



Western University
SOCIOLOGY 2253A-650
Administration of Criminal Justice
Fall 2016

INSTRUCTOR: Lisa Lyons

EMAIL: llyons@uwo.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Please email me in the course mail or at llyons@uwo.ca

WEBSITE: <http://owl.uwo.ca>

Course Description:

This course will provide a sociological analysis of the criminal justice system in Canada, including, policing services, the courts and corrections. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of the Canadian criminal justice system. We will also examine a number of contemporary issues concerning the Canadian criminal justice system. Students will be expected to participate in weekly on-line discussions of the readings worth 30% of your final grade.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Antirequisite(s): The former Sociology 253 F/G

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course students will be able to

- Provide a sociological analysis of the criminal justice system in Canada.
- Apply theory and sociological research to understand policing services, the courts and corrections in Canada.
- Read, synthesize and evaluate theoretical arguments and published research on the administration of criminal justice.
- Understand and demonstrate the competent use of different quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Write theoretically-informed papers that make a sustained, evidence-based, sociological argument, and present ideas and sociological concepts clearly.
- Demonstrate effective written communication skills and the ability to discuss ideas clearly and articulately.

Required Text:

Goff, Colin (2014) *Criminal Justice in Canada* (Sixth Edition). Nelson Education.

Method of Evaluation:

This course is online and students will be required to participate in weekly online discussions worth 30% of your final grade. The midterm and final examinations will be written in person at your examination centre.

Weekly On-line Participation/Discussion 30% of final grade.

Midterm Examination: Saturday October 15, 2016 (date to be confirmed) Units 1-5 30%

Final examination: Final Examination Period December 10-21, 2016 40% of final grade.

Grade Guidelines

The Department of Sociology has grade distribution guidelines that all instructors are required to follow. For Sociology courses at the 2100 and 2200 level:

* A's are not to exceed B's, and

* Class averages must be in the range of 66-70%

Online Participation/Discussion

Your participation mark is worth 30% of your final grade and is based on your online participation in the weekly unit discussions. Beginning on Monday September 12, I will be posting weekly online learning units that you can access on the course homepage. These learning units will be posted each Monday as indicated in the course syllabus under Unit 1, Unit 2, etc. In the Unit learning module I will include a question for the weekly discussion.

During the week students are required to submit your responses to the discussion question based on your understanding of the lecture and readings. I am looking for students to integrate material from the readings into your discussion postings. Students should participate at different points throughout the week. I would like you contributing 2-3 times throughout the week to the development of the ongoing discussion. Please have your postings completed by Sunday at midnight each week.

Please see the **Participation Rubric** for further information on grading criteria.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Scantron Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines and Examinations:

Weekly online participation is due on Sunday at midnight and I will post a weekly grade for your participation.

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the Academic Counseling office at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam.

If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor on the date of the exam or on the date the assignment is due. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor's documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam or hand in your assignment at a later date.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Mental Health

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Compassionate Grounds

Serious Illness of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a medical certificate from the family member's physician to your home faculty's Academic Counselling office. In Case of a Death: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director to your home faculty's Academic Counselling office.

Course Schedule and Readings:

September 8	Student Introductions	
September 12	Unit 1: Overview of the Justice System	Chapter 1
September 19	Unit 2: Criminal Law and Criminal Justice	Chapter 2
September 26	Unit 3: Control Philosophy / Justice Policy	Chapter 3
October 3	Unit 4: Crime Rates and Crime Trends	Chapter 4
October 11	Unit 5: Police Operations	Chapter 5
October 15	Midterm Examination	Units 1-5
October 17	Unit 6: Issues in Policing	Chapter 6
October 24	Unit 7: Pre-trial Criminal Procedures	Chapter 7
October 31	Unit 8: The Courts and Trial Procedures	Chapter 8
November 7	Unit 9: Sentencing and Punishment	Chapter 9
November 14	Unit 10: Alternatives to Prison	Chapter 10
November 21	Unit 11: Corrections In Canada	Chapter 11
November 28	Unit 12: Community Reintegration	Chapter 12
December 5	Review	
December 7	Last Day of Class	
December 10-21	Final Examination Period	Chs. 1-12

Please check Department of Sociology web site for class cancellations or changes:

<http://sociology.uwo.ca>