

Week 8: Overview

Welcome to week 8! This week will be a nice follow up to the discussion on race and ethnicity from last week. In this week's content, we'll look more at how Black Americans have faced institutional racism by looking at the criminal justice system. We'll also look more broadly at the theories of deviance within sociology to help explain crime. Finally, we'll look at how other countries have addressed crime and deviance, thinking critically about how we might improve our own system.

Outcomes

This week's learning outcomes are as follows:

- Examine the relationship between race, identity, and the U.S. criminal justice system (CLOs 2 and 4)
- Discuss historical and contemporary theories of deviance and crime (CLO 3)
- Describe challenges to the contemporary U.S. criminal justice system (CLOs 2 and 4)
- Compare and contrast cross-cultural examples of justice systems (CLOs 2 and 4)

The learning materials, activities, and assignments in this module will contribute to meeting the following course learning outcomes (CLO) as stated in the syllabus. Please refer to the Course Learning Outcomes and Alignment page for more details.

- CLO 1 - Explain how the scientific method and sociological concepts are used in the systematic study of society.
- CLO 2 - Discuss and evaluate how society and culture affect our beliefs, values, and behavior.
- CLO 3 - Summarize key ideas and apply the three main theoretical perspectives of sociology.
- CLO 4 - Analyze how individuals' lives, historically and in present-day, are impacted by their ascribed statuses, including race and ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and social class.