

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
Department of Sociology & Criminology
CRIMINOLOGY
Sociology 2510 (A03)
Term 1, 2019 - 3 credit hours
2:30-3:20 pm
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
Tier 308

Instructor: Andrew Woolford
Office: 327 Isbister Building
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail: Andrew.Woolford@umanitoba.ca
Phone: 204-474-6058

Course Objectives:

This course provides an overview of the field of criminology with emphasis on the impact crime has on communities, victims and offenders. Beginning with early theories of criminality, we will follow the path of criminological thought through to its present forms. Conceptual and theoretical insights from the criminological literature will be applied to phenomena such as prisons, the Canadian justice system, policing, surveillance, media representations of crime, drugs, street crime, corporate crime, women and crime, and genocide and war crimes. With respect to all of these topics, students will be asked not to take the existence of crime as a given, but instead to question the definition of crime and its application to various socially-derived, or 'criminalized', others.

Required Reading:

Criminology: A Canadian Perspective, Ninth Edition (2020). Edited by Rick Linden, Toronto: Thomson-Nelson.

Evaluation:

Participation	15%
In-Class Tests: (2 x 20%)	40%
Take-home 3 rd Exam	20%
Crime Media Assignment	25%

Participation (15%):

Class participation is a key component of the course. Students are expected to be present for each class, be prepared in terms of having read all assigned readings, participate in weekly discussion groups, and be a non-disruptive presence in the class (e.g., avoid conversations with neighbours, cell phone calls, and non-class-related internet use). Participation scores are based upon all of these factors, although an automatic 0% for participation will be assigned to students who regularly miss

class (i.e., more than 4 unexcused absences). Students should also be aware of the University's policy on unexcused absences from the University Calendar's General Academic Regulations:

1. Attendance at Class and Debarment

Regular attendance is expected of all students in all courses. An instructor may initiate procedures to debar a student from attending classes and from final examinations and/or from receiving credit where unexcused absences exceed those permitted by the faculty or school regulations.

A student may be debarred from class, laboratories, and examinations by action of the dean/director for persistent non-attendance, failure to produce assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor, and/or unsafe clinical practice or practicum. Students so debarred will have failed that course.

In-Class Tests (2 x 20% for 40% of final grade): In-class tests will be held on October 2, 2019 and November 1, 2019. Each test will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions. Tests are non-cumulative and will only examine material covered after the previous exam.

Crime Media Assignment (25%): Students are required to complete a 4-6 page, double-spaced critical examination of a crime movie, television show (3-4 episodes) or series of news articles/podcasts (approximately 3-4) about a specific criminal case. TV shows and movies may be fictional or reality based. If you opt to focus on news articles or podcasts, be sure to select something from a reputable source.

The primary objective of this assignment is to apply criminological concepts to the stories covered in your media sources

- Provide a very **brief** synopsis of the movie, TV show episodes, articles or podcast(s) (do not assume that your marker is knowledgeable about your source, but also do not over describe it).
- Draw on key concepts from the textbook to explain or examine aspects of the media portrayal. This may include:
 - How one might use such concepts to explain the behaviour of the perpetrator represented in the media.
 - How are the victim(s) and perpetrator(s) represented? Are any stereotypes relied upon in communicating their guilt or innocence?
 - What broader messages about crime and its commission are being communicated by the movie/show/broadcast?

Your paper is to be written in essay format (introduction, body and conclusion). The writing is to be crisp and concise (marks will be deducted for poor grammar and spelling). The tone of the paper is to be formal and academic -- avoid colloquial language and journalistic sensationalism.

Essays are to be handed in no later than November 20, 2019. Late papers will lose 3% per day (weekends count as two days). A more detailed outline describing the assignment will be distributed in the first two weeks of class.

Graded exams and assignments that are submitted on time will be returned within two weeks of the due date/exam date.

Take Home Exam 2 (20%)

On December 6th, 2019 a take-home exam of 4 questions will be distributed in class. Students are required to write short essays on 2 of the 4 questions. Take home exams must be submitted electronically using the UM Learn system by no later than midnight on December 12th, 2019. Late exams will not be accepted. Graded exams will be returned by no later than December 19, 2019.

Note: If you have a valid medical or bereavement related reason for missing an assignment, you must contact the professor prior to the deadline/group discussion date in order to receive an extension or make-up assignment. You will also be required to present the professor a note from a recognized professional to verify the reason for your absence.

Academic Integrity

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://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html.

Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them.

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in this course and the penalties for such activities are severe.

The minimum penalty for plagiarism on a written assignment is F on the paper and may result in and F-DISC (discipline) in the course. This notation appears on the student’s transcript. For repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of up to 1 year.

The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty in a test or final examination is F for the test/examination and an F-DISC (discipline) in the course plus a suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of one year. The F grade and disciplinary notation appears on the student’s transcript. For repeat violations, the penalty may include suspension from the Faculty of Arts for a period of up to 5 years

Grading:

Cut-off points for converting percentage grades into letter grades:

A+: 100- 90% (Exceptional)	A: 89-80% (Excellent)	B+: 79-75% (Very Good)	B: 74-70% (Good)
C+: 69-65% (Satisfactory)	C: 64-60% (Adequate)	D: 59 - 50% (Marginal)	F: below 50% (Failure)

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.

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.

Faith-Based 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.

Special Learning 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 or contact Student Accessibility Services.

Disruptions

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. 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 should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

Students should also be aware that use of **electronic devices** for purposes other than taking notes and searching information/images related to the lecture is a distraction both to them, the students around them, and potentially the professor. Disruptive use of electronic devices may result in a ban against their use or, in extreme cases, disbarment from the course.

Course Outline:

(Note: This is a tentative outline and may be subject to change)

PART ONE: CRIME IN CANADA: CANADIAN CRIMINAL LAW AND THE 'COUNTING' OF CRIME

In this section we will examine the historical development of the criminal law, and its specific application in the Canadian context. We will also analyse the measurement of crime with a critical focus on how certain actions come to be defined as ‘criminal’ and on the methods used to calculate crime rates.

Section 1: Introduction (Sept 4)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 1.

Section 2: *Crime: Origins* (Sept 6 to 13)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 2

Section 3: *Counting Crime and “Making Crime Count”* (Sept 16 to 20)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 4

PART TWO: EXPLAINING CRIME: SOCIAL, BIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS

The purpose of this section is to critically engage the dominant theoretical paradigms for explaining crime. We will ask of the various approaches: What are the advantages and limits of each approach? Is a universal explanation of criminal behaviour possible? And, what are the ethical and sociological implications of each theoretical framework?

Section 4: *Early Criminological Theories* (Sept 23 to 27)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 8

OCTOBER 2: EXAM 1

Section 5: *Psychological Theories* (Oct 4)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 9

Section 6: *Social Control Theory* (Oct 7 to Oct 11)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 14

Section 7: *Strain Theories* (Oct 16 and 18)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 10

Section 8: *Interactionist Theories* (Oct 21 to Oct 25)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 13

Section 9: *Feminist Criminology* (Oct 28 and Oct 30)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 6

NOVEMBER 1: EXAM 2

Section 10: *Conflict and Critical Criminology* (Nov 4 to Nov 8)

Readings: Linden, Chapters 11 and 12

NOVEMBER 12-15: FALL TERM BREAK
PART THREE: CRITICAL ISSUES IN CRIMINOLOGY

In this section we will look at three critical issues in the field of criminology. These examples will be used to illustrate the ‘human consequences’ of crime; that is, the everyday repercussions crime has for groups and individuals. We will also examine the ‘crimes of the powerful’ in order to demonstrate that crime is committed by individuals from all sections of the socio-economic spectrum.

Section 11: *Street Crime* (Nov 18 to 22)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 15

Section 12: *Victimology and Indian Residential Schools in Canada* (Nov 25 to 29)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 7

Section 13: *Corporate and White Collar Crime* (Dec 2 and Dec 4)

Readings: Linden, Chapter 17

DECEMBER 6: EXAM 3 REVIEW CLASS

Voluntary withdrawal deadline is Thursday, November 18, 2019.