



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3356G-650

Victimology
Winter 2025

Online

Instructor: Professor Laura Huey

Office Hours: online by appointment

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Course Description: This course provides a sociological overview and analysis of victimization from multiple theoretical perspectives. The nature, types, and diverse experiences of victims in the Canadian criminal justice system are examined, with specific focus on the intersections of victimization and race, gender, class, and other forms of social inequality. Extra Information: 3 seminar hours.

Prerequisite(s): Sociology 2266A/B, and third or fourth year standing in a Sociology or Criminology or Criminal Justice module

Unless you have either the prerequisites 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.

Anti-requisite(s): Sociology 3325F/G if taken in 2019-2020

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Students will develop new knowledge and perspectives on the role of police and policing in society through exposure to both academic research and officer experience. Objectives include:

1. Acquiring a general sense of the vast body of literature and academic approaches to studying victimology
2. Developing a specialized area of knowledge about victimization through engaging with course content and using that content to explore specific issues in Victimology.
3. Understanding how victimization can be shaped by political, social, and economic conditions.

Course Material:

I have taped a series of lectures for this seminar that are available to you in two different formats!

For access to the visual and audio version of the lecture, you can simply download the material through OWL. *Where possible I include the PowerPoints for you to access.*

For access to a more portable audio version, you can find links to various audio versions (Spotify, Apple podcasts, Google podcasts, etc.) on <https://anchor.fm/can-sebp-knowledge-incubator>

No text book is required for this course; however, there are assigned podcasts. Please see appropriate assignment.

Method of Evaluation

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

TED talk assignments (2 x 25 points) (email to TBA)	50 marks
Term assignment (email to lhuey@uwo.ca)	30 marks
What should we know (and be learning) about victimization? (email to lhuey@uwo.ca)	20 marks

What should we know (and be learning) about victimization? (DUE DATE: January 20, 2025)

Please email me an one-page (single spaced) discussion on a topic related to victimization that we do not cover in this class, but that you think is important for Professors and students to discuss. Potential topics might include specific forms of criminal or non-criminal victimization or how to prevent certain forms of victimization For this assignment, you do not need to use external resources. However, you may, if you think referencing media or a journal article would be helpful for you to make your point.

Based on the results of this assignment, I may use your topic suggestions to develop new mini-podcasts or find new resources. Your input here is valuable!

To evaluate the assignment, I will be looking at the degree of thought you put into thinking about your proposed topic and its social importance. Other considerations will include your ability to express yourself clearly and good writing skills (TL/DR: you do not need 18 million sociology concepts/academic jargon! I just need to clearly understand what you think and why you think that! I also don't need references/citations for external resources).

Ted Talk Assignments (DUE DATES:. Although we can be reasonably flexible with dates, please note we cannot take assignments later than **April 4th without an accommodation request from Academic Counseling):**

For this set of assignments, I am asking you to turn in **2 reviews** of the TED Talks that I have assigned for certain lectures (see lecture schedule for the selections).

For these reviews, you will be expected to provide a succinct two page brief on the key takeaways or messages you learned from listening to the podcast. A lot of this content will tie into ideas, concepts, research from class, so ***make sure that, when possible, you draw links between the podcast and what you learned from lectures and other relevant course content provided.***

I am evaluating you based on: demonstration of knowledge of the talk; demonstration of knowledge of relevant course content; clarity of writing, and; correct usage of grammar, spelling and fundamentals of good writing.

Comment on What You Learned (DUE DATE: no later than April 4th)

You will be expected to hand in a 6-8 page comment piece in relation to **two** of the topic areas covered in this class. What I'm looking for is to see:

Detailed knowledge of a topic (including references to concepts, ideas, papers and/or discussions from class – **this is your chance to show what you learned**);

You may argue for or against something, compare or contrast two different types of victimization, apply a theory to one of the forms of victimization – I leave that choice up to you. As always, please feel free to float your ideas past your TA or myself.

For this assignment, you do NOT need outside resources, but are free to use them if you choose. What we are really evaluating is your knowledge of the course content (including lectures and assigned videos). Think of this assignment as more of a long answer on an exam rather than as a research essay.

Student Absences:

Most deadlines in this course are 'soft' – meaning that you have the flexibility to turn in assignments later than the suggested deadline without having to provide an excuse to me or even contacting me. That said, two things to note:

1. If I have not received any work from you by March 1th, I will be following up with you to see how you're doing, what your workload is like and how best I can work with you to complete your course requirements.
2. I do require all of your work to be received *no later than April 4th, 2025*.

If you are unable to complete your course work on or by April 8th, due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below (contacting Academic Counseling, etc).

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible.

Note: missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is **not** sufficient on its own. Students should check the Western website to see what directives for Covid are to be followed. Western has been and will

continue to follow directives established by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. That directive will state whether students should or should not come to campus/class and any other requirements (e.g., masks are mandatory). Please check on your own and do not email the instructor, the Department Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator or the Faculty of Social Science Academic Counselling Office.

Absences from Final Examinations: N/A

Student Absences:

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade:

N/A

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible.

Excused absences will be provided an extension to turn in the work.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Academic Policies:

Please review the Department of Sociology “[Important Academic Policies](#)” document

https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf for additional information regarding:

- Scholastic Offences
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Academic Accommodation
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health