

**APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
School of Liberal Arts
Winter Semester, 2015**



COURSE OUTLINE

CRIM 104

SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE

**45 HOURS
3 CREDITS**

PREPARED BY: _____ DATE: _____
Charles Stuart, Instructor

APPROVED BY: ALRU DATE: _____
Dr. Andrew Richardson, Dean

YUKON COLLEGE

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Course Outline prepared by Charles Stuart November 8, 2014

Yukon College
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APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
Sociological Explanations of Crime &
Deviance
3 Credit Course
Winter Semester, 2015

SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE

INSTRUCTOR: Charles Stuart

OFFICE LOCATION: A2911B

E-MAIL: cstuart@yukoncollege.yk.ca

TELEPHONE: (867) 668-8863

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 2:30 -
3:30 pm or by appointment

CLASSROOM: A2601

TIME: 4:00 - 5:30 pm

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course examines and provides a critical evaluation of the major sociological explanations of crime and deviance.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The theoretical explanations considered include the demonic, classical, pathological, social disorganization, functionalist, anomie, learning, social control, societal reaction, radical Marxist and feminist perspectives. These sociological perspectives are applied to explain specific forms of criminal and deviant behaviour such as prostitution, pornography, homosexuality, drug use, mental illness, youth deviance, street crime, spousal assault, commercial crime, and political deviance.

PREREQUISITES

SOCI 100 and CRIM 101 recommended.

TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO CRIM 100 lev (3)
TRU SOCI 2500 (3)
UBC SOCI 250 (3)
UVIC SOCI 100 lev (1.5)

KWAN CRIM 2331 (3)
TRU-OL CRIM 1049 (3)
UFV CRIM 104 (3)
VIU CRIM 204 (3)

SFU CRIM 104 (3) - B-Soc
TWU HUMA 100 lev (3)
UNBC SOSC 1XX (3)

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

- explain the contribution of consensus and conflict based sociological theories to an understanding of crime and deviance
- explain the contribution of the interpretive/social constructionist perspectives to an understanding of crime and deviance
- explain the contribution of the structural conflict perspective to an understanding of crime and deviance
- explain the contribution of the structural conflict perspective to an understanding of media representations of crime
- critically analyse sociological perspectives of criminal and deviant behaviour.

COURSE FORMAT

Course content is canvassed through a lecture/seminar format. As part of the lecture and seminar portions of this course, students are responsible for discussion of the required readings and individual/group exercises assigned by the instructor. The course also may include guest speakers and audio-visual presentations. The required texts for this course will be supplemented with additional readings that are placed on reserve in the library, My YC and/or handouts distributed in class.

ASSESSMENTS

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance at, and active participation in class are strongly recommended. Participation marks are assessed on the basis of active listening skills and orally demonstrated comprehension of the required readings in the lecture/seminar portions of the class. All students will be expected to participate in class discussions and carry out individual and group exercises assigned by the instructor. Students are encouraged to raise questions and current events that directly relate to course content. Examinations will reflect class lectures and discussion.

Seminar Presentation

Each student will be required to present a sociological analysis of a criminal or deviant behavior. The seminar presentation will be discussed with the instructor, comprise 15-20 minutes in length and include a one page handout with academic references given to the class.

Book Review

Each student is required to complete a book review of the course text: Reiman, J. (2012). *The rich get richer and the poor get prison*. The student is required to submit a 6-7 page double spaced critical review of the book. Students must provide a review of the strengths and shortcomings of the authors approach, alternative theoretical perspective, alternative view of the justice system, methodological issues, and research that supports or contradicts the text.

Term Paper

Each student is required to research and write a 10-12 page, double spaced, word-processed term paper that explores and applies **TWO (2)** theoretical perspectives (**of which ONE IS CONSENSUS and one CONFLICT (Marxist/Feminist)**) presented in the course to a specific type of criminal/deviant behaviour. Students may choose a designated topic (suicide, prostitution, homosexuality, drug/alcohol use, spousal assault, child/elder abuse, environmental crime/deviance, white collar crime, commercial crime, political deviance, racial intolerance/discrimination, mental illness, street crime, street people/homelessness, juvenile gangs, satanic cults, religious cults) or a topic of their own choice. **Individual topic selection must be discussed with and approved by the course instructor and the paper must follow the paper outline format distributed in class.** The term paper should include a minimum of 10 research sources with at least 5 scholarly journal articles and follow all APA requirements for formal papers.

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>

Written Assignment Requirements

Written assignments for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for APA referencing and formal academic papers. You also should note that **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED BY 10% PER DAY (including weekends)** unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments submitted later than 7 days without instructor approval will not be marked.

Examinations

There are two term examinations for this course, a midterm and a final. The midterm exam, is a 1.5-hour, closed book, in-class examination. The final exam, scheduled during final

examination week is a comprehensive three-hour, closed book, in-class examination. Both written examinations, midterm and final, consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions and are based on the materials presented in-class and the required/assigned readings. You should note that any form of communication, written or otherwise, during the course of either examination will automatically result in a grade assessment of "0".

Scheduled Examination Dates

Unless legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance, alternative arrangements will not be made for those students who are unable to write examinations on scheduled examination dates or during scheduled examination periods. **Students should be aware that the completion date for this course includes the two-week examination period, which follows the termination of regularly scheduled classes.**

EVALUATION

Marks are distributed as follows:

Presentation	10
Book Review (Reiman 2012) (Due Week 5)	15
Midterm Examination (Week 6)	25
Term Paper (Due Week 13)	20
Final Exam	30
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Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Williams, Frank P. and Marilyn McShane. (2004). *Criminological theory 4th ed.* New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Reiman, J. (2012). *The rich get richer and the poor get prison.* New York: Pearson.
- Course Reader (My YC course website)

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in C2231 (adjacent the College Library), the Writing Centre offers half-hour writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. Coaching sessions are available in person and through distance technologies (e.g., email plus Skype or phone). For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writingcentre.

SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE
Course Syllabus Winter 2015

Part 1 - THE CONSENSUS THEORIES OF SOCIOLOGY

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Jan 6&8	Introduction, expectations and foundations	Chapter 1
2	Jan13 &15	The Chicago School	Chapter 4/CR W2
3	Jan20 &22	The Functionalist and Anomie Perspectives	Chapter 6/CR W3
4	Jan27 &29	Social Control Theory and Restorative Justice	Chapter 10/CR W5
5	Feb 3 & 5	Social Learning Perspective	Chapter 11 Book Review Due

Part II - THE CONFLICT AND POST MODERN THEORIES

6	Feb10 &12	The Political Economic Perspectives	Chap 9/CR W6 & 7 Midterm Feb 12
7	Feb 17 &19	The Political Economic Perspectives	Chap 9/CR W6 & 7
8	Feb24 &26	The Political Economy & mass media	CR W8 & 9
9	Mar 3 & 5	The Political Economy & mass media	CR W8 & 9
10	Mar 10&12	The Political Economy & mass media	CR W8 & 9

Part III: THE SOCIETAL REACTION AND CONSTRUCTIONIST PERSPECTIVES

11	Mar17&19	Reading Week Mar 16-20 No Classes	
12	Mar24 &26	The Societal Reaction Perspective (Mar 20 withdraw deadline)	CR W11 & 12, 13
13	Mar31& Apr2	The Societal Reaction Perspective: Media and Moral Panics	CR W11 & 12, 13 Term Paper Due
14	Apr 7&9	The Societal Reaction Perspective: Media and Moral Panics & exam review	CR W11 & 12, 13
15	Apr 13-24	Final Exam Week	

“The only means of strengthening one’s intellect is to make up one’s mind about nothing, to let the mind be a thoroughfare for all thoughts.” - John Keats

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