Course Description
This advanced common curriculum course offers a critical examination of the relationships between law, social control, and gender inequality in the U.S. While a number of theoretical approaches are discussed in the course, we primarily examine the various substantive issues of law and gender from a feminist perspective. Gender is the primary organizing variable for the course materials, but at each stage we will consider the intersections between gender, class, and race. We begin with a discussion of core concepts of law, legal systems, crime, social control, and the social construction of gender. Following an overview of feminist theory and feminist jurisprudence, we examine gendered patterns of criminal offending and victimization, with particular attention to intimate partner violence, rape, and child sex abuse. After the midterm we will focus on various issues in family law and reproduction, and then discuss gendered patterns of sentencing and punishment in U.S. correctional institutions. We will then examine global patterns of human trafficking and in the last session, we will analyze the connections between the various substantive issues covered in the course.

Required Readings
All the required readings and course related materials can be accessed via the WWW at http://www.loyno.edu/sociology/marcus/law/genderreadings.html. They are listed by author and title the same order as they appear on the reading schedule. For copyright considerations, the readings can only be accessed from the Loyola University server. All readings should be completed by the assigned dates.

Course Requirements
Regular and timely attendance at lectures is expected and required. The course will be examined by a midterm, final, and a paper.

The midterm and final exams will consist of short answer and essay formats. The final will be partially comprehensive. Guidelines for the paper are posted on the readings website (see above) and are attached to this syllabus.

The exam schedule and grade distribution is as follows:
- Midterm (3/2): 30%
- Paper (due 5/4): 30%
- Final Exam (5/4): 40%

At the end of the semester your final grade corresponds to the following numerical points: 90-100 = A, 87-89 = B+, 80-86 = B, 77-79 = C+, 70-76 = C, 67-69 = D+, 60-66 = D, 0-59 = F.

Note regarding participation: Active and thoughtful participation in class discussions is an important part of the learning experience for everyone in the class. Your participation will be taken into account in determining your final grade. Specifically, in cases where a student’s grade is borderline between one letter grade and the next (e.g., a score of 79 is just short of a B), the instructor may award the student the higher grade if that student has a strong record of participation in class discussions.
A Reminder About the Office of Academic Enrichment
A number of useful services such as academic counseling, special needs assessment, and peer tutoring are offered by the Office of Academic Enrichment in Monroe Hall 405 (865-2990). Additionally, if you require any particular accommodations or assistance relating to a learning disability, please speak with me at the start of the term so that arrangements can be made.

Policies Regarding Attendance and Missed Exams
Regular attendance at lectures is critical to doing well in this course. At the risk of appearing to be a little authoritarian, here is an added incentive to come to class: every unexcused absence will result in your course grade being reduced by one point. Make-up exams will be given to students who experience a serious illness or a sudden family emergency. If you know that you will miss an exam please get in touch with me before the time of the exam.

Course Schedule

1/12 Introduction and administrative issues
No readings assigned
Film: *My Feminism*

1/19 MLK Holiday

1/26 Core Concepts
Readings:

2/2 Theoretical Perspectives and Feminist Jurisprudence
Readings:
- Holmes, *The Path of the Law.*
- Bender, *A Lawyer’s Primer on Feminist Theory and Tort*
- Taub & Schneider, *Women’s Subordination and the Role of Law.*

2/9 Gender and Criminal Offending
Readings:

2/16 Gender and Criminal Victimization: Rape and Sexual Assault
Readings:
- Griffin, *Rape: The All-American Crime*
- Estrich, *Rape*
- MacKinnon, *Rape: On Coercion and Consent*
- Wriggens, *Rape, Racism and Law*
Film: *TBA*

2/23 Mardi Gras Holiday

3/2 Midterm Exam
3/9 Gender and Criminal Victimization: Intimate Partner Violence and Child Abuse
Readings:
- Mahoney, *Legal Images of Battered Women.*
- Crenshaw, *Violence Against Women of Color.*
- Hooper, *Child Sexual Abuse and the Regulation of Women: Variations on a Theme*

3/16 Gender and Family Law
Guest Speaker
Readings:
- Meier, *Domestic Violence, Child Custody, and Child Protection: Understanding Judicial Resistance and Imagining the Solutions. Domestic Violence*
- Bruch, *Parental Alienation Syndrome and Parental Alienation: Getting it Wrong in Child Custody Cases*
Film: *Small Justice*

3/23 Reproduction, Law, and Social Control
Readings:
- Heise, *Reproductive Freedom and Violence Against Women: Where are the Interactions?*
- Ehrenreich, *The Colonization of the Womb.*
- Colker, *An Equal Protection Analysis of U.S. Reproductive Health Policy: Gender, Race, Age, and Class.*

3/30 Gender and Correctional Institutions
Readings:

4/6 & 4/13 Easter Holiday

4/20 Global Patterns of Human Trafficking
Readings: TBA

4/27 Connecting the Dots
Readings:
- Frazee et al. *Why Empirical Data Must Inform Practice*

5/4 Final Exam 7 - 9.00
Papers due in class
SOCIO X416-051: GENDER, LAW, AND SOCIAL CONTROL

PAPER GUIDELINES

DUE DATE
5/4 in class
You must turn in your paper both in hardcopy and as a WORD document attachment to my email address: kondkar@loyno.edu. Your paper will be considered late until I receive both versions.

LENGTH
Papers should be between 12 and 15 typed pages.

CITATIONS
You will be required to use and cite at least four scholarly (peer-reviewed / academic press) sources beyond the assigned readings. Sources must be properly cited (see the ASA CITATION GUIDE link on the course web page).

TOPICS / RESEARCH QUESTIONS
I would like to keep the options for your paper topics as broad as possible and I want you to have a great deal of autonomy with regard to your research question(s) (within the parameters of the course). If this is to be a valuable experience for you, you should pick a topic or research question that interests you. Feel free to discuss any ideas / interests you may have with me.

Having said this, it may be helpful to you at this stage to think about a few possible approaches to the paper: In class we cover a number of specific areas with regard to gender, law, and social control (e.g.: the social construction of gender roles, feminist theory and jurisprudence, gender inequality, gendered patterns of criminal offending and victimization, rape, rape law reform, intimate partner violence, child abuse, reproduction, correctional institutions, human trafficking and so on…). One possible approach might be to take one of these areas and explore the topic in more detail. You could, for example, examine any one of these issues in contemporary, historical, or cross-cultural contexts. You could also address one specific issue within these broad topics; for example you could examine one aspect of rape law reform, or explore the effects of mandatory arrest policies in cases of domestic violence, or the handling of child sex abuse allegations in child custody disputes, or you could explore empirical data to support or refute theories of female/male criminality.

Alternatively, you could explore a topic relevant to the course material that we have not covered in great detail in class. Examples of possible topics here might include, stalking, prostitution, medicine as social control, gendered patterns of social control in the media, the legal and social consequences of welfare reform for men and women respectively, the social control of sexuality, specific legal and social control issues concerning juveniles, gendered patterns of social control in high schools, etc. just to name a few. Your paper can be (perhaps should be) informed by personal observation and/or experience, but this alone is not a substitute for research and empirical data. The possibilities are numerous, but not endless. Remember the title of the course. Be creative.

RECOMMENDATIONS / PENALTIES / WARNINGS
I expect you to be able to write clearly and avoid excessive spelling / grammatical errors. If you need help in this regard, or if you think your paper would benefit from editing assistance please make use of the WAC resources on campus (Bobet 100).

Late papers will be penalized by 5 points after 9.00pm on 5/4, and 5 points for each additional day they are late. No papers will be accepted after 5/8.

If you turn in a paper that is partially or wholly plagiarized, you will get an F for the course. Ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism is not an acceptable excuse for it. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, ask me, or consult pages 45-46 of the Loyola Undergraduate Bulletin: "Integrity of Scholarship and Grades."