

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology

077:379 Women, Crime and Social Justice

LO2 Term 2: January 5 – April 12, 2005 3 cr. hrs.
(Tues/Thurs: 1:00-2:15 p.m. in Room 301 Tier)

Instructor: Mary-Anne Kandrack
Phone: 474-9665

Office: 334 Isbister
Office hours: Tues/Thurs 11:30-12:30

Objectives of the course:

This course provides a focused analysis of women, crime and social justice. Drawing on feminist scholarship in the field, the course examines gender differences in crime, including the ways in which 'ideas' about gender appropriate deviance shape the social response to rule-breaking. Specific attention will be paid to crime perpetrated against women and the histories/experiences of abuse among women offenders. This provides for an analysis of the experience and treatment of women in the criminal justice system as well as the new directions that feminist theory, research and practice suggests are more fruitful in understanding women, crime and social justice.

Required texts:

Boritch, H. Fallen, Women: Female Crime and Criminal Justice in Canada.
Nelson, Scarborough: 1997.

Comack, E. Women in Trouble. Fernwood, Halifax: 1996.

Course requirements:

The final grade for the course will be based on three (3) equally weighted requirements:

- 1) In-class test (1/3 of final grade): Thursday, February 11/05
- 2) Group assignment (1/3 of final grade): due Thursday, March 24/05
- 3) Take home exam (1/3 of final grade): due April 19/05 by 4:30 pm.

Study questions for the in-class test and take home exam will be distributed in advance. The group assignment will be detailed in a separate handout. **Late submissions will be penalized 5 points per day including weekends.**

*The course requirements will be based on the readings, lectures and class discussions. Students are expected to attend class and to complete the readings in advance of the lectures so that any problems, concerns or issues can be raised for discussion in class. Participation in class discussion is both welcomed and encouraged.

Students should familiarize themselves with the regulations regarding academic integrity, as plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Please familiarize yourself with the policies in Section 7 on page 26-27 of the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar 2004-05.

The voluntary withdrawal date for second term half courses is **Friday, March 18, 2005.**

Grade distribution:

A+ 90-100	B+ 75-84	C+ 65-69	D 50-59
A 85-89	B 70-74	C 60-64	F <50

Class Schedule:

This is a tentative class schedule and may be modified as we proceed. Our progress through the course materials will be monitored to determine whether any changes are appropriate.

January 6: Introduction and overview of the course

January 11 – February 9:

The first section of the course examines preliminary considerations that are critical to the study of women, crime and social justice, including mainstream criminology and the study of female offenders and crimes perpetrated against women.

Readings: Comack, E. Women in Trouble. Intro and chapter 1.

Boritch, H. Fallen Women. Intro and chapters 1-4 and 7.

Thursday, February 11: In-class test (1/3 of final grade)

February 14–18 Mid-term break: no classes

February 22 – April 12:

The second section of the course engages a focused analysis of the experiences of women in the criminal justice system, including the relationship between female offending and histories of abuse, as well as women in prison. The last part of the course addresses the implications of these considerations with a view to new directions in feminist theory, research and practice.

Readings: Boritch, H. Fallen Women. chapters 5, 6 and 8.

Comack, E. Women in Trouble. chapters 2-5.

Thursday, March 24: Group assignment (1/3 final grade): due in class

Thursday, April 19: Take home Exam (1/3 of final grade): due by 4:30 p.m. at Sociology department/my office.