



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Sociology of Punishment and Imprisonment - 53311

Last update 07-01-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Sociology and Anthropology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Josh Guetzkow

Coordinator Email: joshua.guetzkow@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Joshua Guetzkow

Course/Module description:

This course will provide an overview of sociological theories and approaches to the study of punishment and imprisonment. This will include an overview of Marxian, Foucauldian and Durkheimian perspectives. We will also review research on the social, economic and political factors that affect how and how much societies punish and the impact that imprisonment has on society, with a focus on the U.S. and Israel.

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

To be able to summarize and compare various sociological theories of punishment and imprisonment and analyze how punishment is affected by different social forces. Students should also be able to offer illustrative examples of how these social forces shape punishment regimes. Students should be able to utilize the concepts and theories they learn to understanding recent trends in punishment in Israel and the United States.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Introduction and Overview of Course

Overview of Penological and Philosophical Approaches

Durkheimian Theories of Punishment

Garland, David. 1991. "Sociological Perspectives on Punishment." Crime and Justice v. 14 (pp115-127)

Blumstein and Cohen. "A Theory of the Stability of Punishment." Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, 64(2): 198-207.

Marxist Theories of Punishment

Garland, David. 1991. "Sociological Perspectives on Punishment." *Crime and Justice* 14 (pp.127-134)

Rusche, Georg and Otto Kirchheimer. 1939. *Punishment and Social Structure*. (Page selection to be announced.)

Recommended: Chiricos and DeLone. 1992. "Labor Surplus and Punishment: A Review

and Assessment of Theory and Evidence." *Social Problems* 39:421-446

NOV 14 Neo-Marxist Theories of Punishment in the Post-Industrial World

Wacquant, Loïc. 2009. *Punishing the Poor: The Neoliberal Government of Social Insecurity*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. Chapter 1.

What About Race and Ethnicity?

Wacquant, Loïc. 2001. "Deadly Symbiosis: When Ghetto and Prison Meet and Mesh."

Punishment and Society 3(1): 95-134.

Jacobs and Kleban 2003. "Political Institutions, Minorities, and Punishment: A Pooled

Cross-National Analysis of Imprisonment Rates." *Social Forces* 82(2):725-755.

WATCH MOVIE IN CLASS - "THE 13th"

MASS INCARCERATION IN THE UNITED STATES I: CAUSES

Garland, David. 2001. "Introduction: The Meaning of Mass Imprisonment." *Punishment and Society* 3(1):5-7.

Western, Bruce. 2006. *Punishment & Inequality in America*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation. Chapter 4.

MASS INCARCERATION IN THE UNITED STATES II: CONSEQUENCES

Comfort, Megan. 2007. "Punishment Beyond the Legal Offender." *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* 3:271-96.

WHAT ABOUT ISRAEL?

Korn, A. 2003. "Rates of Incarceration and Main Trends in Israeli Prisons." *Criminology*

and *Criminal Justice* 3(1): 29-55.

WHEN SECURITY PRISONS AND PALESTINIAN POLITICS MEET AND MESH

Nashif, Esmail. 2008. *Palestinian Political Prisoners: Identity and community*. New York: Routledge. (Page selection to be announced.)

Theories of Punishment III: Foucault and Elias

Garland, David. 1991. "Sociological Perspectives on Punishment." *Crime and Justice* 14 (pp.134-161)

Foucault, Michel. *Discipline and Punish*. (Page selection to be announced.)

JAN 16 More on Foucault and Elias

Tonry, Michael. 2006. *Thinking about Crime: Sense and Sensibility in American Penal Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 2.

Simon, Jonathan. 2008. *Governing Through Crime: How the War on Crime Transformed American Democracy and Created a Culture of Fear*. Selections TBA.

Required Reading:
See above

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 100 %

Additional information: