

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
Sociology 327(L01)-Introduction to Criminal Justice
Course Outline, Winter 2016

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Introduction

On March 12th, 2012, the Parliament of Canada passed Bill C-10. This piece of legislation was an attempt to "get tough" on crime by introducing minimum sentences for drug trafficking, sex crimes, child exploitation, and some violent offences. Critics contend that the legislation will be very costly, cause overcrowding in prisons, have little rehabilitative effect on offenders, and ultimately, do little to deter crime. This class will introduce students to the structure and operation of the Canadian criminal justice system. We will examine how the various stages of the system function. This will include an examination of how crime is defined, measured, and dealt with by the police, the courts, and the correctional system. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to identify the values of the Canadian criminal justice system, illustrate how informal justice manifests itself, and critically assess crime stories in the mass media.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Students in Introduction to Criminal Justice should concentrate on how to:

1. Identify the main components of the Canadian criminal justice system.
2. Outline the general process that suspects go through when they are accused of perpetrating crime.
3. Identify and explain control philosophies.
4. Memorize important notable crime rates and trends.
5. Explain the challenges presented by policing society, dealing with the courts, and sanctioning the convicted.
6. Identify and assess viable alternatives to prison.

Pedagogy

I expect students to be active producers rather than passive consumers of ideas. As such, classes will involve traditional formal lectures, but they will also include a considerable amount of student activity and participation. This means that there will be many short class exercises and discussion (among students and with the instructor). I also encourage students to draw upon their personal experiences as valuable sources of information. *Students are warned that, at times, this class deals with graphic and violent themes in both lectures and videos.*

Required Readings

The following **text** will be used:

Goff, C. (2013). *Criminal justice in Canada*. (6th ed.). Toronto: Nelson Education.

Please review the reading schedule below. Students will be expected to carefully consider each assigned reading before class and make use of the slide show notes available on Desire2Learn. These PDF files do not represent an exhaustive set of notes and are not an alternative to attending class regularly. They are *intended* only to provide a brief outline of what will be covered in lectures and it is expected that you will need to take additional notes during class.

Evaluation

There are three requirements to complete this course.

Mid-Term I	30%	Feb 5
Mid-Term II	30%	Mar 16
Final Examination	40%	TBA, scheduled by the Registrar's Office

Based upon lectures and assigned readings, exams will be in true-false and multiple choice format. It is important that you complete all assigned readings before every class. All requirements must be completed in order to pass this course.

Grading Scheme

The following grading scheme will be used in this course.

A+ > 95%	B+ 80%-84.99%	C+ 67%-69.99%	D+ 54%-58.99%
A 90%-94.99%	B 75%-79.99%	C 63%-66.99%	D 50%-53.99%
A- 85%-89.99%	B- 70%-74.99%	C- 59%-62.99%	F <49.99%

****The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.***

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule is offered to you as a general guide. It is expected that some topics and readings may deserve further treatment and consequently, additional class time.

Date	Topic	Completed readings
Jan 11	Review of outline Introduction	None
Jan 13	An overview of the CJS	Chapter 1
Jan 15	An overview of the CJS	
Jan 18	An overview of the CJS	

Jan 20	Criminal law and criminal justice	Chapter 2
Jan 22	Criminal law and criminal justice	
Jan 25	Criminal law and criminal justice	
Jan 27	Control philosophy and criminal justice policy	Chapter 3
Jan 29	Control philosophy and criminal justice policy	
Feb 1	Control philosophy and criminal justice policy	
Feb 3	Control philosophy and criminal justice policy	
Feb 5	Mid-Term I	Based on above readings and lectures
Feb 8	Rates, trends, and perceptions	Chapter 4
Feb 10	Rates, trends, and perceptions	
Feb 12	Rates, trends, and perceptions	
Feb 22	Rates, trends, and perceptions	
Feb 24	Police operations	Chapter 5
Feb 26	Police operations	
Feb 29	Police operations	
Mar 2	Issues in policing	Chapter 6
Mar 4	Issues in policing	
Mar 7	Issues in policing	
Mar 9	Pretrial procedures	Chapter 7
Mar 11	Pretrial procedures	
Mar 14	Pretrial procedures	
Mar 16	Mid-Term II	Based on above readings and lectures
Mar 18	The criminal trial	Chapter 8
Mar 21	The criminal trial	
Mar 23	The criminal trial	
Mar 28	The criminal trial	
Mar 30	Sentencing and punishment	Chapter 9
Apr 1	Sentencing and punishment	
Apr 4	Sentencing and punishment	
Apr 6	*Prison alternatives	Chapter 10
Apr 8	*Prison alternatives	
Apr 11	*Prison alternatives	
Apr 13	Conclusion	

** If time permits.*

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date of the return of the exam, students seeking reappraisal may submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of the mark. The instructor will reconsider the assigned grade and book a time to meet with the student. A re-assessed grade may be increased, decreased, or remain the same.

Technology Use

Electronic devices are common in Canadian classrooms. While they can be very effective in assisting students in the learning process, they can also be very distracting if not used properly. Students are encouraged to reflect on how their use of electronic devices affects their learning and how it affects others around them.

Email

Electronic mail is a convenient way for students to communicate with professors. If not used properly, however, email use can become problematic. Before sending an email, please attempt to obtain information from the course outline. Please email me for administrative purposes only, for example, to set up an appointment. Please do not use email as a substitute for an office visit. Questions regarding course content, student challenges, grades, or other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **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 office hours. 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.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Ethics 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 Faculty 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.

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>

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: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Student Representation

The 2015-16 Students’ Union VP Academic is Stephan Guscott: email: 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, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and 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 **Education Block 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 seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services ; SAS will process the request and issue letters

of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students living with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf