**Violence in America:Term paper** (10-15 pages) on selected, violence topic area (30 points)

Each student must select a topic and submit a term paper outline for review and approval by the end of week 4( see Schedule below). The final, completed term paper will be due at the start of week 12. A detailed description of the term paper assignment is included below.

**About the Term Paper:**

There is a term paper assignment in this class. To complete this assignment, you will review research in one specific violence topic area.

* To get started, you need to complete a one page outline of your proposed term paper; this initial term paper outline is due in week 4 ( see schedule for due date) .
* Attached to the outline should be a preliminary listing of the primary sources you will use to write the paper. You will need to review the major criminological journals in your subject area, and also identify relevant government documents.
  + The major journals in our field that cover violence topics include:
    - *Criminology,*
    - *Criminology and Public Policy,*
    - *Justice Quarterly,*
    - *Crime and Delinquency,*
    - *Aggression and Violent Behavior,*
    - *Victims and Offenders, and the*
    - *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*.
  + For a complete listing of journals and government agencies that provide information on violent crime, see my uml.edu faculty website at <http://faculty.uml.edu/jbyrne/44.624>

**Description of the Term Paper**

**Violence Paper Outline**:

Below are the details for the term paper you will be writing in our class. Before you start writing the paper, I will need to review a brief outline of your proposed paper, along with a preliminary list of references. I ask for this outline in order to:

1. approve your topic area and case study, and
2. to provide you with feedback and suggestions for completing this assignment.

**Format**: APA Style, reference page(if you are unsure about APA, see APA Style Manual link, located on my University faculty webpage)

**Length**:

10-15 pages ( using standard font and margins, including separate references page).

**Topic Areas**:

I need to approve your term paper topic, but I recommend that you choose *one* of the following general violence topic areas:

1. School violence,
2. Workplace violence,
3. Community/gang violence,
4. Violence in the helping professions,
5. Violence and technology( e.g. human trafficking and the darknet)
6. Murder, including specific subgroups of murder( serial, spree, mass murder) and offenders/ victims( e.g. women, children)
7. Rape/Assault ( all categories)
8. Robbery
9. Institutional violence
10. Cult Violence, Religion and violence, Hate crime.

Please note: if there is a topic that I have NOT listed, please check with me.  
  
**Outline Due: Week 4**:

Your (1 page) outline should include each of the sections described in the "organization section" below, along with a preliminary bibliography identifying at least 5 *primary* sources from journal articles, government documents, etc, using APA reference format. A primary source is an original piece of research (article, report); a secondary source is a summary of that research by another author (e.g. textbook). *You need to focus on primary sources, using secondary sources for background.*  
**Final Paper Due: Week 12**:

Note: early submissions are encouraged.

**Organization of Paper**:

Each paper should include the following subheadings:

**Section 1: Intro./overview/extent of the violence problem:**

1. How often does this type of crime occur?
2. Who are the typical offenders?
3. Who are the typical victims?
4. What is the situational context associated with this type of violence( e.g. location, circumstances)?

**Section 2:** **Causes of the problem:**

Choose a specific theory of crime causation and apply it to the crime.  
 **Section 3:** **Prevention Strategies:**

Can this type of violence be prevented? If so, how? Focus here on how to prevent both violent offending and violent victimization.  
  
**Section 4: Control Strategies Overview:**

1. Police response to the problem
2. Court response to the problem
3. Correction system’s response to the problem
4. Community response to the problem (e.g., vigilante justice,  
   private policing, etc)

**Section 5: Specific Case study/violence analysis (identify a specific violent crime as a case study to analyze in your violence topic area)**

1. What happened?
2. Why did it happen?
3. Could the crime have been prevented?
4. Were control strategies effective?
5. Impact of the case on the offender, victim, community, &  
   criminal/juvenile justice system?

**Section 6: Concluding comments:**

What does the future look like for prevention and control of this type of violence?