

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Department of Sociology

Soc 2510 (A03): Criminology

Term 1, 2008 - 3 credit hours

Class Time: Wednesday, 7-10 PM
Room: 215 Tier
Instructor: Stefan Wolejszo
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Office Hours: Wednesday, 6-7 PM

Required Text

Linden, Rick. 2009. *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective (6th Ed)*. Toronto:
Nelson Education Ltd.

Other required readings will be on reserve at the Elizabeth Dafoe Library.

Course Objectives

This course provides an overview of the field of criminology and introduces students to the study of crime as a social phenomenon. The three key areas of study that constitute the structure of this course are: crime and Canadian society, theories of crime, and critical approaches to the study of crime.

Evaluation

Test #1	20%	October 8
Group Work #1	10%	October 22
Test #2	25%	November 5
Group Work #2	10%	November 19
Test #3	25%	December 3
Participation	10%	

Test will be written during scheduled class times, and are made up of questions that cover textbook readings, other assigned readings, lecture material, and in-class discussions. The structure of the tests includes multiple choice as well as long and short answer questions. It is my policy to let the students know the format of the test (i.e. the number of multiple choice, short and long answer questions, as well as their values) the class before a given test. Make-up tests will not be scheduled unless the student provides appropriate documentation (e.g. a doctor's note).

Group work discussion questions will be provided during the last hour of a given class. Students are responsible for individually submitting written summaries of the group discussion. The written summaries will be due at the beginning of the class following the group discussion, which means the October 8th group work is due on October 15th, and the November 19th group is due on November 26th. In the event that a student is absent on a due date electronic submissions will be allowed, but late papers will not be accepted.

Top marks for class participation will be awarded to students who are prepared in class (i.e. have done the required readings), contribute to class discussions, and take an active part in discussion groups. In order to earn participation marks students have to be physically present during class time, and for this reason students who miss classes are unlikely to achieve a high participation grade.

Grading Scheme

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90 – 100%	A+	70 – 74%	C+
85 – 89%	A	60 – 69%	C
80 – 84%	B+	50 – 59%	D
75 – 79%	B	49 and lower	F

n.b. Senate Policy #1307 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.” What this means is that your grade should be considered tentative until it is formally approved by senate.

n.b. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on 'Personation at Examinations'(Section 4.2.8) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' (Section 7.1) found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Course Outline

Part One: Crime in Canadian Society

This section examines the historical development of criminal law, and its application in the Canadian context. Specific attention will be paid to the problems with measuring the incidence of crime, and the patterns associated with conventional crime.

Section 1: Introduction

Readings: Linden, Chapter 1

Section 2: Criminal Law

Readings: Linden, Chapters 2 and 3

Section 3: Counting Crime

Readings: Linden, Chapter 4

Section 4: Correlates of Criminal Behavior

Readings: Linden, Chapter 5

Test # 1 October 8th (20%)

Part Two: Explaining Crime

This section critically engages the dominant theoretical paradigms used to explain crime. The main components and assumptions of each approach are outlined, along with important strengths and limitations. The key question posed to students is whether a universal explanation for crime is possible.

Section 5: Early Criminological Theories

Readings: Linden, Chapter 7

Section 6: Psychological Theories

Readings: Linden, Chapter 8

Group Work #1 October 22 (10%)

Section 7: Social Control Theories

Readings: Linden, Chapter 13

Section 8: Strain and Interactionist Theories

Readings: Linden, Chapters 9 and 12

Test #2 November 5th (25%)

*****n.b. November 12th is the last date for voluntary withdrawal from courses in the Fall Term of 2008.**

Part Three: Critical Approaches to the Study of Crime

Some theoretical paradigms argue that mainstream criminological research is greatly influenced by biases and pre-conceived stereotypes. This section provides an overview of select critical perspectives that challenge taken-for-granted assumptions regarding the nature (or categorization) of crime.

Section 9: Conflict Theories

Readings: Linden, Chapter 10

Section 10: Feminist Theories and Critical Criminology

Readings: Linden, Chapter 6 & Chapter 11

Group Work #2 November 19 (10%)

Section 11: Street and White Collar Crime

Readings: Linden, Chapters 14 and 16

Section 12: Genocide and State Crime

Readings:

Chinken, Christine. 2001. "Women's International Tribunal on Japanese Military Sexual Slavery." *American Journal of International Law* 95: 335-340.

Friedrichs, David O. 2000. "The Crime of the Century? The Case for the Holocaust." *Crime, Law and Social Change* 34: 21-41.

Rikhof, Joseph. 2004. "Canada and War Criminals: The Program, the Policy, and the Results." *International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law*. Last accessed 27 July 2008. <www.isrcl.org/Papers/2004/Rikhof.pdf>

Test #3 December 3rd (25%)

Good luck!