

SOCI 2610 A02: Sociology of Criminal Justice & Corrections

The University of Manitoba • Department of Sociology

Fall 2014 (3 cr. hrs.)

Instructor: Jeremy Patzer	Telephone: 204-480-1039
Time: T/Th 1:00 – 2:15pm	Email: umpatze1@cc.umanitoba.ca
Location: 117 Drake Centre	Office: 309 Isbister
Final Exam: In-class test	Office Hours: By appointment

REQUIRED READING

- Griffiths, Curt T. *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer*, 4th edition. Toronto: Nelson.
- Additional readings and hand-outs will be posted on Desire2Learn and/or supplied in class throughout the course. Students are just as responsible for keeping up with this content, as it will also appear on the tests.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course introduces students to the Canadian criminal justice system from the initial contact with the offender through prosecution, disposition, incarceration, and release to the community. Emphasis is on the role of the police, prosecution, and corrections as well as their policies and practices relative to the offender. The course can be broadly divided into three components: police, courts and law, and corrections. Topics will be discussed using social scientific perspectives and, where appropriate, current events and historical cases will be utilized. Students are encouraged to keep abreast of current issues in criminal justice. While most material and examples will focus on the Canadian criminal justice system, we will also discuss international practices in criminal justice that may shed light on our own system and provide ideas for alternatives and reform.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

The primary method of instruction will be PowerPoint assisted lectures. The slides will provide an outline of important material, but it is in your best interest to do the readings thoroughly and augment the PowerPoint slides with your own notes. The textbook and lectures will be supplemented with guest speakers, videos, news stories, and student discussions. All material presented in class (including video, news stories, and guest speakers) and all required reading may be covered on tests and examinations. **While every attempt will be made to cover the assigned materials in class, some topics may not be discussed given time constraints. Students are nevertheless responsible for all *assigned readings* during the time periods covered.** Students are expected to have completed the pertinent readings prior to the lectures. This will allow you to incorporate the lecture material quickly, make connections to the readings and your prior knowledge, and engage actively in class discussions. Attendance and participation is critical for success in this course.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

*Reminder: supplemental readings and handouts will be posted on Desire2Learn and/or distributed in class.

Introduction

Overview of the Criminal Justice System (Griffiths, ch. 1, 2, & 3)

Part I: Police

Structure of Law Enforcement, Police Powers & Strategies (Griffiths, ch. 4, 5, 6)

Part II: Courts

Structure & Operation of Criminal Courts (Griffiths, ch. 7)

Prosecution & Sentencing (Griffiths, ch. 8, ch. 9)

Part III: Corrections

Alternatives to Confinement (Griffiths, ch. 10)

Correctional Institutions (Griffiths, ch. 11)

Release and Reentry (Griffiths, ch. 12)

Reconsidering Criminal Justice

Restorative Justice (Griffiths, ch. 13)

Criminal Justice Reform (Griffiths, ch. 14)

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

Test One	(25%)	Oct 9 th
Test Two	(25%)	Nov 6 th
Written Assignment	(20%)	Nov 20 th
Test Three	(20%)	Dec 2 nd
<u>Participation</u>	<u>(10%)</u>	<u>Throughout the course</u>

*The participation mark consists of such assessments as small in-class assignments, exit slips, and active engagement in class discussions. Regular attendance will also be taken.

All tests will be a combination of multiple choice and written answer questions. **All tests are non-cumulative.** A test can only be missed for a legitimate medical reason or family emergency. Students who cannot write a test for one of those reasons must inform the instructor prior to the test with appropriate documentation from a legitimate source. Students who miss a test must provide proper documentation to be considered for re-scheduling. Students who do not do so will be given a grade of zero. No equipment such as calculators and handheld devices will be required or permitted during the tests, although students whose first language is not English are welcome to use a dictionary.

Details on the written assignment will be given in class. **The written assignment must be typed.** Note the due dates are firm and if you miss a deadline, it must be accompanied by prior notice and legitimate documentation.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Sep 4 : Lectures begin	Dec 2: Last lecture
Nov 11 : Remembrance Day, no classes	Dec 3: Fall term ends
Nov 12: VW deadline, fall term classes	Dec 8-19: Final exam period

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://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.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Disruptions due to excessive talking, cell phone use—including texting—or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs 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 the class.

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.

SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS & ACCESSIBILITY

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.