

SOC 2510 A01 – Criminology – May Day (May 5-28), 2014 - (3 cr. hrs.)

Room 201 Isbister Building
M/T/W/R/F 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

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Office hours: 10:30 daily, or by appointment

Course Objectives:

This course is intended to provide an introduction to the field of Criminology. The first section of the course involves learning about the origins and background of the field; examining sources of law in society, defining ‘crime’ and ‘criminals’, describing sources of information about crime, and examining the individual and social variables that are related to criminal behaviour. The second section, which constitutes the bulk of the material to be covered, includes a critical introduction to the major theories that have been developed in an attempt to explain crime. Students will also develop an understanding of the ‘real life’ policy implications that attach to particular criminological theories and orientations. The third section will involve discussion of specific patterns and types of crime in Canada. At all stages of the course, students will be encouraged to take an active role through class participation.

Required Text:

Linden, Rick (2012). Criminology: A Canadian Perspective. (7th edition) Toronto: Nelson Canada Ltd.

Note: While the majority of the assigned readings will be from the text, additional articles may be assigned from time to time.

Evaluation:

Grades will be determined on the basis of three term tests and an assignment:

Test #1	27.5% (May 12 th)
Test #2	27.5% (May 21 st)
Test #3	20% (May 28 th)
Crime journal	25% (no later than May 23 rd)

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A+	90 - 100%	(Exceptional)	C+	65 - 69%	(Satisfactory)
A	80 - 89%	(Excellent)	C	60 - 64%	(Adequate)
B+	75 - 79%	(Very Good)	D	50 - 59%	(Marginal)
B	70 - 74%	(Good)	F	0 - 49%	(Failure)

Note: Failure to complete any portion of the required course work will result in a grade of zero for that portion.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Note that in a Spring session course, absences will have an especially serious effect due to the compressed time frame. In the case of unavoidable absence, *it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor as soon as possible*. In the case of a missed test, exam, or assignment due date, a medical certificate must be provided.

Class Conduct:

Disruptions such as talking, late arrivals or early departures are especially distracting to the instructor and to other students. Please be considerate of the needs and rights of others. Active devices such as mobile phones, PDAs, tablets, etc. are not welcome. Laptop/notebook computers may only be used to facilitate note-taking, and solely at the instructor's discretion. Any other use of these devices may result in prohibition for the remainder of the course.

Academic Integrity:

Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating, exam personation, ("Personation at Examinations" (Section 5.2.9) and "Plagiarism and cheating" (Section 8.1)) and duplicate submission by reading documentation provided at the Arts Student Resources web site at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student/index.html>. Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them. The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to applications designed to detect plagiarism.

Voluntary Withdrawal:

Students should be familiar with the rules and procedures for voluntary withdrawal. The final date for withdrawal without academic penalty is May 22nd, 2014. Refund deadline is May 7, 2014.

Tentative Course Schedule

The subject schedule below is approximate and may be adjusted as the course progresses.

Part I: Crime and Society (May 5 to May 9)

What is Criminology? (Linden, ch. 1)
Development of Legal Systems (Linden, ch. 2)
Definitions of Deviance and Crime (Linden, ch. 3)
Measuring Crime (Linden, ch. 4)
Correlates of Criminal Behaviour (Linden, ch. 5)

Part II: Explanations of Criminal Behaviour (May 13 to 19)

Early Theories of Crime (Linden, ch. 8)
Psychological Theories (Linden, ch. 9)
Sociological Theories (Linden, ch.10, 11, 13, 14)
Critical Criminology (Linden, ch. 12)

Part III: Patterns of Criminal Behaviour (May 21 to May 27)

Women and Crime (Linden, ch. 6)
Choosing Crime: Deterrence and Prevention (Linden, ch. 15)
Organized Crime (Linden, ch. 16)
White Collar & Corporate Crime (Linden, ch. 17)

Please Note:

In accordance with University and Faculty of Arts policies and the University of Manitoba Senate Policy #1307, department and programs are required to utilize a final grades review and approval process of multi-sectioned undergraduate courses before course grades are rolled into Aurora student. 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. At the discretion of a Department's Council, the Faculty of Arts policy states there may also be a review and approval of proposed final grades of other undergraduate courses.

Copyright notice:

The lectures, displays, and materials delivered or provided in this course, including any visual or audio recording thereof, are subject to copyright owned by the instructor. It is prohibited to record or copy by any means, in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part, in the absence of express written permission from Prof. Frank Cormier any of the lectures, materials provided or published in any form during or from this course.

Unclaimed term work:

Any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four (4) months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will become property of the Faculty of Arts and be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines and using confidential measures for disposal.

Crime Journal Assignment – “Read like a criminologist”

Completed crime journals will consist of three, two-page (minimum) analyses of articles about criminal events. Articles are to be drawn from text-based news media sources (e.g. newspapers, Internet news sites, news magazines, etc.). Each analysis should provide a brief (one or two sentences will suffice in most cases) summary of the criminal event, as well as a conceptual and/or methodological assessment of the crime, its measurement, and how it is reported in the article. That is, you should analyze the crime itself, as well as how it is reported, in light of what you have learned from the lectures and the textbook. For example, you could examine the characteristics of the alleged perpetrator and the victim(s), and/or the details regarding how/when the crime was committed and compare them to the patterns of crime discussed in the course. You could also consider which of the theories of crime presented in the course might best explain the criminal event. Another area for possible examination is how the event is presented by the media source. For example, is it presented objectively (just the facts), or does there appear to be an underlying ideology or bias (opinion) in the way it is presented? Does the report (whether implicitly or explicitly) suggest the “cause” of the event, and/or what should be done about it? In short, you will need to read and discuss each article from the perspective of a criminologist – which is more technical and more critical than the average reader’s perspective.

You are strongly encouraged to begin looking for articles right away. Having articles in hand early in the course will enable you to better identify opportunities for analysis as crime-related concepts come up in the lectures and in your readings. You are also strongly encouraged to browse ahead in the textbook to look for terms, concepts, and ideas that will help you in choosing articles and beginning your analyses.

Journals must be typewritten, printed on standard 8.5 by 11 inch paper, double-spaced, with standard margins. Journals should have a cover page including the course name and number, instructor’s name, and student’s name and number. Journals should be stapled only (that is, no binders, covers, etc.). The three source articles for the analyses must be submitted along with the journal. Articles from electronic sources should be printed out, and be sure to use a “printer friendly” format whenever possible. A text-only printout makes the article easier to read, and saves paper and toner. Articles only available in paper format (e.g. from hard-copy newspapers or news magazines) should be photocopied on to standard-sized paper. Citations must be provided for course materials (e.g. the course textbook), the news items themselves, and any other sources consulted. You are required to use an accepted referencing style (ASA, APA, MLA, etc.).

Journals may be handed in any time up to and including the class meeting on **Friday, May 23, 2014**. Late submissions will be subject to a 10% per day (including weekends and holidays) deduction from the grade.