

COURSE TITLE	Criminal Justice and Corrections – SOC 2610 –A01 2 nd year Undergraduate, Winter 2013
DEPARTMENT	Sociology
INSTRUCTOR	Dr. Dale Spencer Email: Dale.Spencer@ad.umanitoba.ca
Course Type	Survey
Credit Hours	3.000
Class Location	312 TIER
Office Location and Phone Number	306 Isbister Building. (204) 480-1039
MEETING TIMES	Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30 – 10:20 am
Office Hours	By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

The sociological study of the criminal justice system, including the police, the courts, prisons and other correctional agencies.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

The role of the criminal justice system in Canadian society is ever expanding. This expansion is marked by a number of conflicting approaches to criminal justice. This course explores the manifold theoretical perspectives related to criminal justice and corrections. As a survey course, students will be offered an introduction to the sociological perspectives on the criminal justice system (police, courts, corrections, surveillance).

Course Objectives

1. To read and discuss a variety of theoretical perspectives and empirical investigations of issues related to criminal justice and corrections, utilizing legal, historical, criminological, sociological, philosophical and interdisciplinary perspectives.
2. To assist in the development of critical reading, writing, presentation, discussion, and analytical skills through class participation, small group presentations, and written assignments.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students do not have to buy a text for this course. All required materials are available through the University of Manitoba library online journal and catalogue system.

GRADES & SCORING

Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade	Due Date
Critical Commentaries	25%	Weekly
Attendance and Small Group Presentation	15%	See Sign Up Sheet
Newspaper Assignment	20%	April 1, 2013
Midterm Exam	20%	March 1, 2013
Take Home Final Exam	20%	April 8, 2013

Grades: Percentage, Letter Grade and Descriptive Scale GPA

93 to 100 = A+, Exceptional 4.5

85 to 92 = A, Excellent 4.0

80 to 84 = B+, Very Good 3.5

70 to 79 = B, Good 3.0

66 to 69 = C+, Satisfactory 2.5

60 to 65 = C, Adequate 2.0

50 to 59 = D, Marginal 1.0

0 to 49 = F, Failure 0.0

Note: Senate Policy #1307 requires “A post-examination review of final grades in multisectioned courses that will encourage 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.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

Critical Commentaries (25%) - from course readings

Students will be required to submit a *minimum of 5 critical commentaries* during the course of the semester. ***Students must submit the critical commentary on the week that the reading is assigned.***

Assignment Rationale:

- * Development of analytical and writing skills in preparation for the midterm and final take-home exams
- * Development of the knowledge base necessary to participate in class and maximize your potential in the course

University of Manitoba

Specifications and Grading (also see detailed grading rubric)

Formatting: **2** double-spaced page typed, 12 point Times New Roman Font, grammar, along with the inclusion of your name, reading addressed (listed in APA format), and date of submission in the top right corner of the assignment (1 mark)

Description of the content of the reading (2 marks)

Evaluation of reading (1 mark)

Linkage between reading contents and a contemporary event (1 mark)

Critical Commentaries must be submitted the week in which they are assigned.

Attendance and Small Group Presentation (15%) – See Sign Up Sheet

Class attendance is mandatory. The attendance and participation mark is based on formal attendance (an attendance sheet will be signed prior to the small group presentations) and in-group reading presentations, which is completed during each Thursday's class (the last 30 minutes). You will have to present one of the readings to your group and you will have to submit your presentation notes to me at the end of the class. 5% will be apportioned for weekly attendance and 10% for your in-class presentation.

You will be assigned to small groups on the second day of class (Wednesday, January 9, 2013). A sheet will be distributed and you will sign up to present on one of the readings between week 4 and week 13. If you do not sign up for a presentation, it is your responsibility to contact teaching assistant or me to sign up.

This class will feature lively discussion each week. The class rewards good attendance and class participation, which will work to the benefit of 90 per cent or more of you. One of my commitments to you is that you should find the class interesting to attend and should not want to miss it. On top of that, a pattern of missing class regularly will lower your final mark and, for some, will put you in danger of failing the course. You should not take the course if you are unable to attend regularly. If an issue comes up for you during the term that will mean you are unable to attend class for an extended period, as soon as possible you should talk to Dr. Spencer to clarify the situation and get any help he can offer.

'Law and Order' Newspaper article analysis assignment (20%) –

Locate a newspaper article on a criminal justice issue from one of the following sources only: the Globe and Mail, Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg Sun, or National Post. The article must not be older than one year from the due date. Make certain the article is about a criminal justice issue and not a summary of a criminal event. You may use the web sites of the aforementioned sources or hard copy and you must attach the article to your assignment. Write a **five** double-spaced page paper analyzing the criminal justice issue based on course readings and class lectures. Please include an additional title page. You will be evaluated on how effectively you relate the article to course readings.

Mid-term Exam (20%) Course Material Assessed (from readings and lectures) – March 1, 2013

Format: 40 Multiple Choice Questions

Take-home Final Exam (20%) Course Material Assessed (from **all** readings and lectures)

Format:

Essay question – Choice of 1 of 3 possible questions

Handout Date: April 1, 2013

Due date: April 8, 2013

ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS POLICY

Students will be expected to attend all course lectures and read all assigned readings. The topics covered during the lectures will not necessarily be covered in the course readings and vice versa.

If a student arrives after the lecture is starting, they will *not* be able to hand in their critical commentary. There will be **no exceptions to this rule.**

Late assignments will not be accepted. Students must submit a doctor's note in order hand in a paper after the due date.

Weekly Breakdown

Week 1: – Introductory Class

Week 2: – Modernity and Criminal Justice

Week 3: Principles of Justice, Philosophies of Law

Week 4: The Development of Modern Policing

Required Reading

Burbidge, Scott (2005) The Governance Deficit: Reflections on the Future of Public and Private Policing in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 47(1): 63-86.

Recommended:

Brogden, M. (2005). "Horses for courses" and "thin blue lines": community policing in transitional society. *Police Quarterly*, 8(1): 64-98.

Week 5: Issues in Policing

Required Reading

Comack, E. and E. Bowness. 2010. Dealing the Race Card: Public Discourse on the Policing of Winnipeg's Inner-city Communities. *Canadian Journal of Urban Research*, 19 (1):34-50.

Recommended:

Punch, M., 2003. Rotten Orchards: "Pestilence", Police Misconduct and System Failure. *Policing and Society: An International Journal of Research and Policy*, 13(2), 171-196.

Crowther, C. (2000). Thinking about the 'underclass': towards a political economy of policing. *Theoretical Criminology* 4(2): 149-167.

Week 6: Technology, Surveillance and Prevention

Required Reading

Walby, Kevin (2005) Open-Street Camera Surveillance and Governance in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* 47(4): 655-684.

Recommended:

Boyle, Phil, and Kevin D. Haggerty. (2009). Spectacular Security: Mega-Events and the Security Complex. *International Political Sociology* 3(2): 257-274.

Week 7: Midterm Break

Week 8: Social (In)justice and the Courts

Required Reading

Denov, M., and Campbell, K. (2005) Criminal Injustice: Understanding the Causes, Effects and Responses to Wrongful Conviction in Canada. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 21(3): 1-26.

Recommended:

Regehr, C., R. Alaggia, L. Lambert, and Saini, M., 2008. Victims of Sexual Violence in Canadian Criminal Courts. *Victims and Offenders*, 3, 99-113.

Midterm Exam – Friday, March 1, 2013

Week 9: Punishment, 'Corrections' and Risk

Required Reading

O'Malley, P, 'Risk, Power and Crime Prevention' (1992) 21 *Economy and Society* 252-275.

Recommended:

Kilty, Jennifer M. (2008) "Governance through Psychiatrization: Seroquel and the New Prison Order", *Radical Psychology*, 2(7): <http://www.radicalpsychology.org/vol9-1/kiltys.html>

Week 10: Experiences of Punishment

Required Reading

Wacquant, L. (2000) "The New 'Peculiar Institution': On the Prison as Surrogate Ghetto," *Theoretical Criminology*, 4(3): 377-389.

Recommended:

Collins, P. (2008) "The Continuing Horror Story of Spiegelgrund: Mental Health, Compassion, Awareness and Incarceration", *Journal of Prisoners on Prisons*, 17(2): 6-15.

Week 11: The Prison Industrial Complex/Youth and the Criminal Justice System

Required Reading

Hogeveen, Bryan (2005), 'Toward "Safer" and "Better" Communities?: Canada's Youth Criminal Justice Act, Aboriginal Youth and the Processes of Exclusion', *Critical Criminology: An International Journal*, 13(3): 287-305.

Recommended:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1998/12/the-prison-industrial-complex/304669/>

Week 12: Media Depictions of Criminal Justice

Required Reading

Cavender, Gray and Sarah, K. Deutsch (2007). CSI and Moral Authority: The Police and Science. *Crime, Media, Culture* 3(1): 67-81.

Recommended:

Michael S. Mopas (2007). Examining the 'CSI effect' through an ANT lens. *Crime, Media, Culture*, 3(1): 110-117.

Week 13: Victims and Restorative Justice

Required Reading

Woolford, Andrew and R.S Ratner. (2010). "Disrupting the Informal-Formal Justice Complex: On the Transformative Potential of Civil Mediation, Restorative Justice and Reparations Politics" *Contemporary Justice Review* 13(1): 27-40.

Recommended:

Maier, S.L., (2008). "I Have Heard Horrible Stories...": Rape Victim Advocates' Perceptions of the Revictimization of Rape Victims by the Police and Medical System. *Violence Against Women*, 14(7), 786-808.

Week 13: April 1, 2013 - Class Overview

– Submit Newspaper Assignment; Distribution of Final Take Home Exam

April 3 & April 5, 2013: No Class

Week 14: April 8, 2013: Hand in Take home final exams

Other matters

Your feedback about the course: If you have any suggestions about the course, they are encouraged at any time. I have incorporated a number of students' suggestions in the past.

All final grades in this course are subject to the approval of the Department head. Students must retain a clean hard copy of their assignments.

Voluntary Withdrawal: The final date for voluntary withdrawal from this course is March 20, 2013. There are no refunds on this date – see the Fall/Winter Calendar for details.

Academic Integrity: Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on 'Personations at Examinations' (section 5.2.9) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' (8.1) found online under UManitoba Catalogue 2012-2013 (General Academic Regulations, Section 8. Academic Integrity). 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.

Electronic Devices: Students are required to silence all electronic devices (cellular phones, Blackberries, I-phones, pagers, ipods, etc.) when in the classroom. If there is a reason that you require your device to remain on 'ring' mode (i.e., sick child at daycare), please inform me at the start of the class. Students are not permitted to send or receive text messages during class. A student found texting during class will be asked to leave. Students are welcome to bring laptop computers to class for notetaking purposes only. Students found using social networking sites or surfing the Internet during class will be asked to leave.

Classroom Disruptions: Students should recognize that excessive talking, late arrival, or early departures from the classroom are disrupting for both the instructor and classmates. Please be considerate of others in the class. Continual disruption by a student may result in disbarment from the course. Please notify the instructor at the onset of class if you need to leave early or if you have to come late to the next class.

Accommodations

Special Needs: 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.

Religious Holidays: The University recognizes the right of all students to observe recognized holidays of their faith, which fall within the academic year. With instructor discretion, necessary arrangements can be made to ensure studies are not jeopardized. The instructor should be notified of a student's intended absence in advance and at least three weeks notice of absence should normally be given where special arrangements are sought.

