

**The University of Western Ontario
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY 3358G/001: WOMEN & CRIME
Winter 2022**

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Class: Synchronous/ In-class
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In examining women's criminality, the practice has often been to draw upon established criminological theories which were developed based on male-centered research. Women were either invisible in these theories, or an "add women and stir" approach was adopted. These early theories failed to assess the structural and gendered features of our society and how these factors impact on the roles of men and women, and how and why women do crime. In doing crime, women's pathways from victimization to crime, and their experiences with the criminal justice system will be closely examined. Key to our examination of women's crime will be the adoption of feminist criminological theories as we analyze the intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, and class inequality. Successful engagement with these intersections is based on understandings of how social categories, such as gender, are created and maintained.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The following books are **required** and available at the University Bookstore.

1. Jane Barker and D. Tavcer, eds. 2018. Women and the Criminal Justice System. Toronto: Emond.
2. Kelly Gorkoff and Jane Runner, eds. 2003. Being Heard. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.
3. Kelly Hannah-Moffat and Margaret Shaw, eds. 2000. An Ideal Prison? Critical Essays on Women's Imprisonment in Canada. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.
4. Becki Ross in COVID-19 and Society: Module 4: Marginalized Workers under COVID-19: The Case of the Sex Work Industry, ed. Lyon, 2021

****Note:** In addition, further required readings have been uploaded to 'Article Readings' on the class' OWL homepage.

Learning Outcomes

The successful student will be able to:

- Identify and explain the criminological perspectives and feminist theories of women's involvement in types of crime.
- Analyze the 'pathway to crime' as a pattern that is affected by age, gender, race and class for females.
- Develop a power point project highlighting issues affecting marginalized and/or criminalized women.
- Write a research paper which will critically analyze the application of course concepts and theories to some aspect of gendered violence in Canadian society.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

•	Reaction Paper	30%
•	Power Point Project & Script	40%
•	Oral Test	15%
•	Evaluated Forum Post	15%

Weekly Oral Test (15%)

Over the course of the term, four to five students will be randomly assigned to stay for the last hour of a designated Zoom class. They will be expected to answer questions on the material in the readings and presented in the class.

Note: Failure to edit for grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, tense alignment, noun/verb agreement will result in a *significant loss of marks, in all assignments.*

Evaluated Forum Post (15%)

Evaluated discussions will start on Thursday, January 20th and the last discussion of the term will end on Wednesday, March 30th at 5pm. There are nine weeks of lecture materials. Students will be randomly assigned to post under a designated Forum Discussion. Students will have from the Thursday to the following Wednesday at 5pm to post in a discussion, based on the readings and articles. Students **cannot replicate** other students' ideas, already posted.

Reaction Paper (30%)

Students will sign up to one of four dates to write a four (4) page paper dealing with **one** aspect of the "Pathway to Crime" for so many women. The paper will highlight key issues, theories and concepts related to this pathway issue. The paper must also

incorporate “Intersectionality” (understanding multiple axes of inequality - gender, class and ethnicity).

The paper will be uploaded to Turnitin under the Assignment tab by 11:00pm of the assigned date. The paper must be double-spaced. A ‘Cover’ page and a ‘Works Cited’ page will make the document 6 pages in length. The paper is worth 30%.

The paper will be graded on the quality of your writing, your ability to show clarity of ideas, and evidence of solid reading comprehension. Lack of proofreading, and grammatical and punctuation errors will result in a significantly reduced grade.

Take care to follow the APA style of citation, and to cite correctly. Incorrect citations will be considered “plagiarism” and your paper will be dealt with accordingly.

A rubric will be used to evaluate the paper and will be posted.

Late papers without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty of 5% per day.

Late papers with illness self-reports must be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report.

Power Point Project & Script (40%)

Students will create a 15 slide power point detailing with some aspect of gendered violence such as pornography, prostitution, or human trafficking, imprisonment, mental health, segregation, etc. Students will also develop a script for each slide, in the ‘Note’ section of each slide. Relevant theories, concepts and key variables from course materials will be part of the presentation.

Note: A rubric will be used to assess the presentation and will be posted.

The Power Point presentation and script will be uploaded to the Assignment tab on the class OWL site by **5pm on Thursday, March 31st**. Late projects submitted after the due date without adequate academic documentation will be subject to a **5%** penalty each day following the date the project is due to be uploaded to the Assignment folder tab, on the left side of the OWL Home Page.

Plagiarism

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage 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 academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking

All reaction papers will be uploaded to Turnitin.com on the class web site. These papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review. All papers submitted 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).

Late Assignments

You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. If, due to medical illness, you cannot submit an assignment by the due date, it is your responsibility to follow the University's **new** "Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness". This policy can be accessed at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Grades and Grading

Grades (except the final year-end mark) will be posted to the OWL site as they become available.

Grade Distributions

The Department of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario has adopted grade distribution guidelines which all instructors are required to follow. For Sociology courses at the 3100 and 3200 level:

- "A"s are not to exceed "B"s and
- Means must be in the range of 70-75%

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:

counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a *Self-Reported Absence (SRA)* form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the [Senate policy](#) are met. Two important exceptions to this rule: SRAs will NOT be allowed for final examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course. Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a [Student Medical Certificate](#) (for

illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds) to your Home Faculty Academic Counselling office.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

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/academics/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 (www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Email

Every so often Professor Ashby will be sending out mass emails to the class and you are responsible for any information (your grade, missed assignments, etc.) in those emails. This means that you are expected to check your UWO account at least five times a week. If you have your UWO mail forwarded to another account (Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.), it is your responsibility to insure that messages do not bounce back because your disk quota is full.

If you have any questions about the course, the quickest way to have them answered is to contact Professor Ashby via email or OWL's **"Message"** tab. If at all possible, each message will be answered within 2 working days. Please check the

syllabus or the course homepage on OWL before writing to see if the information you want is posted there.

Because an active UWO email account is needed to access OWL, and because the use of OWL is an important part of this course, **only** questions sent using your UWO account will receive an answer. If you use your UWO email account, please insert **“Soc 3358”** into the subject line. Sometimes, I do not read e-mails on the weekends.