

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
Sociology SOC 3830 (A01) – Youth, Crime & Society
Spring 2009 (3 credit hours)
MTWRF 10:45am – 12:45pm
University College 241

Instructor: Dr. K. Kramar
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Office Hours: 9:45 – 10:45 a. m., or by appointment
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Course Description: This course is designed to provide students with a detailed understanding of the history and development of issues surrounding youth deviance, the regulation of youth and the treatment of young offenders in the criminal justice system. The course will cover topics including: historical perspectives on changing role of children and youth in Canadian society; legislation dealing with young offenders (JDA, YOA, YCJA); young offenders and their representation in the media; current research and statistical data on the nature and extent of youth crime and violence; youth crime prevention, and the treatment of young offenders in the Canadian criminal justice system; and the treatment of young offenders in systems outside of North America. The course will also introduce students to research on the limitations of system based responses. This approach is aimed at generating new policy ideas and recommendations needed to bring about progressive changes for youth.

Course Requirements and Evaluation: The course will consist of lectures and discussions on topics outlined below. Students are expected to do the required readings, and be prepared to engage in discussions of the topics covered in the readings. They will also be expected to participate actively in in-class small-group discussions.

The course evaluation will consist of three in class tests (90%) and a critical analysis of one newspaper story chosen during the course (10%). Provided below is a breakdown of the value of each of the course requirements and related due dates:

Test 1 (30%)	June 8, 2009
Test 2 (30%)	June 15, 2009
Test 3 (30%)	June 23, 2009
Media Analysis (10%)	June 22, 2009

The last date for voluntary withdrawal is June 17, 2009.

The following grade distribution will be used in the evaluation of the students' work:

A+	90-100	C+	65-69
A	80-89	C	60-64
B+	75-79	D	50-59
B	70-74	F	0-49

Tentative Outline of Topics to be Covered:

Week 1 (June 1 – 8): Understanding Youth and Crime, Historical Conceptions of Juvenile Delinquency, Theories of Crime and Deviance, Origins of Juvenile Justice Legislation, YOA to YCJA, Treatment and Processing of Young Offenders (Minaker and Hogeveen, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Week 2 (June 9 – 15): Criminalized, Marginalized, Violent and Abused Youth (Minaker and Hogeveen, Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9)

Week 3 (June 16 – 23): Responding to Youth Crime: Re-thinking system based responses, restorative justice, system v. systemic responses, youth centred innovations (Minaker and Hogeveen, Chapters 10, 11, 12)

Required Course Reading:

Minaker, Joanne C., and Bryan Hogeveen *Youth Crime and Society: Issues of Power and Justice* Toronto: Pearson Education Canada, 2009.

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the course.

Missed Tests: If a test is missed for a legitimate medical or compassionate reason the student must get in touch with the instructor, provide related documentation if requested, and arrange for a make-up text. Under normal circumstances, the student is required to inform the instructor of their request for a make-up test within one week of the original test date, however given the abbreviated nature of this course, students are expected to contact the instructor within 2-3 days of a missed test. Failure to request a make-up test within the expected time frame may result in ineligibility for a make-up test and a mark of zero for that test.

Late Assignments: Late assignments will incur a penalty of 2 marks for each day the assignment is late unless the student has contacted the instructor before the assignment due date and requested a time extension. Time extensions will only be given for documented medical and compassionate reasons.

Academic Integrity: 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.