

**SOC327 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
FALL 2016



LECTURE LOCATION: Science Theatres ST 148, Main Campus

SCHEDULE: M/W/F, SEP 12 – DEC 9, 2016, 2:00-2:50pm

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Michael Adorjan

EMAIL: [madorjan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:madorjan@ucalgary.ca)

OFFICE: SS 952, Social Science Building

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

**Course Description**

This course is both a general introduction to and sociological critique of criminal justice. Broad areas are examined, including policing, juvenile justice, corrections, as well as alternatives to the formal criminal justice system such as restorative justice. Questions are raised regarding the differences between formal and informal responses to crime and their consequences.

“A simple; explanation; for anything important; any of us do. ...Quickly, follow the unknown; with something more familiar.” –The Tragically Hip, Courage

Attention is given to both Canadian and international trends. Seeking to instill a broad *sociological imagination* about criminal justice systems and processes, lectures and readings will also examine perceptions and related reactions to crime, with a focus on penal populism as well as the controversial argument that crime serves a purpose and role in modern society. In exploring these areas, the course also asks how emotional reactions to crime come to influence how we think about certain offenders and how we respond to their offences.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course students will be expected to:

- Challenge common sense notions of crime and the criminal justice system
- Illustrate knowledge of how to think sociologically about the problem of crime and criminal justice system processes
- Produce an original assessment of a particular topic/issue related to criminal justice and crime

**Course Assessment**

- 30% Term Test#1
- 30% Term Test#2
- 40% Final Exam

**Key Due Dates (for details please see below)**

**Term Test#1:** October 28<sup>th</sup>

**Term Test#2:** November 23<sup>rd</sup>

## **Assessment Components**

### **Term Tests**

**30% each**

Two multiple choice tests will be administered during regular lecture time, in class, on October 28<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Directions for study and review will be posted along with each set of lecture notes (e.g. key concepts, themes, etc.). While multiple choice tests have a reputation for testing the memorization of facts, questions will be geared to test analytical and critical thinking skills. You will be accountable for materials that are assigned, regardless of whether or not they are covered in class. As well, you will be accountable for information covered in class that is not reviewed in the readings. Lecture time will be spent on review for both term tests. The two tests are not cumulative: each will cover a specific range of readings and topics.

### **Final Exam**

**40%**

The final exam, set for two hours, is cumulative and will test knowledge from all required readings and lecture notes and discussions. You will be accountable for materials that are assigned, regardless of whether or not they are covered in class. As well, you will be accountable for information covered in class that is not reviewed in the readings. The date of the final exam will be announced according to regular examination timetabling procedures. The format will be written, not multiple choice: 50% short answer/definition questions and 50% critical reflection questions. Details will be discussed during lecture.

## **Grading**

Letter Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

95 - 100 = A+	67 - 69 = C +
90 - 94 = A	63 - 66 = C
85 - 89 = A -	59 - 62 = C -
80 - 84 = B +	54 - 58 = D +
76 - 79 = B	50 - 53 = D
70 - 75 = B -	00 - 49 = F

## **LECTURES AND READINGS**

The following lists lectures topics which will be covered including all required reading materials. A course pack for all required readings is available in the bookstore. Readings will also be posted in PDF form for direct download or links on D2L. Please note that Goff's textbook *Criminal Justice in Canada* (2014, Nelson) and Kappeler and Potter's *The Mythology of Crime and Criminal Justice* (2005, Waveland Press) are both available on two hour reserve at the Taylor Family Digital Library.

Students are encouraged to refer to D2L for all lecture notes, exam review material and additional supplementary readings, links, videos, etc. Lecture notes will *normally* be posted before lecture times to allow students to download the document and take notes. While every effort will be made to provide lecture notes in advance of lectures, this may not be possible

before every class. Lecture notes are posted in PDF form in order to ensure compatibility for all students and to safeguard against misappropriation.

The following lecture outline lists topics, required readings and suggested supplementary resources. The lectures will proceed in the following order, though the exact pace of lectures and scheduling will be determined as the class progresses. Please note the following holidays: Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving), Friday November 11<sup>th</sup> (Remembrance Day). In addition, Dr. Adorjan will be away at a conference in mid-November. Announcements regarding this week will be posted to D2L.

### **1 – Course Introduction**

No required readings

### **2 – The “Americanization” of the Canadian criminal justice system?**

Colin Goff. (2014). *Criminal Justice in Canada*, ch. 1: An Overview of the Criminal Justice System in Canada, pp. 1-5, Toronto: Nelson.

### **3 – Crime as Normal in Modern Societies**

Thomas Bernard, Jeffrey Snipes and Alexander Gerould. (2010). *Crime as Normal in Modern Societies*. Pp. 116-120 in *Vold's Theoretical Criminology (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### **4 – Crime Does Not Exist**

Nils Christie. (2004). *A Suitable Amount of Crime*, pp.4-6, 10-12, London: Routledge.

### **5 – Public Perceptions of CJ: Fear of crime and counting Crime**

Victor Kappeler and Gary Potter (2005) *The Mythology of Crime and Criminal Justice (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*, ch.2: Crime waves, fears, and social reality, pp. 33-51, Long Grove: Waveland Press

### **6 – Public Perceptions of CJ: Crime rates, crime trends, and perceptions of crime in Canada**

Colin Goff. (2014). *Criminal Justice in Canada*, ch. 4: Crime rates, crime trends, and perceptions of crime in Canada, pp.113-123, Toronto: Nelson.

### **7 – Criminal Justice Reactions to Public Perceptions: Penal populism**

Julian Roberts, Loretta Stalans, David Indermaur, Mike Hough. (2003). Ch.1, pp. 4-5: "Penal Populism in context" and Ch.1, pp. 12-15: "Summary of International Crime Trends", in *Penal Populism and Public Opinion. Lessons from five countries*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### **8 – Policing: The Impossible Mandate**

Peter Manning. 1977. Ch.1., *The Symbolization of Police Work*, pp. 3-22, in *Police Work*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

### **9 – Policing Modern Society**

Colin Goff (2014) *Criminal Justice in Canada*, ch. 5: Policing modern society, pp.160-166, Toronto: Nelson

### **10 – Zero Tolerance Policing, NYC Style**

No required readings

### **10.5 – Special Topic (Time Permitting): Policing in China – Regulating Legitimacy**

No required readings

### **11 – Prison and Prisonization: Inmate Society**

Colin Goff (2014) *Criminal Justice in Canada*, ch. 11: Prison and Prisonization, pp. 377-381, Toronto: Nelson

### **12 – Prison and Prisonization: Cons and Country Clubs**

Victor Kappeler and Gary Potter (2005) *The Mythology of Crime and Criminal Justice* (4th Ed.), ch.12: Cons and Country Clubs: The mythical utility of punishment, pp. 287-311, Long Grove: Waveland Press

### **13 – American Juvenile Super Predators**

Victor Kappeler and Gary Potter (2005) *The Mythology of Crime and Criminal Justice* (4th Ed.), ch. 9: Juvenile Superpredators: The myths of killer kids, dangerous schools, and a youth crime wave, pp. 215-33, Long Grove: Waveland Press.

### **14 – Emotions Discourses on Youth Crime in Canada**

Michael Adorjan. 2012. Emotions Contests and Reflexivity in the News: Examining Discourse on Youth Crime in Canada. Ch.14, pp. 73-77, in *Reading Sociology: Canadian Perspectives* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Lorne Tepperman and Angela Kalyta (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### **15 – Reintegrative Shaming and Restorative Justice**

Colin Goff (2014) *Criminal Justice in Canada*, ch. 3: Restorative Justice, pp. 99-101, Toronto: Nelson

### **16 – Restorative Justice in Canada**

Scott Kenney. 2010. Chapter 7: Restorative Justice (with Don Clairmont), pp. 173-204 in *Canadian Victims of Crime: Critical Insights*, Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press Inc.

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department; they are only available online.

### **Technology in the Classroom**

Students are encouraged to bring their electronic devices to class (e.g. laptops, smartphones, tablets, etc.) to assist with note taking and learning. Students are expected NOT to distract other students by surfing social network sites, watching any videos or engaging in any video chats, answering phone calls (unless emergencies), playing video games, checking for Pokestops, or any other activity that would distract other students either through audio or video content. All devices must be set to buzzer or silent mode during the lecture.

### **Email and Correspondence**

Questions and comments are always welcome about all aspects of this course. While every attempt will be made to respond to emailed inquiries promptly (e.g. questions about a forthcoming assignment, specific theories and concepts, etc.), A WINDOW OF THREE (3) DAYS MAXIMUM should be anticipated for a response, excluding weekends, when I may be away from my email. Students should bear this in mind if last minute questions or issues arise, especially before any mid-terms and/or end-term examinations.

### **Grade Reappraisals**

Within two weeks of the date the exam results are received, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reassessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

### **Academic Misconduct**

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

### **Protection of Privacy**

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or through D2L. "If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."

### **Ethical Research**

Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

### **Deferrals**

When possible, please provide advance notice if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after

recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at

[https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred\\_termwork15\\_0.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf)

### **Student Representation**

The 2016-17 Students’ Union VP Academic is Alicia Lunz ([suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)). The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca), [arts2@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@ucalgary.ca), [arts3@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@ucalgary.ca), and [arts4@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@ucalgary.ca). You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>

### **Emergency Evacuations**

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at **professional faculties food court**. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **Safewalk**

The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

### **Academic Accommodation**

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (MC 293, phone 403-220-8237) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf). Please provide academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.