

PSYC 4850J - Psyc Persp Criminal Behavior

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43989,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Andrea Snyder

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Andrea Snyder

Instructor Professional Qualifications: *Ph. D., Counseling Psychology, Fordham University (2009); Master's, Counseling and Personal Services, Fordham University; Bachelor's, Psychology, Youngstown State University; Bachelor's, Criminal Justice, Youngstown State University (2002)*

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Course Description

4850J. Psyc Persp Criminal Behavior. This seminar examines criminal behavior through major psychological frameworks, including biopsychological, developmental, behavioral, social, and personality perspectives. With emphasis on evaluating empirical research, comparing theoretical models, and assessing the explanatory strengths and limitations of each approach. Students will apply psychological constructs to case material and critically analyze the ethical implications of psychological explanations for responsibility, assessment, and intervention. Prereq.: C or better in PSYC 2617. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Psychology And Criminal Justice (25th ed.)	Blair, Lesli	9781032168135
Required	Criminal Behavior: A Psychological Approach (12th ed.)	Curt Bartol; Anne Bartol	9780135618721

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Tentative Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Blair Chapter 1; Bartol and Bartol Chapter 1	Syllabus and Introduction	
8/31	Blair Chapter 2; Bartol and Bartol Chapters 2 and 3	Protective and Risk Factors/Biopsychology	
9/7		Biopsychology	
9/14	Blair Chapters 3 and 4; Bartol and Bartol Chapter 4	Developmental Psychology/Behavioral Psychology	Annotated Bibliography
9/21		Behavioral Psychology	
9/28		Rough Drafts	Rough Draft
10/5		Rough Drafts	
10/12	Blair Chapter 5; Bartol and Bartol Chapter 4	Social Psychology	
10/19		Social Psychology	
10/26	Blair Chapter 6	Personality	

11/2	Personality; Practice Presentations	Practice Presentation
11/9	Practice Presentations	
11/16	Blair Chapter 7; Bartol and Bartol Chapter 7	Psychopathy
11/23	Psychopathy	
11/30	Final Presentations	Final Presentation and Reflection Paper
12/7		Exam Due By Monday, December 7 at 10:30 am

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.