Bringing teaching, learning and research to life

Criminology
Analyzing Crime Data

SAGE video
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Criminology
Analyzing Crime Data
Analyzing data is an integral part of research. This section discusses how analyzing crime impacts law enforcement practice and procedure. Students will also learn what a crime analyst does and how being a crime analyst has changed with improving technology. Furthermore, students will better understand how crime statistics are important and how the media shapes perceptions of crime.

**Crime Statistics**
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/crime-statistics

Dr. Rachel Santos explains the job of a crime analyst. She discusses the importance of understanding crime rates for good policing.

**Crime Analysis: Technology**
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/crime-analysis-technology

D.J. Rogers explains the impact technology has on crime analysis. Rogers discusses social media, crime mapping, and GIS systems.

**Rachel Santos Defines Tactical Crime Analysis**
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/rachel-santos-defines-tactical-crime-analysis

Dr. Rachel Santos defines tactical crime analysis as focused on short-term crime and meant to inform short-term police responses. She explains that this includes looking for patterns in crime.

**Crime Analysis: Challenges and Misconceptions**
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/crime-analysis-challenges-and-misconceptions

D.J. Rogers discusses the challenges and misconceptions of crime analysis. Good evidence and data collection practices are an ongoing issue, but the public perception of police work can be even more of a challenge.

**Measuring Crime**
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/measuring-crime

Professor Callie Marie Rennison explains the importance of measuring crime. She identifies the FBI and Bureau of Justice Statistics as two entities that measure crime, and she explains the differences between how each conducts its assessment.

**Suggested Courses or Topics**

These videos can be used in a variety of criminology courses, which might include:
- social science research methods,
- survey of crime and justice,
- criminal justice research methods, or
- social science statistics.

**Classroom Clips**

- Crime Statistics: This clip discusses crime statistics and how crime analysts relay information to police departments. Clip 0:11 – 2:52.
- Crime Analysis—Technology: This clip discusses how technology has affected crime statistics and analyses. Clip 0:05 – 4:39.
- Rachel Santos Defines Tactical Crime Analysis: This clip discusses how crime is analyzed to determine patterns in crime. Clip 0:05 – 1:54.
- Crime Analysis—Challenges and Misconceptions: This clip discusses public perceptions of crime data and how the media shapes these perceptions. Clip 0:05 – 2:18.
- Measuring Crime: This clip discusses sources of crime data and how it is measured. Clip 0:02 – 3:37.
Research Assignment

Dr. Santos discusses how crime is analyzed to determine patterns in crime (Clip 0:05 – 1:54). Find, read, and summarize five research articles that have examined patterns in crime. What are the overarching results? Do certain crimes have consistent patterns? Is determining the patterns of crime useful in preventing crime?

Classroom Discussion

D.J. Rogers discusses how the media influences perceptions of crime (Clip 0:05 – 2:18). How can the media’s influence on public perceptions be positive? How can it be negative? What can criminologists do to align public perceptions with reality?