



The University of Western Ontario

SOCIOLOGY 2266A 002
Introduction to Criminology
Fall 2017

Thursdays 1:30-4:30 in SH-3345

Instructor: Jennifer Reynolds

Office Hours: Thursdays 4:30-5:30pm

Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5209

(please book an appointment during these times through email correspondence)

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Course Description:

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the theoretical understanding of crime in Canada. Throughout the course we will look at how crime is defined, different ways of thinking about and understanding/explaining crime, and how accurate our knowledge of crime and criminal behavior is. Topics include, but are not limited to, the history and origins of the study of crime and criminology, the methodologies used to measure crime and criminal activity, classical and modern theories utilized to explain crime and criminal behaviour and their social implications, and different typologies of crime.

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.

Learning Outcomes:

1. To gain an understanding of the major concepts and theoretical perspectives utilized in explaining crime in Canada.
2. To gain an understanding of the different trends and patterns of crime in Canada, and the way in which these figures are obtained.
3. To examine the progression from early criminological theories to contemporary criminological theories. In addition, to understand and be able to differentiate between the major ideas and assumptions associated with different criminological theories.
4. To examine and understand the differences between conventional crime and other forms of criminal activity.
5. To understand the role of criminology as a social science.

Required Text(s):

Linden, Rick. (2015). Criminology: A Canadian Perspective (Eighth Edition).

Method of Evaluation:

Test #1 (25%)

Test #2 (30%)

Final Exam (35%)

Case Study (10%)

Evaluation Breakdown

Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on two exams.

(1) Test #1 (25%) and Test #2 (30%)

The questions will include True/False, multiple choice and short-answer/fill in the blank questions.

(2) Final exam (35%): Date TBA (During final exam period in December)

Similar to the first two tests, the final exam will include both multiple choice and short-answer questions. The final exam is non-cumulative.

The examinations will cover a variety of course material (lectures, assigned readings, films shown in class, discussions etc.). Students are responsible for material covered in class regardless of whether they are present for each class. It is important to note that you are responsible for taking lecture notes/accessing notes from fellow students. It might be helpful to make contact with a peer early in the course in case it becomes necessary for you to miss a class. It will also be your responsibility to access/view any films that may be shown during a class in which you miss.

(3) Case Analysis (10%)

Details to be provided in class and on OWL.

How to Contact Me:

If you have got a question or would like to discuss course content further, please come and see me during my office hours. If you are in class during my office hours and wish to speak with me regarding course material, you can book an appointment with me in person or through e-mail. If you wish to contact me via email, please be advised that I will respond to your message within two business days. I will not provide email responses to questions that have already been addressed on the course outline or in class lectures.

How to get important information:

OWL will be used to post course information, content, reminders and important instructions regarding deadlines, expectations, requirements, etc. It is expected that you check OWL regularly to ensure that you are kept up to date on new and revised course content. From time-to-time I may post or e-mail additional content that may aid in your learning and understanding of course topics. This material may be used in assignments or class discussions.

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines:

Students who miss the assignment or examinations will not be permitted to write unless they submit formal written documentation regarding their absence to academic counseling. Only reasons deemed appropriate by academic counseling will be granted the option to rewrite (ie. doctor's note regarding illness, religious holiday, death/illness of a family member, etc.). If a student suspects that an unavoidable crisis might arise preventing them from completing the assignments or examinations, they should get in contact with the instructor as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements. Students should note that they will not be automatically granted approval for a missed assignment or test and that your home faculty's Academic Counseling office will determine the legitimacy of your request and documentation.

A Note on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

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.”

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class

Laptops are permitted in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to

use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

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 519 661-2111 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

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

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.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Date	Topic	Required Readings
<i>Sept. 14</i>	Course Introduction	Chapter 1
<i>Sept. 21</i>	The History of Crime and Criminology	Chapters 2, 8
<i>Sept. 28</i>	Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Processes	Chapter 3
<i>Oct. 5</i>	Measuring Crime and Criminal Behavior	Chapters 4, 5
<i>Oct. 12</i>	FALL BREAK – NO CLASSES	
<i>Oct. 19</i>	TEST #1	Chapters: 1-5, 8
<i>Oct. 26</i>	Psychological Theories of Crime Hare's Psychopathy Checklist	Chapter 9
<i>Nov. 2</i>	Strain and Social Structure Theories of Crime	Chapters 10, 11
<i>Nov. 9</i>	Social Process Theories of Crime	Chapters 14, 15
<i>Nov. 16</i>	TEST #2	Chapters: 9-11; 14-15
<i>Nov. 23</i>	Feminist Perspectives on Crime	Chapter 6
<i>Nov. 30</i>	Contemporary Criminology and Integrated Theories of Crime	Chapter 12
<i>Dec. 7</i>	Organized Crime & White-Collar Crime Course Conclusions *Case Study Due*	Chapter 16, 17
<i>TBA</i>	Final Exam	Chapters: 6, 12, 16-17