

**UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA  
Department of Sociology**

**CRIMINOLOGY  
Sociology 077.251 (L01)  
(Term 1, 2003 3 credit hours)  
9:30-10:30am  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
301 Tier Building**

(Break out room: TBA, last names A through K, Friday only)

**Instructor:** Andrew Woolford  
**Office:** 327 Isbister Building  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday, 1:30 to 3:00, or by appointment  
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**Phone:** 474-6058

**Course Objectives:**

This course will provide an overview of the field of criminology with an emphasis on the impact crime has on communities, victims and offenders. Beginning with early theories of criminality, we will follow the path of criminological thought through to its present forms. Conceptual and theoretical insights from the criminological literature will be applied to phenomena such as prisons, the Canadian justice system, policing, surveillance, media representations of crime, drugs, street crime, corporate crime, women and crime, and genocide and war crimes. With respect to all of these topics, students will be asked not to take the existence of crime as a given, but instead to question the definition of crime and its application to various socially-derived, or 'criminalized', others.

**Required Reading:**

Criminology: A Canadian Perspective, 2000 Fourth Edition. Edited by Rick Linden, Toronto: Harcourt Brace and Company.

Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City by Elijah Anderson. W. W. Norton & Company (for Book Review Assignment)

Boundaries Reading Package (available from the bookstore)

**Evaluation:**

Class Participation:	15%
In-Class Exams: (3 x 20%)	60%
Book Review:	25%
Total	100%

**Class Participation (15%):** Students are expected to attend and participate in each of the Friday discussion groups (Discussion groups will begin near the end of September. Note: On the Friday following an exam, students will meet in the regular classroom rather than their discussion group). In each session, different students will play the roles of ‘facilitator’ and ‘minute taker’ for the discussion group. Minutes will be handed in to the instructor or the TA at the end of the discussion group session or on the following Monday for grading. The cumulated grades for the minutes of the meetings will serve as the basis for your participation mark. However, I reserve the right to lower or increase grades based on my own assessment of your participation in the discussion groups. Students who take this exercise seriously and are actively involved in the discussion groups might receive a higher grade. Students who skip classes and do not participate will receive a lower grade.

**In-Class Exams (3 x 20% for 60% of final grade):** In-class exams will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup>, October 29<sup>th</sup>, and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Each exam will consist of multiple choice questions (approximately 50-60%) and short answer questions (approximately 40-50%).

**Book Review (25%):** Students are required to complete a 6 page, double-spaced book review of Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City by Elijah Anderson. This review will address Anderson’s book in relation to concepts and theories learned in the course. A handout will be distributed in class providing students with a set of questions to address in the review. The review is due Wednesday, November 19, 2003. Late book reviews will be penalized three percentage points per day (weekends count as two days)

(Note: students are required to provide a medical note within one week if a test is missed and they require a make-up or a grade of zero will be awarded.)

**Academic Honesty:** Students should acquaint themselves with the University’s policy on ‘Examinations: Personations’ (p. 28) and ‘Plagiarism and Cheating’ (p. 29) found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Grading:**

Cut-off points for converting percentage grades into letter grades:

A+ : 100-90%	A : 89-85%	B+ : 84-80%	B : 79-75%
C+ : 70-74%	C : 69-60%	D : 59-50%	F : below 50%

University of Manitoba Senate Policy #1307 requires “a post-examination review of final grades in multi-sectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performance in all sections.” Accordingly, the final grade distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve this equity and, therefore, your final grade may be changed.

## **Course Outline:**

(Note: This is a tentative outline and may be subject to change)

### **Part One: Crime in Canada: Canadian Criminal Law and the ‘Counting’ of Crime**

In this section we will examine the historical development of the criminal law, and its specific application in the Canadian context. We will also analyze the measurement of crime with a critical focus on how certain actions come to be defined as ‘criminal’ and on the methods used to calculate crime rates.

#### *Week 1: Crime in the Canadian Context*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 1

Braithwaite: “Crime, Shame and Reintegration” (Reading Package)

#### *Week 2: The Canadian justice system*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 2

#### *Week 3: Counting Crime and “Making Crime Count”*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 3

Wright et al.: “Researching Burglars” (Reading Package)

### **Part Two: explaining crime: social, biological and psychological Factors**

The purpose of this section is to critically engage the dominant theoretical paradigms for explaining crime. We will ask of the various approaches: What are the advantages and limits of each approach? Is a universal explanation of criminal behaviour possible? And, what are the ethical and sociological implications of each theoretical framework?

#### *Week 4: Early Theories of Crime*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 6

#### *Week 5: Psychological Theories*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 8

#### *Week 6: Strain Theories*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 9

Passos: “Anomie and Corporate Deviance” (Reading Package)

#### *Week 7: Interactionist Theories*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 11

Derkins et al.: “Propagating Pederasty” (Reading Package)

#### *Week 8: Social Control Theory*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 12

Sampson and Laub: "Crime and Deviance Over the Life Course" (Reading Package)

Discussion Group Assignment #3:

*Week 9: Critical Criminology*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 10

Spitzer: "The Production of Deviance in a Capitalist Society" (Reading Package)

**Part Three: Crime: The Human Consequences**

In this section we will look at four types of crime. These examples will be used to illustrate the 'human consequences' of crime; that is, the everyday repercussions crime has for groups and individuals. We will also examine the 'crimes of the powerful' in order to demonstrate that crime is committed by individuals from all sections of the socio-economic spectrum.

*Week 10: Women's Crime and Crime Against Women*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 5

White and Humphrey: "Young People's Attitudes Toward Acquaintance Rape" (Reading Package)

*Week 11: Genocide and War Crimes*

Readings: Kelman and Hamilton: "The My Lai Massacre: A Military Crime of Obedience" (Reading Package)

*Week 12: Street Crime*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 13

Wilson and Kelling: "Broken Windows" (Reading Package)

*Week 13: Corporate Crime*

Readings: Linden, Chapter 15

Voluntary withdrawal deadline is Wednesday, November 12, 2003.