

PSYC 353

|Forensic Psychology|



Course Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of forensic psychology by covering basic research and theory on the causes of criminal behavior, reviewing clinical assessment and treatment of criminals, and describing psychological applications in courts, policing, and corrections. By the end of this course, students will be able to conceptualize and categorize various types of crime, understand the many theoretical frameworks used to explain criminal behavior, use theories to generate research ideas on criminality, critically appraise procedures that are used to assess and treat offenders, understand attributes of special criminal populations, and describe how humans have responded to crime.

About the Instructor

Dr. Joseph Camilleri is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Westfield State College. He specializes in studying the etiology, assessment, and treatment of sexual offenders, particularly in the context of dating, common-law, and marital relationships. Dr. Camilleri is also involved in research projects on psychopathy, bullying, and developmentally disabled offenders.

In addition to teaching Forensic Psychology, Dr. Camilleri frequently supervises honors thesis projects and independent studies through various forensic settings, such as the Massachusetts Department of Correction. Students have also conducted laboratory research to develop psychological measures of sexual aggression.

For more information, visit Dr. Camilleri's website at <http://www.wsc.ma.edu/PersonalPages/jcamilleri>