for students and suggest corrections and improvements.

Participation/in class work (20%) This part of the grade will be based on your attendance, participation, discussion of your papers, and completion of in-class exercises such as group assignments. As noted, I will take attendance every session, note the frequency and quality of your participation, and record the completion of in-class assignments. Failure to meet the expectations listed in this syllabus will also affect this part of your grade. Please note that simply showing up will not earn you “A” for this part of the grade. You must participate and complete assignments

Extra Credit. I do not provide opportunities for extra credit under any circumstances.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND OTHER MATERIALS

The required texts are:

Gerstenfeld, Phyllis (2013, 3rd edition). *Hate Crimes: Causes, Controls, and Controversies*. Thousand Oaks CA: Sage Publications. 9781452256627

Levin, Jack and Jim Nolan (2011, 3rd edition). *The Violence of Hate*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 9780205710843

Perry, Barbara (2003) *Hate Crime and Bias: A Reader*. New York: Routledge. 0415944082

These books are available in the bookstore. You might find them cheaper at Amazon.com or textbooks.com. You can also use earlier editions if you find them.

I will also distribute materials in class, which are to be considered as assigned reading. These additional readings will be announced in class and posted on the Plato Web site.

IMPORTANT POLICIES

Attendance. Although I do take attendance, there are no specific penalties for missing class. However, I do not provide notes to students who miss class (They would not be of any help anyway). At the same time, you cannot participate if you are not here. I will consider attendance as part of the “Attendance/Participation” grade. Finally, you must make up all in-class assignment if you are not class in order to earn credit. As noted, you will not earn a “A” for your “Attendance/Participation” grade simply by showing up

Please let me know if you miss class for an excused absence such as illness, family emergency, athletic event, religious holiday, some other emergency, or other reason listed in the Student Handbook. At the same time, please be prepared to provide me with verification for your excuse. Please do not e-mail me for colds, unspecified “personal” matters/issues, or anything that you would not use as an excuse for being absent from a job. I do realize that work related emergencies occur from time to time. Please notify me if you have any work related issues. Routine medical appointments, including those in your hometown, that can be scheduled at a time other than when

class meets are also not excusable. It is your responsibility to let me know if your absence is for an excused reason, **no later than the day of your return to class**. If I do not hear from you, I will assume it was not. In order to facilitate accurate record keeping, please either send me an e-mail or provide me with written notification with the days that you were absent and the reason for your absence. At the same time, please be prepared to provide me with verification for your excuse.

Please let me know if there is a circumstance that may cause you to miss classes on a frequent basis. We will be in a much better position to help you if I know of any problems sooner rather than after the fact. I will not be able to help you if you come to me wanting to make up an assignment weeks after it is due (and I have not heard from you) or to take an exam more than ONE WEEK after it is scheduled. I will least be able to help people who want to save their sinking ships at the end of the semester and people who I have not seen or heard from for more than two weeks. Again, the sooner that you let me know of a problem, crisis, or emergency, the more likely it will be that I will be able (and happy) to help you.

Please note that this class begins on Wednesday, January 22. Even if you register late, you are responsible for all work and material beginning with the first day of class. You have one week from the day you register into the class to make up any assignments and essays that you missed before you registered.

Exams. The only acceptable reasons for turning in a take home exam after the due date/time are illness, family emergency, some other emergency, or other reason listed in the Student Handbook. **Notification (phone, e-mail, or in person) prior to the exam due date is necessary to turn in a take-home exam late and receive full credit. Verification for your excuse will also be necessary. Otherwise 1/2 of a letter grade will be deducted each day starting with the day of the exam until you turn in your take-home exam. Absence on the due date of the exam is not an excuse for turning in a late exam with the exception of extraordinary circumstances.**

Exams are due by 4PM on the due date

Papers. Late papers will be penalized one 1/2 of a letter grade for each day that they are late. You may submit your paper in class, as an e-mail attachments, or leave it in my mailbox. However, papers must be received or left by 4PM on the due date. **Extensions will only be given under very exceptional circumstance such as long term illness or family crisis. Notification (phone, e-mail, or in person) of an acceptable excuse prior to the paper's due date is necessary to turn in a paper late and receive full credit. Verification for your excuse will also be necessary. Please note that you have more than ample time to complete your paper and that putting off your paper until the last minute increases the probability that it will not be completed on-time.**

Academic Dishonesty. Students who engage in acts of academic dishonesty (cheating on exams, plagiarism or copying another student's work) will receive a zero on the exam, paper or assignment in question and are subject to university disciplinary procedures following the "Academic Honesty Policy" found in the Student Handbook. If

you have any questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, obtain a copy of the policy from Student Affairs or on line at www.wsc.ma.edu/studenthandbook (or speak to me). Plagiarism will be discussed in detail in class and during our library session.

Class Related Announcements. All important announcements related to the course will be made during class sessions. **Naturally, if you miss a session, you are still responsible for any assignments, handouts, material covered or course related announcements. It is up to you to find out what you miss and to complete any assignments that took place while you were absent. If you are absent, first check PLATO to see what you missed (rather than e-mailing me and asking what you missed) and then contact me if you have any questions.**

PLATO Website. The PLATO website will serve as a valuable source of information. You will find the syllabus; a handout on exams, essays, and in-class work; handouts; announcements; assignments; links to readings; a rundown of topics covered each class session, your grades; and other important information. Please check the website often, especially if you miss class. I expect that students who have been absent will have checked the PLATO site, completed any assignments that they missed and downloaded any handouts that were distributed.

E-Mail. Class related e-mail will be sent to your WSU e-mail account and via the plato/vista e-mail system. You are responsible for checking one of these sources on a regular basis. E-mail sent from personal accounts like gmail and hotmail usually does not reach me. Therefore, all e-mail correspondences, **particularly papers or exams**, must be sent through your WSU e-mail account or Plato e-mail. You will receive a response from me when you submit a paper or exam via e-mail. If you don't receive a response, I have not received the assignment. **If your paper/exam is not in my e-mail inbox, I have not received it and it will be considered late if I do not have it in some form by the due date. In short, you take a small risk by waiting to send a paper by e-mail at the last minute, particularly if you don't sent it from PLATO or WSU e-mail**

EXPECTATIONS

Please adhere to the following expectations regarding conduct. If you feel that they are unreasonable or that you will not be able to meet them on a regular basis, I advise you not to continue in this course. If you cannot meet them on a particular day, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND. Violation of these expectations will result in

- Reduction in In-class work/Participation grade
 - Being asked to leave class
 - Being removed from the course
1. Please arrive on time and stay for the full 50 minutes. Frequent arrivals and departures are fine for an airport but are disrupting for a class session. If you must arrive late or leave early, please sit near the door and be as unobtrusive as

- possible. If you miss attendance (which will be taken at the beginning of class), it is up to you to let me know that you are here, at the end of class
2. Please do not sleep during class. I do my best to keep things entertaining. If you find yourself falling asleep, you might be subject to a somewhat rude awakening.
 3. Please cover your mouth when you yawn and try not to look like you are in too much pain.
 4. Please do not read materials other than materials for this class during sessions. If you need to do reading or studying for another class, please use one of your two allowed "days off."
 5. Please turn off and put away all cell phones (that includes text messaging) and other electronic devices. You might interfere with my navigational systems—or piss me off. Laptops may only be used for taking notes. Students using their computers for other papers will not be permitted to use them in class.
 6. You may eat and drink in class. Please do so quietly and be prepared to share with all members of the class
 7. Please hold side conversations to a minimum. If you have a question, can't read my writing, or need some clarification, please ask me.
 8. Please do not start packing up 5-10 minutes before the class ends. I am very good about ending class on time or even a couple of minutes early.
 9. Please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged if you have a question or comment (unless the room is on fire or the end of the world is at hand). I have enough trouble hearing one person speaking, let alone two at the same time.
 10. Please don't take items from my desk. I have a hard enough time keeping track of things already. At the same time, I have confidential student information that, according to federal law, cannot be seen by others.
 11. Right turns on red are permitted after a full stop.

THINGS YOU SHOULD DO

Your success in this course and college, to a large extent, is dependent on being an active learner and being assertive about your education. I highly recommend that you do try the following:

1. Ask questions if you don't understand something. If you don't tell me that you don't understand something in the readings or in class, I have no way of knowing.
2. Take good notes in class and on the readings. Your performance on exams will be strongly influenced by the quality of your notes. Since you are making the effort to come to class, you might as well get as much out of it as possible
3. Let me know if you are having problems in the class. I highly advise that you come see me during office hours with questions and concerns. Studies have confirmed that students who visit their professors during office hours tend to do better.

4. Don't just do things to get them done. Rewrite and revise your papers as many times as possible. Rarely in life do we get things right the first time. Use all of the time allotted for exams. Make sure that you understand the questions before answering them.
5. Please come to my office for help with your papers and any other class related issues.
6. If you find that things such as coming to class, reading, and intellectual curiosity are a burden or are unpleasant, than you might want to reconsider whether my course, or college, is the best place for you.

A NOTE ABOUT COMMUNICATION

- Although I encourage you to ask questions about class material, I discourage you from asking questions that you can easily answer yourself such as the date of an exam, or anything else that could be answered by referring to this syllabus, handouts describing exams and assignments and PLATO. It is very important that you get in the habit of trying to answer questions yourself before seeking assistance.
- Before or after class is not a good time to discuss your paper, grade, or any matter that requires an answer that will take longer than two minutes. Please come to my office hours so that I can give your problem/issue the attention that it deserves.
- I check my e-mail 2-3 times per day and I don't have a phone with internet access. Consequently, if you have an urgent matter, don't send an e-mail. The value of communication declines as it moves from person-to person to telephone to e-mail.
- I don't text
- The value of communication drops from in person, to telephone, to e-mail.

READING AND WRITING CENTER

The Reading and Writing Center helps students of ALL ability levels on ALL types of reading and writing assignments.

- Their professional reading tutor helps students develop strategies to more effectively read and understand textbooks, journal articles, and other texts.
- Their professional writing tutors help students on essays, research papers, lab reports, resumes and cover letters, essays for scholarships and graduate school applications, and creative writing.
- They can be of most help if you bring a draft of the paper that you are working on

Their services are FREE. To make an appointment, simply click on the "Make an Appointment" button on our website (<http://www.westfield.ma.edu/reading/>). If you have difficulties using their on-line scheduling system, you also can call 572-5569 or visit our office at 218 Parenzo Hall. Sessions last 30 minutes.

COURSE SCHEDULE*

Date	Topic	Assignment
January 22	Introduction to Class/ Orientation	
January 24-29	History/Definition of Hate Crime	Hate Crimes 2: Hate and Bias 1
January 31-Feb. 5	Legal and Policy Issues	Hate Crimes 3: Hate and Bias 2 and 26
February 7-12	Causes of Hate Crime	Hate Crimes 4: Hate and Bias 8
February 14-26 (Feb. 18, Monday schedule; No class Feb 19-21; meet in library, Feb. 14)	Hate Groups	Hate Crimes 5:Hate and Bias 21 and 23
February 28-March 7	Hate Crime Victims	Hate Crimes 6: Hate and Bias, 12, 15, and 17
March 7 by 4PM	Causes of Hate Paper Due	
March 7 , Exam 1 Distributed; March 19 Exam 1 Due (No class March 17)	EXAM 1	Material covered up to March 7
March 19-26	Addressing Hate Crimes	Hate Crimes 7: Hate and Bias 28-30
March 28-April 2	Global Hate Crime	Hate Crimes 8: TBA
April 4-9	Future of Hate Crime	Hate Crime 9: Hate and Bias 13, 25
April 11-18(No class, April 14)	Violence of Hate Part I	Levin 1, 2
April 21-25	Violence of Hate Part II	Levin 3-4
April 28-May 2	Violence of Hate Part III	Levin 5
April 28 by 4PM	Policy Paper Due	
May 5	Left over material	
May 5, exam 2 distributed; May 9, exam 2 due at 4PM	EXAM 2	Material covered after EXAM 1

- This schedule is a tentative outline, which, of course, is subject to change. All changes, naturally, will be announced in class and posted on the course website.
- Topics may be added or subtracted at my discretion. Again, announcements will be made in class and posted on the course website. Reading assignments may also be changed, added, or subtracted.
- Any reproduction or rebroadcasting of this syllabus or this course is subject to the written consent of Major League Baseball.

SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

HATE CRIME

CRJU 341

Spring 2014

Dr. Daniel Price

Section 1, MWF 11:30-12:20 (HMC 3)

Section 2 MWF 12:35-1:25 (HMC 3)

SYLLABUS RECEIPT AND CONTRACT

I have received and read the syllabus for Hate Crime (CRJU 341, sections 1, and 2) and by continuing in this course, I agree to abide by the policies listed on pages 3-5 and the expectations listed on page 5-6. I realize that failure to adhere to the policies and to abide by the expectations could result in: A. Removal from class sessions B. Removal from the course C. Loss of points towards my grade.

I agree that I will not use a computer in class for any purpose other than taking notes for this class. Use of a computer for any other purpose will result in loss of the privilege of using a computer in class.

Name

Section