

SOCI 2610 A02: Sociology of Criminal Justice & Corrections
The University of Manitoba • Department of Sociology
Winter 2016 (3 cr. hrs.)

Instructor: Jeremy Patzer **Telephone:** 204-480-1039
Time: M/W/F 12:30–1:20pm **Email:** jeremy.patzer@umanitoba.ca
Location: 215 Tier **Office:** 309 Isbister
Final Exam: In-class test **Office Hours:** By appointment

REQUIRED READING

- Griffiths, Curt T. *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer*, 5th edition. Toronto: Nelson.
- Additional readings and hand-outs that bring a greater sociological depth to the course content will be posted on UM Learn 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 provides an introduction to the structure and workings of the Canadian criminal justice system from the initial contact with the offender through prosecution, disposition, incarceration, and release to the community. It can be broadly divided into three components: police, courts and law, and corrections. We will also read and discuss a variety of theoretical perspectives and empirical investigations of issues related to criminal justice and corrections, utilizing legal, historical, criminological, sociological, and interdisciplinary perspectives. 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.

The readings and lectures will be supplemented with PowerPoint presentations, videos, news stories, student discussions, and participatory exercises. All material presented in class 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.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

Test One	(25%)	Feb 5 th
Test Two	(25%)	Mar 11 th
Written Assignment	(20%)	Mar 28 th
Test Three	(20%)	Apr 8 th
Participation	(10%)	Throughout the course

Evaluation and assessment continues on next page...

Participation: consists of such assessments as small in-class assignments, exit slips, active engagement in class discussions, and regular attendance.

Tests: will be a combination of multiple choice and written answer questions. **All tests are non-cumulative.** 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.

Written assignment: will consist of a six to eight page paper offering a critical analysis of media coverage of a significant event or controversy related to criminal justice (e.g. police use of force, militarization of policing, racial profiling, mega-event security, lawful access and privacy, mental health and crime, etc.). For the purposes of comparison and evaluation, course materials and academic sources must also be brought to bear on the topic. **The written assignment must be typed and formatted according to an established style guide of your choice** (ASA, APA, Chicago, etc.). Further details on the assignment will be shared in class.

In the days leading up to remittance of your paper, please conduct a scan of your task environment to ensure you have access to critical infrastructure, most notably a stapler properly furnished with staples. Use it. No bindings, covers, or folders please.

MISSING DEADLINES AND TESTS

Assignment deadlines and tests can only be missed for legitimate medical reasons or family emergencies. If you are in a situation where you are likely to miss a deadline or test for a compelling reason, **contact me beforehand** so that we can discuss it, and please work on securing 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.

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%

MULTI-SECTIONED COURSES AND FINAL GRADES REVIEW

In accordance with University and Faculty of Arts policies and the *University of Manitoba Senate Policy #1307*, departments 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 6 : Lectures begin	Mar 18: Last date for voluntary withdrawal
Jan 19 : Last day to withdraw for 100% refund	Mar 25: Good Friday, university closed
Feb 15-19: Mid-term break, no classes	Apr 8: Last day of classes

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

**Reminder: supplemental readings and handouts will be posted on UM Learn 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)

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 or contact Student Accessibility Services.