

Sociology of Criminal Justice and Corrections

SOC 2610 A01

3 Credit Hours - Winter 2015 Term

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30 am to 9:45 am

Location: 308 Tier

Instructor: Emily Walker, B.A., J.D.

Office: 309 Isbister

Email: Emily.Walker@umanitoba.ca

Phone: 204-480-1039

Office Hours: By appointment

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Required Textbooks:

Griffiths, C. T. (2015). *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer* (5th ed.). Toronto: Nelson.

Roberts, J. V., & Grossman, M. G. (2012). *Criminal Justice in Canada: A Reader* (4th ed.). Toronto: Nelson.

- Note: While the assigned readings will be from the required textbooks, additional articles may be distributed through D2L, depending on how class discussions unfold.

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Course Objectives:

This course presents an introduction to the structure and workings of the Canadian criminal justice system from a sociological perspective. Emphasis will be placed on a critical analysis of the strengths and limitations of the current justice system, which will be divided into three main pillars of discussion: policing, courts and corrections.

Course Structure:

The primary method of instruction will be PowerPoint lectures and class discussion. Guest speakers who work within the justice system, and videos or other media may also be involved. Students are encouraged to be aware of current events and news media involving criminal justice in order to make relevant connections to course content, better participate in class discussions and prepare for assignments. Students are expected to attend all course lectures and read all assigned readings.

Class Conduct:

Disruptions due to excessive talking, late arrivals or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes and the instructor. 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 or arriving late should inform the instructor ahead of time. Students are required to silence all electronic devices during class time in order to limit disruption.

Evaluation:

Grades will be determined on the basis of 2 tests, a media assignment and a final paper:

Test 1	25%	Tuesday, February 3rd (in class).
Media assignment	20%	Due Thursday March 5th by the start of class.
Test 2	25%	Thursday, March 26th (in class).
Final paper	30%	Due Thursday April 9th by the start of class.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:					
A+	90 - 100%	(Exceptional)	C+	65 - 69%	(Satisfactory)
A	80 - 89%	(Excellent)	C	60 - 64%	(Adequate)
B+	75 - 79%	(Very Good)	D	50 - 59%	(Marginal)
B	70 - 74%	(Good)	F	0 - 49%	(Failure)

- Tests will not be based on cumulative material. Students will be responsible for both the lecture content and assigned readings. Each test will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.
- Missed tests without medical documentation will result in a grade of zero. Students are required to provide a medical note within one week if a test is missed and they require a make-up or a grade of zero will be awarded.
- The APA citation style must be used for written assignments. If you need help or have questions, please speak with the instructor. Written assignments must be typed and double spaced. Further information will be provided during the course.
- Late assignments or papers will be subject to a 10% per calendar day (including weekends and holidays) deduction from the grade.
- Failure to complete any portion of the required course work will result in a grade of zero for that portion.

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Final Grades:

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

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. 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.

Tentative Outline of Topics to be Covered: The subject schedule below is approximate and may be adjusted as the course progresses. Additional readings may be provided over D2L.

WEEK 1: January 6 & 8

- Introduction
 - *Overview of the Criminal Justice System
 - Griffiths, chapters 1 & 2

WEEK 2: January 13 & 15

- *Criminal Justice Trends
 - Roberts & Grossman, chapters 2 & 3
- *Crime, Victims and the Community
 - Griffiths, chapter 3

WEEK 3: January 20 & 22

- Part I: Policing
 - *Structure of Law Enforcement and Police Powers
 - Griffiths, chapters 4 & 5

WEEK 4: January 27 & 29

- *Community Policing
 - Griffiths, chapter 6; Roberts & Grossman, chapters 5 & 12

WEEK 5: February 3 & 5

In class test on February 3rd.

- Part II: Courts
 - *Structure & Operation of Criminal Courts
 - Griffiths, chapter 7

WEEK 6: February 10 & 12

- *Roles of Prosecution and Defence
 - *Griffiths, chapter 8; Roberts & Grossman, chapters 6 & 7

WEEK 7: Mid-Term break

No classes

WEEK 8: February 24 & 26

Guest speaker

- *Bail, Plea Bargaining and Sentencing
 - Roberts & Grossman, chapters 13 & 14; Griffiths, chapter 9

WEEK 9: March 3 & 5

- Part III: Corrections
 - *Alternatives to Confinement
 - Griffiths, chapter 10; Roberts & Grossman, chapter 15
- Media assignment due on or before March 5th at the start of class.*

WEEK 10: March 10 & 12

- *Correctional Institutions
 - Griffiths, chapter 11
- *Life in Prison
 - Roberts & Grossman, chapters 17 & 18

WEEK 11: March 17 & 19

- *Release and Reentry
 - Griffiths, chapter 12

WEEK 12: March 24 & 26

- Reconsidering Criminal Justice
 - *Restorative Justice
 - Griffiths, chapter 13; Roberts & Grossman, chapter 29
- In class test on March 26th.*

WEEK 13: March 31 & April 2

- *Criminal Justice Reform
 - Griffiths, chapter 14
- *Miscarriages of Justice
 - Roberts & Grossman, chapter 22

WEEK 14: April 7 & 9

- *Issues in Youth Justice
 - Roberts & Grossman, chapters 16, 25 & 26

Final paper due on or before April 9th at the start of class.

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Student Accessibility Services:

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.

Voluntary Withdrawal:

Students should be familiar with the rules and procedures for voluntary withdrawal. The final date for withdrawal without academic penalty is **March 19th, 2015**.

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.