

Sociology 3790 – Women, Crime and Social Justice
Section A01 - University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology and Criminology
Fall 2019 – 3 Credit Hours

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| Lecture: | Wednesday Evening 7:00PM – 9:45PM |
| Location | Tier 308 |
| Instructor: | Melanie Janelle Murchison Ph.D., MA, BA(Hons) |
| Office Hours: | By Appointment – After class usually works best! |
| Office: | Room 301I Isbister |
| E-Mail: | melanie.murchison@umanitoba.ca |

Welcome!

The University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar describes this course as follows: The course examines gender differences in crime, theories of women's crime and the treatment of women offenders and victims by the criminal justice system. Prerequisite: [a grade of "C" or better in SOC 2510 or SOC 2511] or written consent of department head.

Course Objectives:

- *Communicate Skillfully:* Sociology students write papers/essays and make oral presentations that build arguments and assess evidence in a clear and effective manner.
- *Critical Thinking about Society and Social Processes:* Sociology students can look beyond the surface of issues to discover the "why" and "how" of social order and structures and consider the underlying social mechanisms that may be creating a situation, identify evidence that may adjudicate between alternate explanations for phenomena, and develop proposed policies or action plans in light of theory and data.
- *See Things from a Global Perspective:* Sociology students learn about different cultures, groups, and societies across both time and place. They are aware of the diversity of backgrounds and experiences among residents of Canada and beyond. They understand the ways events and processes in one country are linked to those in other countries.

Required Reading Materials:

Mallicoat, Stacy (2018). *Women, Gender and Crime: Core Concepts*. Sage Publication
Additional readings will be required and will be provided on the course website.

Voluntary Withdrawal Date: The last day for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty is November 18, 2019. You will have received the first test grade as well as participation grade results before this date.

Accommodations: Students with **special learning needs** (who for legitimate reasons require extra time to write a test, or who require aids or other supports) should identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the term in order to arrange suitable accommodation.

GRADING:

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|---------------------------|--|
| Test 1 | 25% - October 9, 2019 IN CLASS |
| Test 2 | 20% - November 27, 2019 IN CLASS |
| Research Essay | 25% - November 6, 2019 DUE IN HARD COPY THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. |
| Participation: | 10% - Ongoing |
| Final Presentation | 20% - December 4, 2019 |

Class Participation - 10%: The quality of the course increases dramatically with good class participation. Good class participation means coming to class on time and prepared, following the discussion, and giving your best efforts to provide a well considered answer when called upon. Asking questions or offering comments can also reflect good class participation, but you need not volunteer often to participate fruitfully in class.

So that I can avoid giving seating assignments, please bring a nameplate with your name on it to **all** classes. During class, the nameplates will assist me in calling on you. More generally, they are useful so that I can adequately assess your class participation. I expect voluntary contributions and will keep track of participants and use this in making a final determination of your class participation grade.

Tests: 45%

There will be two tests (worth 20 and 25% each) that will be comprised of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. The tests will cover theoretical, conceptual and empirical material addressed in lectures, readings, videos and class exercises. You will be tested on materials contained in the textbook, any assigned readings, lectures and discussions, video and digital materials, and classroom work. Tests will require you to accurately recall facts as well as independently apply concepts.

Research Essay - 25%

The essay will be 10 pages on a topic of your choosing, directly related to the course material. You will need to engage with both the textbook and at least 4 scholarly sources to present an analysis of the issue. **Please use APA citation style, double spaced, 1 inch margins in Times New Roman, and with 12 point font.** Papers that are unreasonably over or under the page limit will be penalized. **The Title Page and Bibliography DO NOT COUNT toward the page limit.** This assignment will be discussed more fully in class.

Presentation – 20%

Each student will present his/her research essay to me and the rest of your classmates. The presentation should include a power-point presentation or prezi. Short video or audio clips may be included if required. Each presentation should be 10 minutes. Students will provide constructive feedback on each other's presentations.

Grade Management: Grades will be posted on the course's UM Learn website. Students must

consult the course website to learn their marks for tests, exercises, and course participation. Students should be aware that failing to complete an element of term work will result in a grade of zero for that element. Generally speaking, the following letter/percentage/GPA/descriptive scale will be used, however students should note that these are guidelines only and that different percentage cut-offs may be used in the course, depending on final grade distribution. Senate policy on multi-sectioned courses 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 such equity, and therefore your final grade may be changed.

| Letter | Grade Percentage | GPA | Description |
|---------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| A+ | 90 -100% | 4.5 | Exceptional |
| A | 80 -89% | 4.0 | Excellent |
| B+ | 75 -79% | 3.5 | Very Good |
| B | 70 - 74% | 3.0 | Good |
| C+ | 65 - 69% | 2.5 | Satisfactory |
| C | 60 - 64% | 2.0 | Adequate |
| D | 50 - 59% | 1.0 | Marginal |
| F | 49% or less | 0 | Failure |

Tests, Missed Tests, and Make-up Tests: You are expected to meet class requirements, which include class attendance at lectures, discussions and tests, unless you have acceptable reasons. To request accommodation for a missed tests, you need to submit a written request and provide appropriate documentation or justification. Students who have provided appropriate documentation for missing a test will be given an opportunity to write a make-up test. Please note that if you are granted a make-up test, you are responsible for making whatever adjustments are necessary to write at the scheduled date and time. The test format may vary from the original term test, and makeup tests may vary from student to student.

The University of Manitoba acknowledges the right of all students to observe recognized Holy days of their faith. Please send the instructor an email about your intended absence(s) at least one week in advance.

Late Assignment Penalty: Please take note of due dates for all assignments. All papers are due in person at the beginning of class. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. A late penalty of 5% will be assessed to every assignment grade for each partial day or day that your assignment is late. This means that your assignment will be graded and the penalty will be deducted from that initial grade. A student requiring (not simply desiring) an extension **MUST** discuss and have their request approved **PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE**¹.

Sitting in the Back: Simply put, try not to. Experience tells that students who are closer to the action are more engaged. Being more engaged not only helps you learn, but it helps instructors gauge your understanding.

¹ Prior to the due date means a minimum of 48 hours before the assignment is due; except in rare circumstances.

Laptop Use: Please use your laptops for note-taking purposes only. While you may be an excellent multi-tasker, other uses of your computer are distracting and disrespectful to those around you and to the instructor. Instant messaging, video watching and or online shopping are particularly distracting, and are strictly prohibited. Students caught using their laptops for this purpose may be removed from class.

Disruptions: Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. 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 at the beginning of class.

E-mails: Email should be composed in formal, professional language, and with attention to the propriety accorded to the position of the writer, and the addressee. I will not respond to emails that do not meet this standard. Before sending me an email about logistics or information related to the course, reread your syllabus and check emails you've received related to this course. I can guarantee you the answer is there 9 times out of 10. I will not respond to questions whose answers can be found in any of these places. If your question requires a lengthy and complicated response, I really prefer we talk in person. I can usually talk for a few minutes before or after lecture, but the best time would be during office hours or you can make an appointment to meet with me. A good rule of thumb: if your questions cannot be answered in two sentences or less, or if it is a question that you should solve on your own through the course of your reading, then it is not appropriate for email. Lastly, you can expect a 24 hour turn-around to your email. If more than 48 hours have passed since your email, please resend it.

Feedback: Please let me know how I can make our time together better. Really!

Academic dishonesty: 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://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html.

Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them.

I take violations of the rules of academic misconduct seriously and will pursue disciplinary sanctions. 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.

- The minimum penalty for plagiarism on a written assignment is F on the paper and may result in and F-DISC (discipline) in the course. This notation appears on the student's transcript. For repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of up to 1 year.

- The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty in a test or final examination is F for the test/examination and an F-DISC (discipline) in the course plus a suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of one year. The F grade and disciplinary notation appears on the student's transcript. For repeat violations, the penalty may include suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of up to 5 years

All tests are closed book. Students must remove and stow away everything from the desk, seat, floor, and area around them. Students must turn off and store cell phones and other electronic devices. If anyone sees papers, notes, readings (or any other materials), a cell phone, or any electronic/communicative device within a student's reach or area during the examination, then the instructor will assume *prima facie* that the student is cheating, and will engage the academic misconduct process.

Unclaimed term work disposal: 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.

Term Schedule: A schedule of topics, lectures, readings, videos, exercises and possible guest lectures will be handed out the first day of each term. The schedule is subject to change. Changes announced in class will take precedence over any previously-announced dates or deadlines.