

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Department of Sociology

Soci 421.14 L02
Women and Crime
Winter 2009

Instructor: M. Belle-McQuillan

Office: SS950

Phone: 403-220-6513

e-mail: mbellemc@ucalgary.ca

Course Blackboard site: <https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login/>

Class Hours: M/W 3:00-4:15

SH 157

Office Hours: M/W 1:00-2:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Until recently the issue of female criminality has received limited attention. This course is an attempt to change that situation by examining the major issues associated with women in the criminal justice system. We will focus on women as both perpetrators and victims of crime.

Various topics will be covered including a brief (and select) examination of the relationship between gender and social control, an overview of the extent of female criminal behaviour, theoretical explanations for female criminality, how gender may affect criminal sentencing, and where and under what circumstances women are imprisoned.

REQUIRED READING: *

Custom Course Package of readings available at the University bookstore entitled Soci 421.14 Book of Readings

Selection of electronic readings available through U of C Library e-journals

* The complete list of required readings is available on the Blackboard (BB) course site

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Participation	continuous.....	10%
Presentation	variable	20%
Midterm	Feb. 23	30%
Final	TBA	40%

Please read carefully

There will be two (midterm and final), non-cumulative examinations, and both examinations will cover course material regardless of format. Students are therefore responsible for all components of the course (including lectures, guest speaker presentations, student presentations, class exercises, assigned readings, videos, etc.). If, for whatever reason, you are unable to attend class, please consult with your colleagues in order to "catch up" on the material you have missed. There will be no provision for make-up exams or other work for the purpose of improving grades. Be sure that you note the date of the mid-term and the final exam (during the Apr. exam period -20th to 30th) **before** you make any plans. Please read the administrative notices which are included for information regarding a missed exam and other issues of importance.

Written Assignment:

Twenty percent of your grade will be based on a class presentation and written assignment associated with a selected topic. Complete details about the in-class presentation and written component of the presentation will be available in the first week of classes and posted on the Blackboard (BB) course site.

Participation:

The participation component for the course will be based upon both in-class and Blackboard course site participation. The grading guidelines for the participation component of the course will be available in the discussion area on the BB site.

Administrative Information:

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay 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 physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus 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 Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U. of C. Calendar. You can find the forms you need at:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATION_S.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

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

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre.

To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions.

Research Ethics: 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.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offenses. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

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 with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

Letter Grade Assignment:

A letter-grade will be assigned to each student at the end of the semester and submitted to the registrar. Your letter-grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

Points (/100)	Letter Grade
95–100	A+
90-94	A
85-89	A-
80-84	B+
75-79	B
70-74	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
59-62	C-
54-58	D+
50-53	D
49 or less	F

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

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

Syllabus and Readings

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan. 12-14	<i>Introduction</i>	Comack: The feminist engagement ... Walklate: The gender blindness ...
Jan. 19-26	<i>Women & Social Control</i>	Boyd: Representations of women ...
Jan. 28 - Feb. 2	<i>Women as offenders: patterns & trends, theoretical perspectives</i>	No specific readings
Feb. 4-9	<i>Women as offenders: youth</i>	Baron & Lacombe: Moral panic ... Miller & Mullins: Stuck up, ...
Feb. 11	<i>Women as offenders: violent women</i>	Comack & Brickey: Constituting ... Jones: 3 Kramer: Unwilling mothers: ...
Feb. 16-18	<i>Reading Week</i>	
Feb. 23	<i>Mid-term Exam</i>	
Feb. 25 - Mar. 4	<i>Women as offenders: violent women (con't)</i>	Schauflet-Iles & Rush: How could she? Kilty & Frigon: Karla Homolka ...
Mar. 9-16	<i>Women as victims: selected examples</i>	Belknap: The image of ... Nixon & Tutty: That was my prayer ...

Mar. 18-25	<i>Women as victims/offenders: domestic violence</i>	Jones: Totaling women
Mar. 30 - Apr. 6	<i>Women as defendants: sentencing</i>	Balfour: Falling between ...
Apr. 8-13	<i>Women as inmates: state of prisons</i>	Cooper: The evolution ... Hayman: Reforming the prison ... Driedger & Chisholm: Women's prison ... CSC: Ten-Year status report ...
Apr. 15	<i>Women as inmates / conclusion</i>	Hannah-Moffat: Re-forming the prison ...

Note: The dates of the topics may vary. Please check the Blackboard course site for important notices or changes to the course outline.