Evidence Based Crime Prevention
CRIM 634
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30am-noon

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Office Hours:
MW 10:30-noon or by appointment

Grade: Your grade will be determined as follows: Final Paper (60%); 4 Interim Papers (10% each).

Final Paper: You will articulate a hypothesis regarding the effect of some change in crime policy, develop a research design (e.g., difference-in-difference; regression discontinuity; etc) to examine the hypothesis, find data to implement the research design, and discuss the conclusions, policy implications, and limitations of your study. This paper will be due by midnight on December 22, 2016.

Interim Papers: These papers will sketch out a potential research design to answer a policy question related to the topics we study in class. The paper should identify an open question in the area (either because it has not been studied or because it has not been studied credibly or because there are conflicting results in the literature, etc) and propose a credible research design including a description of the data that would be necessary to implement the research design. However, you should not constrain yourself to designs or data that are feasible (i.e., ignore real life data limitations), nor will you implement the research design. Discuss how your approach would add to the existing knowledge in the policy area examined. These papers should not exceed 5 pages each. They are due by midnight on the following dates: September 27 (involving a topic discussed from the beginning of the semester through that date); October 20 (involving a topic discussed between September 28 and October 20); November 22 (involving a topic discussed between October 21 and November 22); and December 10 (involving a topic discussed between November 23 and the end of the semester). You may use the ideas explored in these papers as the basis for your final paper.

Submission of Papers: email all papers to jklick@law.upenn.edu using the subject heading “CRIM 634”.

Attendance: You should come to class.

Participation: You should participate in class.

Schedule (all readings available in zip file at http://law.upenn.edu/fac/jklick/CRIM.zip)
August 30  Empirical Primer

September 1  Empirical Primer Continued

September 6  Introduction


September 8  Police


September 13  Police


September 15  Police

September 20

Prisons


September 22

Paul Heaton – Guest Lecturer: Swift, Certain, and Fair Sanctions


September 27

Prisons


September 29

Sentencing


October 4

Sentencing

October 6  
Discuss Semester Paper Topics

October 11  
Pre-Trial


October 13  
Death Penalty


October 18  
Stop and Frisk


October 20  
Cancelled (to be made up with meetings regarding semester paper)

October 25  
In-Utero


October 27  
Juvenile


November 1 Early Intervention


November 3 Schools


November 8 Labor Markets


November 10 Drugs


November 15
Alcohol


November 17
Private Interventions


November 22
Guns


November 29
Immigration


December 1

White Collar Crime – Insider Trading


December 6

White Collar Crime – Antitrust


December 8

Forensic Econometrics

