



The University of Western Ontario

SOCIOLOGY 2266A-650

Crime and Society

Summer 2022

Instructor: Lorna Ferguson

Office Hours: By appointment

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Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-noshow-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ahpay-wuk) and Chonnonton (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. We respect the longstanding relationships Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

Course Description:

This course will provide a comprehensive introduction to the sociological aspects of crime in Canada and the discipline of criminology in general. Three main areas will be explored. First, we will examine classic criminological theories, including social learning theory, differential association, and labelling theory. Next, other fields that have influenced the discipline of criminology — e.g., psychology, victimology, and feminism — will be examined. Lastly, a few specialized and emerging areas of criminology will be introduced, like human trafficking, terrorism, and technology and crime.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level: Sociology 1020, Sociology 1021E, Sociology 1025A/B, Sociology 1026F/G, Sociology 1027A/B.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain the nature and extent of crime in Canada and the data and methods used by criminologists to study crime in Canada.
2. Acquire a broad understanding of the theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the relationship between criminal behaviour and social, cultural, and institutional forces.
3. Understand the social causes and consequences of crime in Canada.
4. Understand evidence-based criminology and its impact on public policy development, crime prevention, and crime in Canada.
5. Critically reflect upon and apply the knowledge acquired to understand your personal choices and challenges and those of others.
6. Develop your ability to be aware of and challenge your normative assumptions, ideologies, and stereotypes about the nature and extent of crime in Canada.

Required Text:

[Schmallegger, Frank and Rebecca Volk. 2017. Canadian Criminology Today 6th edition. Toronto: Pearson.](#)

Note: Physical copies are available in the bookstore. Digital copies can be purchased online.

Method of Evaluation:

Midterm Exam	June 12-13 (24 hours to complete)	35%
Critical Reflection Journals (15% each)	May 31 July 5	30%
Final Exam	During final exam period, TBA (24 hours to complete)	35%

Evaluation Breakdown:

Midterm and Final Exams

This course will consist of two exams (midterm and final) occurring via OWL. Both will be primarily multiple-choice questions but may also involve true or false, fill-in-the-blank and/or short answer questions. The detailed format of the exams, including the number of questions and what to expect, will be provided before the exam date on OWL under ‘Course Content’ and will be detailed in the weekly lecture leading up to the exams.

The final exam is *not* cumulative. The midterm exam will cover any coursework and readings from **May 9th to June 12th**; the final exam will cover any coursework and readings from **June 13th to the course end**. The material for the exams will include our weekly lectures and readings. Again, we will go through all of this during the weeks leading up to the exam.

Critical Reflection Journals

Instead of weekly forum posts, students will write critical reflection journals (2 in total) engaging in reflection, critical thought, synthesis, and making connections regarding the range of topics we discuss in the course. Students are expected to engage in higher-order thinking for each reflection journal, use the research and theory we introduce throughout our coursework, and demonstrate self-awareness and development.

- Times New Roman font.
- 12 pt. font size.
- APA citation format.
- Double spacing.
- 3-4 pages in length.
- Title pages are optional (do not count towards page length).
- 1-inch margins on all sides

More information, samples, and a lot of support will be available throughout the course. A detailed outline of expectations for this will also be available on OWL under ‘Course Content.’

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.
A	80-89	Superior work, which is clearly above average.
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory.
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements.
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable.
F	below 50	Fail.

Course Organization:

Virtual, asynchronous course that involves weekly lectures (under the ‘Course Content’ tab on OWL), critical reflection journals, and two exams. All course material will be posted to [our OWL site](#). Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and/or discussed in weekly lectures.

[Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to use OWL optimally; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). Using the right browser is essential, especially when using different features integrated with OWL. If you need assistance, you can seek support on the [OWL Help page](#). Alternatively, you can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#) at 519-661-3800, ext. 83800.

How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to succeed in online learning environments. Here are some tips and tricks:

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the beginning of each week to organize and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face class. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, contact your instructor.
6. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that something is waiting for us at the end of the task.

How to Contact Me:

By email: lfergu5@uwo.ca. Please only use your UWO e-mail account to communicate with me. All other emails from alternate email addresses will not be responded to.

How to Get Important Information:

Communication Guidelines and Expectations

- Email will be returned within 48 business hours (unless announced otherwise).
 - That means you may not receive a response during the evening or the weekend.
- Make sure your tone and correspondence in all communication are professional.
- Be sure to include the course number (SOC 2266) in all communication.

Where Do You Find Course Information?

- Our OWL course site is set up to allow you to navigate week to week in a consistent way. It will be available all summer.
- **Homepage** or **Overview** will have key instructions on where to find information.
- **Course Content** will have all the information about exams, critical reflection journals, and our weekly content (lectures, materials, etc.).
- **Announcements** will be used for regular communication, reminders, or urgent messages.
- **Calendar** will have important upcoming dates.

Owl will be used regularly to let you know what is happening. It must be checked each week to keep up with and progress through the course.

Important Dates

- May 9: First day of classes
- May 13: Last day to add
- June 13: Last day to drop (without academic penalty)
- May 23: Victoria Day
- July 1: Canada Day
- July 29: Course end

Course Schedule and Readings:

- A weekly schedule and all content will be found in 'Course Content' on OWL.

Course Schedule and Readings

Week	Date Beginning	Topic	Readings
1	May 9, 2022	Introduction What is Criminology?	Course Outline Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 1
2	May 16, 2022	Crime Statistics & Patterns of Crime	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 2 & 3
3	May 23, 2022	Victimology: The Study of the Victim	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 4
4	May 30, 2022	Classical and Neo-Classical Thought	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 5 Critical Reflection Journal #1 (worth 15%) Due: May 31
5	June 6, 2022	Biological Roots of Criminal Behaviour	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 6
6	June 13, 2022	Midterm Exam: June 12-13	Roughly 100 multiple-choice questions covering Chapters 1 to 6
7	June 20, 2022	Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behaviour	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 7
8	June 27, 2022	The Meaning of Crime: Social Structure Perspective	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 8
9	July 4, 2022	The Meaning of Crime: Social Process Perspective	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 9
10	July 11, 2022	The Meaning of Crime: Social Conflict Perspective	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 10 Critical Reflection Journal #2 (worth 15%) Due: July 5
11	July 18, 2022	Criminology and Social Policy & Future Directions and Emerging Trends	Schmalleger and Volk, Chapter 11 & 12
12	July 25, 2022	Final Exam Period Final Exam: TBD	Roughly 100 multiple-choice questions covering Chapters 7 to 12

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines and Missed Assessments:

If you know that you have a problem with a due date or an exam (conflict, sick, etc.), **let's talk about it as soon as possible**. If you do not or cannot let me know ahead of time, you will be asked to go through the formal academic accommodation process (see below sections).

Suppose a student misses an in-class exam for a legitimate reason and has submitted the appropriate documentation to Academic Counselling. In that case, you will be assigned a makeup due date approximately one week after the original exam date.

If an assignment is late with no communication, there will be a 5% late penalty per day for up to 5 days past the due date. At that point, the assignment will no longer be accepted without formal academic accommodation.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work:

Students 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 two 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 the 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.

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.

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).

Recording and Sharing Course Information:

Recording (video, audio, images) and sharing of lectures, tutorials or virtual meetings or online course content without the explicit consent of the Professor and students involved is ground for serious academic and or legal discipline.

All course content created by a faculty member is considered the faculty member's intellectual property; it should not be distributed, shared in any public domain, or sold by a student or other third party without the prior written consent of the faculty member.

Policies on Examinations:

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.

Accessibility Options:

Please get in touch with 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 questions regarding 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 website:

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 on how to obtain help.