



Western University
SOCIOLOGY 2266A-650
An Introduction to Criminology
Summer 2021

Instructor: Lisa Lyons

Office Hours: Fridays 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. online
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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 Top Hat digital interactive textbook: Criminology: A Canadian Perspective

Top Hat

We will be using **Top Hat** (www.tophat.com) to access the digital interactive textbook, *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, that we will be using in this class. For instructions on how to create a Top Hat account and enrol in our Top Hat course, please refer to the invitation sent to your school email address or consult Top Hat's Getting Started Guide (<https://bit.ly/31TGMlw>).

If you already have a Top Hat account, go to <https://app.tophat.com/e/514237> to be taken directly to our course. If you are new to Top Hat, follow the link in the email invitation you received or go to <https://app.tophat.com/register/student> and search for our course with the following join code: **514237**

The cost of the textbook is \$99 and will be applied at checkout when enrolling in our Top Hat course. Bear in mind that textbook material will be made available in our course throughout the semester, so do not panic if you do not see any in the course upon entry.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in-app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491. Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.

Linden, Rick. (2020). Criminology: A Canadian Perspective. (Ninth Edition) Toronto: Nelson Education.

Method of Evaluation:

This course is online and students will be required to participate in weekly online discussions worth 50% of your final grade. Students will also be required to write a final examination worth 50% of your final grade.

Evaluation Breakdown

Weekly On-line Participation/Discussion: Due Sunday at midnight weekly - 50% of final grade.

Final examination: Final Examination Period: July 26 - 29, 2021 50% 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 69-73%

How to Contact Me:

Please contact me through our TopHat course chat function.

How to get important information:

I will post important course information in the Getting Started Module in TopHat. Other information will be posted in Chat – the communication platform in TopHat. You can message me privately or posts general questions in Chat.

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines:

Students are required to submit weekly discussion posts by Sunday at midnight.

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 (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

Policies on Examinations

Students are required to write the examination on the scheduled date and will be given a 48 hour to complete and submit examinations. No further extensions or make-up examinations will be allowed given the 48 hour grace period.

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: https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.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: https://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/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Week	Topic	Reading
May 3 – Unit 1	Unit 1: Crime, Criminals and Criminology	Linden, ch. 1
May 10 - Unit 2	The Social Context of Dispute Settlement	Linden, ch. 2
May 17 - Unit 3	Criminal Law	Linden, ch. 3
May 25 - Unit 4	Counting Crime	Linden, ch. 4
May 31 - Unit 5	Correlates of Criminal Behaviour	Linden, ch. 5
June 7 – Unit 6	Victimology	Linden, ch. 7
June 14 – Unit 7	Early Theories	Linden, ch. 8
June 21 - Unit 8	Psychological Perspectives	Linden, ch. 9
June 28 - Unit 9	Strain Theories	Linden, ch. 10
July 5 - Unit 10	Conflict Theories	Linden, ch. 11
July 12 - Unit 11	Interactionist Theories	Linden, ch. 13
July 19 - Unit 12	Social Control Theory	Linden, ch. 14
July 23	Last Day of Class	
Jul 26 - 29	Final Exam Period (pending)	Units 1-12, Chs. 1-5, 7 - 11, 13, 14

Please check Department of Sociology web site for class cancellations or changes: <http://sociology.uwo.ca>