



APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
Crim 104
3 Credit Course
Winter Semester, 2017

SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE

INSTRUCTOR: Charles Stuart

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 2:30 - 3:30 pm & 5:30-6:30 pm or by appointment

OFFICE LOCATION: A2911B

CLASSROOM: A2601

E-MAIL: cstuart@yukoncollege.yk.ca

TIME: 4:00 - 5:30 pm

TELEPHONE: (867) 668-8863

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Theories include the demonic, classical, 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

ALEX SOCI 210 (3)

AU SOCI 305 (3)

CAMO CRIM 100lev (3)

KPU CRIM 2331 (3)

SFU CRIM 104 (3) - B-Soc

TRU SOCI 2500 (3)

TRU-OL CRIM 1049 (3)

TWU HUMA 100 lev (3)

UBC SOCI 250 (3)

UFV CRIM 104 (3)
VIU CRIM 204 (3)

UNBC SOSC 1XX (3)

UVIC SOCI 100 lev (1.5)

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. 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 the course website 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 raise questions and current events that relate to the course content. Examinations will reflect readings, class lectures and discussion.

Facilitation of Readings

Each student is required to lead the class in 2 15-minute discussions of a required reading during the course. The student must also prepare and submit a **1-2 page (maximum) review** of the course reading for each facilitation. These reviews must be **completed for the start of each class** and will assist the student in leading the class discussion on one of the weekly topics. The reviews should be word-processed and can be point form in nature. The goal is to identify and summarize the key concepts and axioms of the theory and **identify 2 questions for class discussion** on how well this theory explains crime and deviance. Note that all students

are encouraged to participate in the class discussion. **NOTE: The focus on this exercise is discussion not an in-depth review of the reading. All students are expected to have completed the reading on their own and be ready to participate in the discussion.**

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:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Facilitated Readings | 10 (5%x2) |
| Book Review (Reiman 2012) (Due Week 5) | 15 |
| Midterm Examination (Week 6) | 25 |
| Term Paper (Due Week 13) | 20 |
| Final Exam | 30 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 100% |

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- Williams, Frank P. and Marilyn McShane. (2004). *Criminological theory 4th ed.* New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Reiman, J. (2013). *The rich get richer and the poor get prison.* New York: Pearson.
- Course Reader (course website)

LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Lorene Robertson Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in Room C2211 (in the College Library), the Lorene Robertson 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](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Writing%20Centre). At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Lorene Robertson Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of assignment completion. At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend the Lorene Robertson Writing Centre.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in

the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

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

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr.

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.



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Course Outline prepared by,
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SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE
Course Syllabus Winter 2017

Part 1 - THE CONSENSUS THEORIES OF SOCIOLOGY

| Week | Date | Topic | Readings |
|------|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Jan 5 | Introduction, expectations and foundations | Chapter 1 |
| 2 | Jan10 &12 | The Chicago School | Chapter 4 W2 |
| 3 | Jan17 &19 | The Functionalist and Anomie Perspectives | Chapter 6/W3 |
| 4 | Jan24 &26 | Social Control Theory and Restorative Justice | Chapter 11/W4 |
| 5 | Jan 31 & Feb 2 | Social Learning Perspective | Chapter 12 Book Review Due |

Part II - THE CONFLICT AND POST MODERN THEORIES

| | | | |
|----|----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 6 | Feb 7&9 | The Political Economic Perspectives | Chap 9/W6 & 7 Midterm |
| 7 | Feb 14 &6 | The Political Economic Perspectives | Chap 9/10 W6 & 7 |
| 8 | Feb 21 &23 | Reading Week Feb 22-24 No Classes | None |
| 9 | Feb 28 & Mar 2 | The Political Economy & mass media | W8 & 9 |
| 10 | Mar 7 & 9 | The Political Economy & mass media (Mar 10 withdraw deadline) | W8 & 9 |
| 11 | Mar 14&16 | Corporate crime | W8 & 9 |

Part III: THE SOCIETAL REACTION AND CONSTRUCTIONIST PERSPECTIVES

| | | | |
|----|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 12 | Mar 21&23 | The Societal Reaction Perspective | W11 & 12, 13 |
| 13 | Mar 28&30 | The Societal Reaction Perspective: Media and Moral Panics | W11 & 12, 13 Term Paper Due |
| 14 | Apr 4 & 6 | The Societal Reaction Perspective: Media and Moral Panics & Final exam review | W11 & 12, 13 |
| 15 | April 10-21 | 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