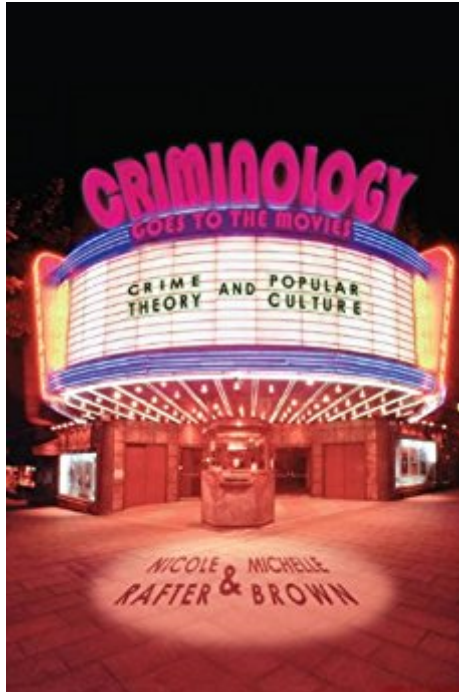# Criminology Goes To The Movies: Crime Theory And Popular Culture

Synopsis

From a look at classics like Psycho and Double Indemnity to recent films like Traffic and Thelma & Louise, Nicole Rafter and Michelle Brown show that criminological theory is produced not only in the academy, through scholarly research, but also in popular culture, through film. Criminology Goes to the Movies connects with ways in which students are already thinking criminologically through engagements with popular culture, encouraging them to use the everyday world as a vehicle for theorizing and understanding both crime and perceptions of criminality. The first work to bring a systematic and sophisticated criminological perspective to bear on crime films, Rafter and Brownâ ™s book provides a fresh way of looking at cinema, using the concepts and analytical tools of criminology to uncover previously unnoticed meanings in film, ultimately making the study of criminological theory more engaging and effective for students while simultaneously demonstrating how theories of crime circulate in our mass-mediated worlds. The result is an illuminating new way of seeing movies and a delightful way of learning about criminology. Â

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Customer Reviews

Professors Nicole Rafter and Michelle Brown have introduced a new book into the field of

criminology that will impact the way that students and scholars take stock of and understand theory. The authors review the main tenets of major criminological theories, which serves to introduce the academic side of the theory, while placing the theory within the context of popular movies. This is a fresh and interesting way to bring together the academic pursuit of criminology and popular culture. I was intrigued throughout the book at how well the authors were able to connect complex criminological concepts to the films that we have all come to enjoy. I believe that this book is not only well-suited for the classroom but also an entertaining read for anyone interested in criminological theory or crime movies.

A must have work for linking movies to theories. The authors very plainly link criminological theory to a number of films, making this a great supplemental text to use for a class or while preparing lectures. Pop culture goes a lot further than a lot of people realize in helping students listen to a professor.The only film I would really add, off the top of my head for a second edition, would be the Alien quadrilogy. The alien itself isn't the villain, rather Weyland-Yutani is. One could argue that WY is the upper class and the characters represent the lower classes, and that in the Conflict perspective, the titular creature is an instrument of the powerful to continue their own ends against the weak.

It clearly explained the various crime theories and they relate to various crime movies

speedy delivery. Overall decent book.

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