



School of Liberal Arts
CRIM 213
Fall 2019
Credit Course

WOMEN, CRIME AND JUSTICE

INSTRUCTOR: Leah White BA, BSW, MSW

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

OFFICE:

CLASSROOM: A2101

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TIME: 6:00pm - 8:55pm

CLASSES: Mondays

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An historical and analytical overview of women's involvement in the criminal justice system, taking into account the role of gender and Aboriginal women's experiences in criminality, victimization, and social responses to crime.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

With conscientious application in this course will develop knowledge and understanding of:

- the feminist and sociological perspectives employed in understanding female criminality;
- the role of gender in differential treatment of female victims and offenders;
- the systems and nature of the social control of women;
- the direction of criminal justice reform and social change; and
- the nature of women's experiences as offenders and criminal justice professionals. - In addition, students will develop and strengthen their academic skills, including reading, writing, analyzing, theorizing, critiquing, researching, presenting, and debating.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Admission to the School of Liberal Arts. Criminology 103 and Criminology 104 are recommended.

COURSE FORMAT

Course will be a total of 45 class hours plus a final exam. Course content is canvassed through a lecture/seminar format. The course may include guest speakers, audio-visual presentations, and field observations.

ASSESSMENTS

Attendance and Active Participation

Attendance is not mandatory. However, students must be aware that failure to attend classes often results in poor grades as the examination questions are derived from classroom lectures and class discussion.

Students will be expected to have read and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each class. Students are also expected to participate fully in any group exercises that may be assigned during class time. Mere presence in the classroom is not sufficient. Students will be assessed for active listening skills, demonstrated knowledge of the required readings, and proven understanding of the issues. Students are encouraged to express their own views, to criticize the instructors' analysis, and to raise questions from current events that relate to course content. Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the assigned readings and to be prepared for each class.

Term Paper

Each student is required to write a term paper. Topics will be discussed second day of classes. The term paper should be approximately 4000-5000 words in length (15-20 typed pages). Each student is required to submit a one-page term paper outline for instructor review at the beginning of class in week eight. The term paper is due at the beginning of class in week eleven. All assignments must follow APA format.

Term Paper presentation/outline

As part of the term paper, each student is required to lead the class in a 2 15-minute discussions of their paper prior to completion of the paper. The student must also prepare and submit a **1-2 page (maximum)** outline of their paper. This will assist the student in leading the class discussion on their topic. The outline should be word-processed and can be point form in nature. The goal is to identify and summarize the key concepts of the paper. Note that all students are encouraged to participate in the class discussion. **NOTE: The focus on this exercise is a discussion of your final paper not an in-depth review of the completed paper.**

Written Assignment Requirements

Written assignments for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for FORMAL ACADEMIC PAPERS as outlined in the "Structural Requirements for an Academic Paper" handout. You also should note that LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE

PENALIZED by one mark per day unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments submitted late without instructor approval will not be marked. Assignments will be accepted after 7 days.

Plagiarism

It should be noted that plagiarism (academic dishonesty) is a serious academic offence and will result in your receiving a mark of zero on the assignment or the course. In certain cases, it can also result in dismissal from the College.

Plagiarism involves representing the words of someone else as your own, without citing the source from which the material is taken. If the words of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be cited according to standard procedures. The resubmission of a paper for which you have previously received credit and the submission of the same paper for two courses also constitutes plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest and can have serious consequences.

Review the SFU web-link for term paper style requirements at:

<http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/tools/handouts-tips/writing>

Students should also read APA referencing guidelines at:

http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/library/pages/cite_your_sources

http://www.lib.sfu.ca/sites/default/files/10166/apa_1.pdf

Legal Citations

<http://library.queensu.ca/law/lederman/legalcitation>

Class Presentation

Each student is required to complete a class presentation. The focus of the presentation will be on the area of women, crime and justice. The student is required to submit a one-page summary of the topic and relevance to the course material. Selection must be discussed with, and approved by the course instructor.

Writing Centre:

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in the College Library, the Writing Centre offers writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writing-centre

At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of

assignment completion. The number of sessions required per assignment will be specified on the assignment sheet, and the Writing Centre will issue written confirmation of attendance, which should be attached to the written work being submitted for evaluation.

Examinations

There is one examination for this course - a final examination. The final exam is scheduled during final examination week. The examination is based on the materials presented in-class and the required/assigned readings.

Scheduled Examination Dates

Students should be aware that the completion date for this course includes the two week examination period that follows the termination of regularly scheduled classes in December.

Evaluation

Marks are distributed as follows:

Attendance and Participation	10
Class Presentation (last class)	20
Term Paper Outline (Week five)	nil
Term Paper (Week ten)	30
Final Exam	40
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Total	100%

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

ALL EVALUATIVE REQUIREMENTS written or otherwise, are MANDATORY and must be complete and submitted to the instructor prior to the final examination for the course. Unless discussed and given permission by the instructor, a failure to complete any of the evaluative requirements for will automatically result in a grade assessment of "FAIL" for the course.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Baker, Jane and Tavcer, D. Scharie. (2018). Women and the Criminal Justice Perspective - A Canadian Perspective 2nd ed. Toronto, Canada: Emond Montgomery Publications.

The required text will be supplemented with additional readings.

STUDENTS with DISABILITIES or CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully

participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

PART I: OVERVIEW AND EXPLANATIONS OF FEMALE CRIMINALITY

WEEK 1 Sept 9: ***Introduction to the Course /An Overview of Female Crime/Offending/Victimology***

LECTURE OUTLINE: Overview of course content, objectives, rationale, evaluation, and materials. Discussion of student and instructor expectations. Discussion around 'class presentation'. Review of relevant library resources. Discussion of trends and statistics in female criminality and offending. Historical look at women and the roles they have played in the criminal justice system.

REQUIRED READING :

Part 1 - CPT 1 &2
Readings on Moodle

WEEK 2 Sept 16: ***Theoretical Perspectives***

LECTURE OUTLINE: Discussion of early biological and psychological perspectives of female criminality, feminist critiques, contemporary explanations and feminist criminology. Look at present day theories around female criminal behavior and women as victims. What roles does sexual identity and gender play in the criminal justice system.

***Topic for papers chosen**

REQUIRED READING :

Part 1 - CPT 1 &2
Readings on Moodle

WEEK 3 Sept 23: ***The Gendered Nature of Law***

LECTURE OUTLINE: Discussion of the role of gender in differential treatment of female victims and offenders. Analyzing law as the codification of patriarchal social relations and questioning the neutrality and sexist nature of law. Consideration of the impact of race, class and sexual orientation on women in the criminal justice system. Consideration of the role of the media in perpetuating gender 'roles' and stereotypes in society. Indigenous perspective on the impact colonization/integrational trauma has had on indigenous women in the criminal justice system - as victims and as perpetrators

REQUIRED READING :

Part 1 - CPT 1 &2
Readings on Moodle

PART II: WOMEN AS VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Female victimization: Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

WEEK 4 Sept 30

LECTURE OUTLINE:

Examination of the extent and patterns of female victimization and underreporting in official statistics. Review of legal definitions and the evolution of Canadian sexual assault legislation. Examination of mandatory charging policies, battered woman syndrome and sexual violence against women in Northern and Aboriginal communities. Discussion of feminist analysis and responses to sexual violence and the role of inequality in violence against women.

REQUIRED READING :

Part 111

Readings on Moodle

PART III: THE SOCIAL CONTROL OF WOMEN

WEEK 5 Oct 7:

LECTURE OUTLINE:

Reacting to Female Criminal Behavior and Victimization

Critical examination of the relationship between the informal and formal mechanisms of social control. Discussion of the symbolic and physical strategies of female social control, differential treatment, the medicalization of female criminality (pre-menstrual syndrome and the battered woman syndrome) and sex based disparities in the sentencing process. Analysis of the discourses which structure and legitimate specific responses to women's deviance.

REQUIRED READING :

Part 111

Readings on Moodle

***Presentation of term paper outlines**

WEEK 6 Oct 14

Thanksgiving

WEEK 7 October 21:

LECTURE OUTLINE:

Intersection of Victimization and Offending

Critical examination of the experience of incarcerated women in Canadian federal, provincial and territorial institutions. Discussion of the androcentric nature of Canadian corrections and the implications for women under judicial sentence. Review of historical and contemporary penal reform movements. Critical examination of the Federally Sentenced Women Initiative as an alternative and/or reformulation of the dominant discourse of female imprisonment. Discussion of mothers and Aboriginal women in prison. Look at sex trade workers - where do they fall

REQUIRED READING :

Part 111 - CPT 7
Readings on Moodle

PART IV: WOMEN AS OFFENDERS

WEEK 8 October 28:

LECTURE OUTLINE:

Criminalization of Women

Critical examination of the historical context of women as criminals:

Examination of prostitution and the development of Canada's prostitution laws. Discussion of feminist and critical perspectives on prostitution, the role of the state in controlling women's sexuality, dominant ideologies of the sex trade constructed in the media and justice system, the contemporary context and consideration of the impact of criminalization on prostitution.

REQUIRED READING :

Readings on Moodle

WEEK 8 November 4:
LECTURE OUTLINE:

Criminalization of Women Part II

Critical examination of women who perpetrate violent acts, against partners and children Critical examination of the involvement of young women in the criminal justice system, patterns and theories of criminal activity and violent behavior. Discussion of sexism within the juvenile justice system and the gendered response of the state to young women in conflict with the law. Review of the young offender and child protection legislation. Critical examination of types of crimes women are becoming involved with - discussion around profiles, who they are, what has brought them here, psychological profiles

REQUIRED READING :
Readings on Moodle

PART V: WOMEN AS CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS

WEEK 9 Nov 11

Remembrance Day

WEEK 10 November 18:

Women Police Officers and Correctional Officers/ Women Lawyers and Judges

LECTURE OUTLINE:

Examination of the emergence of women as police and correctional officers and issues and obstacles in the recruitment and socialization of women in non-traditional front-line work. Discussion of employment equity and affirmative action and sexual harassment in the workplace. Critical examination of the role of women as lawyers and judges and the increasing participation of women in a male dominated system

***Term papers due**

PART VI: CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM AND SOCIAL CHANGE

WEEK 11 November 25: *Prison Reform Criminal Justice and Legal Reforms (Working from Within)*

LECTURE OUTLINE: Overview of the history of penal reform by and for women, Critical examination of the issues, problems and benefits of the Federally Sentenced Women Initiative (FSWI) and its potential reformulation of the androcentric nature of Canadian corrections and implications for women under federal sentence. Critical examination of structured resistance of system and legal reforms including the impact of the battered women's movement on the state and the impact of mandatory charging policies on victims and the system.

REQUIRED READING :
Readings on Moodle

WEEK 12 December 2: *Criminal Justice and Legal Reforms (Responses from Outside)*

LECTURE OUTLINE: Discussion of the coercive nature of state control mechanisms and the ability to affect change from outside the justice system. Examination of external reform agencies such as COYOTE, CORP, ASP, E-FRYE, and other individual and collective lobbies and legal reforms including the impact of the battered women's movement on the state and the impact of mandatory charging policies on victims and the system.

REQUIRED READING :
Readings on Moodle

Review for exam

*** Presentations due**