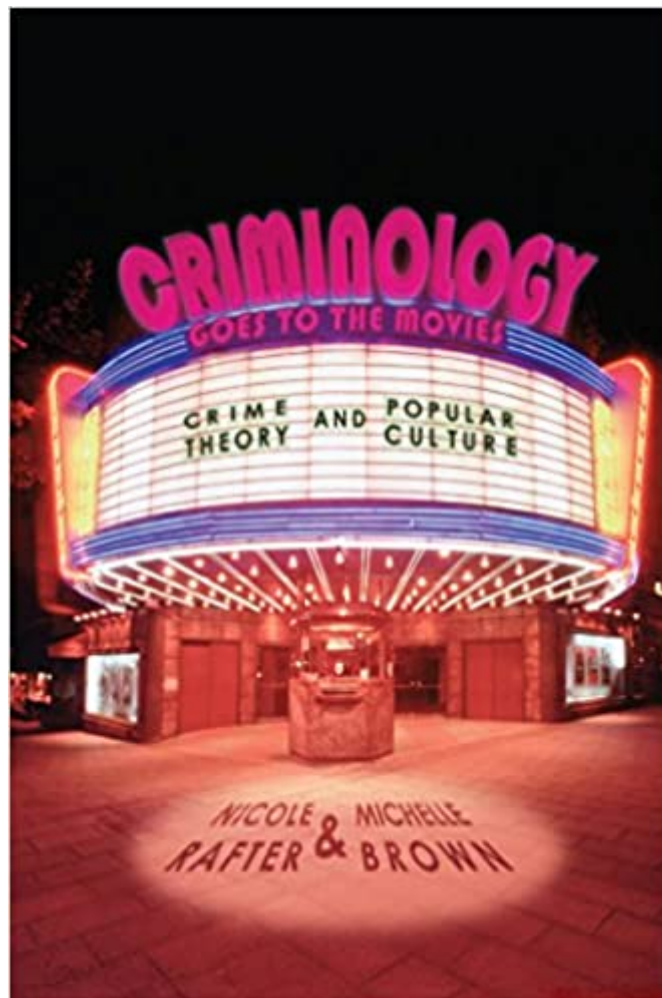


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# Criminology Goes To The Movies: Crime Theory And Popular Culture



## 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 Brown'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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Authors Nicole Rafter and Michelle Brown have come up with an effective way of keying theory to film...[they] have managed to present a coherent summary of the most important theories that seek to explain crime, and to do it in a readable (sometimes even amusing) way."-Ben Pesta, California Lawyer  
"An interesting...book."-CHOICE

Nicole Rafter was Professor Emeritus of Criminology at Northeastern University. Her publications

include *The Crime of All Crimes: Toward a Criminology of Genocide*, *The Criminal Brain: Understanding Biological Theories of Crime*, and, with Michelle Brown, *Criminology Goes to the Movies*. In 2009, Rafter was awarded the Sutherland Award by the American Society of Criminology for outstanding contributions to the discipline. Michelle Brown is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Tennessee and Fellow at the Indiana University Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions and author of *The Culture of Punishment: Prison, Society, and Spectacle*.

Great book, used for the criminology class I instruct. Students reviewed movies to explain criminological theories.

As expected.

Does not provide accurate page numbers.

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

Great book

I needed it for school and so I can't give it a 5 star rating just because I needed it, it did however, come in very good condition upon arrival.

Everything arrived on time as I had ordered it. Haven't read the book yet though because we don't use it until the end of the semester.

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.

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