

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and
Wellness, Legal and Protective Services

CMJS 2353 (Victimology)

Catalog Description:

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of theories and research on victims of crime. Particular attention is devoted to the nature of and extent of victimization, the etiology of victimization, the victim and the criminal justice system, victim services, and the victim rights movement. In addition, this course will focus attention on the criminal justice system's response to special victim group, such as the elderly, minorities, and victims of domestic violence.

Credit Hours/Contact Hours/Load Hours:

3/3/3

Course Objectives:

- Understand the history of the relatively new science of victimology
- Know and be able to discuss the various theories of victimization
- Understand the circumstances that led to the rise of the victim's rights movement
- Know and be able to discuss important legislation that altered the victim's role in the criminal justice system
- Know what "restorative justice" is and how it differs from standard criminal justice proceedings
- Know the psychological and sociological effects of being victimized
- Know how the study of the victims of crime differs from standard criminal justice courses

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

The methods of instruction will include required textbook readings and various external resources including criminology/sociology/victimology based publications. You will also be encouraged to explore the web for various pieces of information regarding victimology for assignments and discussions. There is a wealth of information on the topics we will discuss therefore it is critical that we not restrict our data pool.