

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

CRIMINOLOGY SOC 2510 A02

Term 1 - 2009 - 3 credit hours

Room 301 Tier - Slot 2 (M/W/F- 9:30 a.m.- 10:20 a.m.)

Instructor: Rick Linden
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Fall 2009

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Office Hours: By appointment.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Rick Linden, Criminology: A Canadian Perspective. 6th edition. Toronto: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Additional reserve readings are assigned. These are listed in the outline below.

EVALUATION

Your course grade will be determined by the following:

Term Test 1	33 1/3%	October 14
Term Test 2	33 1/3%	November 16
Final Examination:	33 1/3%	

Note that the final examination will be held **during the scheduled examination period BUT Will BE ADMINISTERED IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM.**

Grades are assigned as follows:

A+ 90-100%	B+ 80-84%	C+70-74%	D 50-59%
A 85-89%	B 75-79%	C 60-69%	F 49% and less

The tests and final examinations will cover material from the required readings, lectures and class discussions. The tests and the final examination will consist of multiple choice and essay questions.

Students who miss a mid-term will be required to have a valid excuse such as a medical certificate before writing a make-up examination. Final examination regulations are

found on in Section 4.2.2 of the 2009-2010 Undergraduate Calendar. Failure to write one of the term tests or the final examinations will result in a mark of zero for that part of the grade.

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.” 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.

Discussion Group Assignments

In the second week of the course, the class will be divided into groups of six. The group to which you are assigned will remain the same for the remainder of the course. Approximately every two weeks, you will be given a question or series of questions which your group will discuss and provide a written answer. The material to assist you in developing your answers will come from the required reading and the lectures. One person in the group will record the answer and submit it to the instructor at the end of class. The person responsible for recording the group’s answer will rotate every week. It will be the responsibility of the recording person to mark down which individuals are present for that week’s assignment.

For each assignment all students in the group will be given the same mark. Your total mark for this component of the course is worth 20% of your final mark and will be based on your best 4 marks out of the 5 assignments. If you miss a week, you will be given a zero for that week’s assignment. There will be no make-ups for group writing assignments. All members of the group are expected to participate in the development of the best answer for the assignment.

The dates of the discussion groups will be: Sep. 25, Oct. 9, Nov.2, Nov.20, Dec. 7

Peer Evaluation:

In the last week of class you will be asked to assess the performance of the other members of your group. This assessment will be used in determining the each individual student’s contribution to the group writing assignments. This peer assessment will be worth 5% of the Final Grade.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should be familiar with the University’s policy on ‘Examinations: Personations

in Section 4.2.8 and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' in Section 7.1 found in the 2009-2010 Undergraduate Calendar. 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.

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL

The last date for voluntary withdrawal for this course is 18 November 2009.

PART 1 CRIME AND CRIMINOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

This section has two parts which provide you with some of the background to the field of criminology. The first part looks at the criminal law which defines many of the behaviours which criminologists study. After looking at the history of the development of the criminal law, you will study the elements of a crime and the defenses to criminal charges. The second part of the section looks at the origins of criminal law and asks why we have the kinds of laws we do.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this section you will familiarize yourself with scope of the field of Criminology. You will be able to answer questions that require knowledge of:

- a. the history of the criminal law;
- b. the elements of the definition of a criminal offense including acts and omissions, intent, and defenses and justifications;
- c. the application of defenses, including age, insanity, intoxication, consent, mistake of fact, necessity, duress, self-defence, and provocation;
- d. theories of the origins of law, including conflict and consensus theories, and
- e. the philosophical debate about the limits of the law.

1. INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

READINGS: Linden, Chapter 1

2. ELEMENTS OF THE CRIMINAL LAW

READINGS: Linden, Chapter 3

RESERVE READINGS

Silverman and Kennedy “Battered Wife Defence”

Verdun-Jones “Introduction to Canadian Criminal Law”

Verdun-Jones “Intoxication”

3. ORIGINS OF CRIMINAL LAW

READINGS: Linden, Chapter 2

RESERVE READINGS

Chambliss "Law of Vagrancy"
Lowman "Notions of Formal Equality"

PART 2 EXPLAINING CRIME

INTRODUCTION

This is the longest of the three sections and is the most important part of the course. The section has three parts which introduce you to the explanation of criminal behaviour. The first part looks at how we measure crime and at the difficulties inherent in a process where we try to measure something that many people would like to keep secret. The second part deals with correlates of crime. The term "correlates" refers to factors associated with criminality and includes such things as age, race, and sex. Any theory which tries to explain the causes of criminality must explain the way in which these variables are related to the incidence of criminal behaviour. The third part of the section sets out a number of different theoretical perspectives which have been used by those attempting to explain criminality.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this section you will familiarize yourself with ways of collecting crime statistics and with correlates of crime. You will understand the different types of theories which have been developed to explain criminal behaviour. You will be able to answer questions that require knowledge of:

- a. the way in which we obtain information about the nature and extent of criminal behaviour in our society and with the limitations of crime statistics.
- b. correlates of crime including race, sex, age, and social class.
- c. the relative merits of different explanations of criminal behaviour including:
 - i. early theories
 - ii. biological explanations
 - iii. psychological explanations
 - iv. sociological explanations

1. CRIME STATISTICS

READINGS: Linden, Chapter 4

RESERVED READINGS

Baron "Serious Offenders"

2. CORRELATES OF CRIME

READINGS: Linden, Chapters 5, 6

RESERVED READINGS

Gordon and Nelson " Crime, Ethnicity, and Immigration"

TEST 1 HERE (October 14)

3. EXPLAINING CRIME

READINGS: Linden, Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,13.

RESERVED READINGS

Hagan " A New Sociology of Crime and Disrepute"

TEST 2 HERE (November 16)

PART THREE PATTERNS OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this section you will familiarize yourself with patterns of criminal behaviour. You will be able to answer questions that require knowledge of:

- a. factors involved in street crimes, including its incidence and the types of offenders and victims most commonly involved in these offences;
- b. the types of goods and services provided by organized crime in Canada and the way in which criminal organizations operate;
- c. the factors contributing to the occurrence of white collar and corporate crime.

You will be responsible for the integration of material in this section with earlier course material, particularly with that dealing with causal theories.

READINGS: Linden, Chapters 14, 15, 16.

RESERVED READINGS

Hersh " The Wild East"

Beare " Characteristics of Organized Crime in Canada"
Leyton " Preface to the Canadian Edition"