

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
Youth, Crime, and Society 077:383 (3 credit hours)
Summer Day 2004

Location: MTWThF 1:30-3:30 136 Isbister Building
Instructor: Kelly Gorkoff
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Office Hours: by appointment

Required Textbooks:

There are no required textbooks.

Readings will be made available on reserve in the library. They will be on two hour reserve. Please feel free to copy the articles.

I will primarily be drawing upon the following books. You may purchase them if you like but it is not required. Other material will also be used:

Smandych, R. (ed) (2001) Youth Crime: Varieties, Theories, and Prevention Toronto: Harcourt Canada

Smandych, R (ed) (2001) Youth Justice: History, Legislation, and Reform Toronto: Harcourt Canada

Tanner, J. (2001) Teenage Troubles: Youth and Deviance in Canada, second edition, Scarborough: Nelson Thompson

Course Objectives and Description:

This course will provide an analysis of issues surrounding the treatment of children and youth in the Canadian criminal justice system. Topics include: historical changes in the role of children and youth in Canadian society; young offender legislation; young offenders and media; and current research on youth crime and its prevention in Canada and other countries. The course will be divided into 5 main areas - a historical perspective on youth in Canadian society including a discussion of the social construction of youth issues including crime; an empirical examination of the picture and nature of youth crime in Canada; a discussion of the Canadian legislation dealing with young offenders (the JDA, YOA, and YCJA), theories to explain youth crime; and a discussion of current trends and issues related to youth and crime.

It is understood that this summer course offers us a limited time frame in which to cover all the material related to youth, crime, and society. Thus, this course will be intensive. It is in your best interest to stay up to date with the readings. Doing so will allow you to incorporate lecture material quickly and engage in discussions.

The first 2/3rds of the course will consist of lectures and group discussions. The last 1/3 of the course will consist of group presentations. The course requirements will consist of two in class quizzes (non cumulative, short answer), one essay/paper, peer evaluation, and a cumulative take home final test.

The quizzes will be short answer and will be completed in class. The papers will be individual papers based on group work and discussions. Early on the class will be divided into equally sized groups. Groups will be selected based on common interest. Each group will choose/ be assigned an issue pertinent to youth, crime, and society. Groups will be given the opportunity to discuss how lecture and readings apply to their issue. Each issue will be accompanied by readings. Each group will give a presentation to the class on the topic. Each individual will submit a paper based on that issue. Each individual will be peer reviewed by fellow group members. As well, each presentation will be peer reviewed by class mates. The take home will consist of a choice of essay questions.

Quiz 1 (July 9)	20%
Quiz 2 (July 16)	20%
Paper (July 26)	20%
Presentation evaluation	5%
Peer group evaluation	5%
Take home final	30%
TOTAL	100%

Grade Distribution:

A+	90-100	A	80-89.9
B+	75-79.9	B	70-74.9
C+	65-69.9	C	60-64.9
D	50-59.9	F	0-49.9

A test or quiz can only be missed for a legitimate medical or personal reason. Students who cannot write a quiz for one of those reasons must inform the instructor **prior to** the quiz with appropriate documentation from a legitimate source. Students who miss a quiz must inform the instructor **within three days** of the missed test with proper documentation to be considered for re-scheduling. Students who do not do so will be given a grade of zero. Similarly, the written papers have a due date. Proper documentation is required **within three days** of the due date to arrange alternate dates. If the instructor is not notified, ½ grade will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.

All group members must be present for the group presentation unless they have a legitimate medical or personal reason for not attending. Failure to attend the group presentation will result in a presentation mark of zero unless prior alternative arrangement have been made with the instructor.

Academic Integrity

Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on 'Plagiarism and Cheating' and 'Examinations: Personations' found in the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar. Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor prior to the class. The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

Important Dates

The session runs from July 5 to July 27.
Voluntary withdrawal date is July 21.

Required course readings:

A detailed reading list will be supplied on the first day of class.