



**Western University**

**SOCIOLOGY 2266**

**Introduction to Criminology**

**Summer 2017**

**Instructor: Lisa Lyons**

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**Course Description:**

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the sociological aspects of crime in Canada. The measurement patterns, causes and social explanations of criminal behaviour will be examined.

**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:**

At the end of this course students will be able to

- Identify, analyze and evaluate a variety of theoretical perspectives of criminology, and assess the conceptual differences among them.
- Apply theory and sociological research to interpret crime and social responses to it.
- Read, synthesize and evaluate theoretical arguments and published research on crime from a critical perspective.
- Understand and demonstrate the competent use of different quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Demonstrate effective written communication skills and the ability to discuss ideas clearly and articulately.

**Required Text:**

Linden, Rick. (2016). *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*. (Eighth Edition) Toronto: 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. Students will also be required to write a midterm and final examination in person at your examination centre.

**Weekly On-line Participation/Discussion** 35% of final grade.

**Midterm Examination: Saturday October 29, 2017 (End of Unit 6) (date to be confirmed)**  
30%

**Final examination: Final Examination Period December 10-21 (pending) 35%**

### ***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%

### **How to Contact Me:**

Please contact me through the course mail or through email at [llyons@uwo.ca](mailto:llyons@uwo.ca)

### **How to get important information:**

I will post important course information in the Getting Started Module on the course homepage. Other information will be posted in Forums: Course Information. You can also post questions in this Forum.

### **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:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

## **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.

### **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 (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://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](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: [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://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/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

### Course Schedule and Readings:

Sept 7 - Introductions	Introductions	
Sept 11 – Unit 1	Crime, Criminals and Criminology	Linden, ch. 1
Sept 18 -- Unit 2	The Social Context of Dispute Settlement	Linden, ch. 2
Sept 25 - Unit 3	Criminal Law	Linden, ch. 3
Oct 2 - Unit 4	Counting Crime	Linden, ch. 4
<b>October 9-13</b>	<b>Reading Week</b>	
Oct 16 – Unit 5	Correlates of Criminal Behaviour	Linden, ch. 5
Oct 23 - Unit 6	Victimology	Linden, ch. 7
<b>October 28</b>	<b>Midterm Examination (to be confirmed)</b>	<b>Units 1-5</b>
Oct 30 – Unit 7	Early Theories	Linden, ch. 8
Nov 6 – Unit 8	Psychological Perspectives	Linden, ch. 9
Nov13 - Unit 9	Strain Theories	Linden, ch. 10
Nov 20 - Unit 10	Conflict Theories	Linden, ch. 11
Nov 27 - Unit 11	Interactionist Theories	Linden, ch. 13
Dec 4 - Unit 12	Social Control Theory	Linden, ch. 14
Dec 8	Last Day of Class	
Dec 10-21	Final Exam Period (pending)	Units 6-12, Chs. 7 – 11, 13, 14

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

<http://sociology.uwo.ca>