

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
Department of Sociology
THEORIZING CRIME, LAW, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Sociology 3310 A01, CRN: 53113
(Winter 2018, 3 Credit Hours)
2:30 to 3:45pm, Tuesday/Thursday
Room 308 Tier

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Course Objectives

This course explores the importance of theorization for addressing contemporary issues related to crime, law, and social justice. Through discussion of prominent theorists and theoretical trends within the fields of criminology, socio-legal studies, and sociology, it seeks to emphasize the value of theory as a means for increasing understanding, expanding problem-solving horizons, and advancing social justice. Our focus will be on theoretical approaches drawn from the work of critical scholars who have adapted and developed contemporary social theories for addressing questions of crime, law and social justice.

Required Readings

Readings available on UM Learn.

Assignments and Grades

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Participation | 10% |
| In-class Essay Exam | 25% |
| Research Essay Outline | 10% |
| Research Essay | 30% |
| Take-Home Exam | 25% |

Participation (10%)

Class participation is a key component of the course. Students are expected to be present for each class and prepared in terms of having read all assigned readings. Moreover, they are expected to participate in weekly discussion groups and be a non-disruptive member of the class (e.g., avoid conversations with neighbours, wireless phone calls, and non-class-related internet use). Participation scores are based upon all of these factors, though 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, which will be enforced in extreme cases:

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 Essay Exam (25%)

On February 13, 2018 an in-class essay exam will take place. Students are required to write a short, critical and argumentative essay on 1 of the 2 questions on the exam sheet. Graded essays will be returned within 2 weeks of the exam.

Essay Outline (10%)

A one to two page, single-spaced essay outline must be submitted electronically using the UM Learn system by no later than midnight on March 1, 2018. In addition, you must submit three annotations of scholarly articles (i.e., articles from scholarly journals or book chapters – descriptive news stories and opinion pieces will not be accepted). Articles must be summarized in your own words. Any cutting or pasting from article abstracts or sections of the article will be considered plagiarism and treated as such. Late essay outlines will be penalized 10% per day with weekends counting as 2 days. Graded outlines will be returned by no later than March 15, 2018.

Research Essay (30%)

Students will prepare an 8-page, double-spaced, argumentative research essay that deals with a topic related to criminological, socio-legal, or social justice theory. Essays should reference at minimum two of the assigned readings, as well as no fewer than 5 outside sources (i.e., journal articles or book chapters that were not assigned for this course). **You must write on the topic presented in your essay outline and use the articles annotated therein.** A recognized referencing style, preferably ASA, APA, or Chicago, must be used. **Essays** are to be submitted electronically using the UM LEARN system by no later than midnight on April 3, 2018. Late essays will be penalized 10% per day with weekends counting as 2 days. A more detailed essay outline/essay handout will be distributed within the first 2 weeks of class. Graded essays will be returned by no later than April 20, 2018.

Take Home Exam (25%)

On April 5th, 2018 a take-home exam of 4 questions will be distributed in class. Students are required to write short, critical and argumentative 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 April 13th, 2018. Late exams will be penalized 10% per day with weekends counting as 2 days. Graded exams will be returned by no later than April 27, 2018.

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 doctor's note 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% | A: 89-80% | B+: 79-75% | B: 74-70% |
| C+: 69-65% | C: 64-60% | D: 59 - 50% | F: below 50% |

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 Schedule

Section 1 (Jan 4): Introduction to Crime, Law and Social Justice

Readings:

No Reading Assigned

Section 2 (Jan 9 to Jan 11): Early Critical Approaches to Theorizing Crime, Law and Social Justice

Readings:

Selection from: Taylor, I., Walton, P., & Young, J. (1973). *The New Criminology*. London, UK: Routledge.

Ratner, R.S. (2006). "Pioneering Critical Criminology in Canada." *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* September: 647-662.

Section 3 (Jan 16 to Jan 23): Foucault, Discipline, Governmentality and Risk

Readings:

Foucault, M. (1978). "The Body of the Condemned." In *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage.

Garland, D. (1997). "'Governmentality' and the Problem of Crime: Foucault, Criminology, Sociology." *Theoretical Criminology* 1(2), 173-214

Section 4 (Jan 25 to Feb 1): Deconstructing Crime, Law and Social Justice

Readings:

Derrida, J. (1990). "The Force of Law: The 'Mystical Foundation of Authority.'" *Cardozo Law Review* 11(5-6): 920-1045 (Read pp. 920-973, English pages only).

Section 5 (Feb 6 to Feb 8): The Juridical and Bureaucratic Fields

Readings:

Bourdieu, P. (1986-1987). "The Force of Law: Toward a Sociology of the Juridical Field." *Hastings Law Journal* 38: 805

Wacquant, L. (2010). "Crafting the Neoliberal State: Workfare, Prisonfare, and Social Insecurity." *Sociological Forum* 25(2): 197-220.

Section 6 (Feb 15 to Feb 27): Existentialism, Crime, Law and Social Justice

Readings:

Selection from: Katz, J. (1988). *Seductions of Crime: Moral and Sensual Attractions in doing evil*. New York, NY: Basic Books.

Arrigo, B. (2001) "Critical Criminology, Existential Humanism, and Social Justice: Exploring the Contours of Conceptual Integration." *Critical Criminology* 10 (2): 83-95.

Section 7 (March 1 to March 6): Cultural Approaches to Crime Law and Social Justice

Readings:

Hayward, K. and Young, J. (2004). "Cultural Criminology: Some Notes on the Script." *Theoretical Criminology* 8 (3): 259-273

Ferrell, J. (2004). "Boredom, Crime and Criminology." *Theoretical Criminology* 8(3): 287-302.

Section 8 (March 8 to March 13): Feminism, Crime, Law and Social Justice

Readings:

Balfour, G. (2006). Re-imagining a Feminist Criminology. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* 48 (5): 735-752.

Burgess-Proctor, A. (2006) "Intersections of Race, Class, Gender, and Crime: Future Directions for Feminist Criminology." *Feminist Criminology* 1(1): 27-47.

Section 9 (March 15 to March 20): Post-Colonialism and Indigenous Approaches

Readings:

Tauri, J. (2014). "Criminal Justice as a Colonial Project in Contemporary Settler Colonialism." *African Journal of Criminology and Justice Studies* 8 (1): 20-37.

Agozino, B. (2004). "Imperialism, Crime and Criminology: Towards the Decolonization of Criminology." *Crime, Law & Social Change* 41: 343–358.

Section 10 (March 22 to March 27): Critical Race Theory

Readings:

Selection from Aylward, C. A. (1999) *Canadian Critical Race Theory: Racism and the Law*. Halifax: Fernwood.

Section 11 (March 29 to April 3): Critical Approaches to Restorative Justice and Genocide

Readings:

Woolford, A. (2009). *The Politics of Restorative Justice*. Chapter 1. Halifax: Fernwood.

Woolford, A. (2006). "Making Genocide Unthinkable: Toward a Critical Criminology of Genocide." *Critical Criminology* 14:87-106.

April 5: Take-Home exam distributed and review.

Voluntary withdrawal deadline is: March 16, 2018