I. Nature of the Course
   A. The principal aim of this course on criminal and deviant behavior will be to acquire a comprehensive understanding of these forms of behavior primarily, but not exclusively, from the sociological perspective. The major theories of criminal and deviant behavior will be critically analyzed, with particular emphasis on their relevance to explaining the crime problem in contemporary American society. In this context, we will examine several major types of criminal behavior. In addition, we will explore two more specialized topics: (1) the so-called war on drugs (2) “The Real War on Crime,” which encompasses the analysis and recommendations of a national panel of criminal justice experts.

II. Course Requirements
   A. Required Reading:

   (1) *Crime Types: A Text/Reader* by Dean A Dabney.
   (2) *The Fix* by Michael Massing.
   (3) *The Real War on Crime* edited by Steven Donziger
   (4) Xerox material, either handed out in class or available on reserve in the library.

   B. Chapter Reports: *Crime Types*:
   - Beginning with Chapter 2 of *Crime Types*, I want you to address the following questions based primarily on the information and analysis provided in the opening section of each chapter:
     (1) What did you find to be the most surprising fact or observation and why?
     (2) Briefly discuss the relevance of any one of the theories of criminal and deviant behavior which I introduced in the beginning of the course to the information presented in this opening section. (Note: relevance does not only mean that the theory is supported or positively related, but it can also mean that the information and analysis presented may contradict or call into question one of the theories.)
     (3) Based on any aspect of the opening section (or any aspect of the selections presented in that chapter), briefly discuss what you believe might be an effective strategy for controlling or reducing the type of criminal behavior which is the focus of that chapter.

   Let me stress that these reports are not intended to be comprehensive summaries of each chapter. Rather, they are intended to give you an opportunity to discuss selected aspects of these chapters which you find
interesting and relevant.

Each of these written reports should be roughly 2-3 pages (single-spaced handwritten or double-spaced typewritten). Any passage(s) or statistic(s) quoted in your report should be footnoted by simply indicating the page number(s) from which it came in parentheses immediately following it.

Each of these seven reports will be worth 20 points, but I will only count your best six and drop the lowest score. So, the maximum number of points you can earn for these reports is 120.

Although content will be the main evaluative criterion, grammar and clarity of expression will also be considered. Given the fact that grading these reports is not an exact science, I am perfectly willing to re-read and re-evaluate any of these reports.

I expect these assignments to be turned in on time. If you are absent or anticipate an absence when the assignment is due, you should make arrangements to turn it in anyway (eg., give it to a classmate to turn it in for you). Only a serious, debilitating illness or event will be considered grounds for allowing you to turn in the assignment late with no penalty. Otherwise, there will be a one-point penalty assessed for every day (including weekends) that your assignment is late.

Finally, this series of reports will be used as a basis for class discussion of the different types of crime. Be prepared to share some aspect of your report with the rest of the class and respond to any questions of comments. At my discretion, I will also identify certain points that I believe are significant and that I may ask you about on one of the term exams, so you will need to take some notes during these classes.

C. Exams: there will be two 50-point term exams and a 120-point comprehensive final exam. These exams will consist almost entirely of short-answer questions drawn from lecture material and the assigned readings. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of extreme extenuating circumstances such as a serious illness. Also, any make-up exam must be taken before I hand back the original exam.

D. Grades: your grade for the course will be determined as follows: The total number of points you may receive is 340 (120pts – chapter reports; 100pts – two term exams; 120pts – final exam). Your point total will be translated into a letter grade according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>340-311</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310-304</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>303-296</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>295-275</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>274-269</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>268-263</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>262-242</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>241-235</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>234-200</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>199-0</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Class participation will also be considered, especially given the fact that for several weeks what we do in class will hinge on your chapter reports. You may earn up to an additional 15 points which will be added to your final score. This will be determined at my discretion.
E. Attendance: I do not plan to take attendance, except for registration purposes and to get to know you. I assume you are responsible and intelligent enough to understand that regular attendance tends to go hand in hand not only with receiving a good grade but also, ultimately, with what you get out of the class. Finally, let me stress that YOU are responsible for knowing what goes on in this class and meeting the requirements. Please let me know if you become seriously ill or for some other reason have to miss several classes in a row.

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