

The University of Calgary
The Department of Sociology
Advanced topics in Deviance and Criminology
Sociology 421.05: Genocide and Terrorism – Summer 2007

Instructor: Professor Louis M. Holscher
Office hours: Before class and by appointment
Email: holscher1946@yahoo.com

Course objectives

This course is intended for students nearing completion of the Criminology and Deviance concentration. It will operate primarily as a seminar based on the assigned readings. Our focus in each class will be on the readings for that day. The schedule details the articles/chapters that will be discussed for each class meeting. The proposed format of the course will be relatively informal, modeled on conversation, discussion, and critical analysis. This format presupposes that you will attend each class having read the assigned materials. You will be asked in class to comment on the readings, both formally and informally. You will be encouraged to raise questions in class related to the readings, and participate actively in the discussions. Hence, you are expected to bring the relevant readings to each class. The examinations will be based on the readings and class discussions.

This summer we will examine terrorism and to a lesser extent genocide. The readings on genocide will be either handed out in class or will be available online.

The required textbooks on terrorism are:

Understanding Terrorism, second edition, Gus Martin, Sage Publications (2006)

State Terrorism and the United States, Frederick H. Gareau, Clarity Press (2004)

Grading

There are four exams for this course. They are not cumulative.

The first exam is 30%, the second exam is 40%; each of these exams will be a combination of multiple-choice (closed book, in-class), and take home essay questions. The final two exams are 10% each, and will be multiple-choice (closed book and in-class).

There will be a review handed out in class prior to each exam.

There will be an essay assignment on either chapter four, five, or six in the Gareau book, it is 10%.

The only extra credit will be class participation.

Outline

- July 25 Introduction to the course; defining genocide
United Nations Resolution – Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (handed out in class)
Brannigan article on genocide and the holocaust (handed out in class)
- July 26 Group structure and the origins of genocide, individual and group behaviour; historical examples
Treanor article “Genocide, World Order, and State formation” (Internet)
Coffeen article on Hitler’s henchmen (Internet)
Drobatschewsky article on Goldhagen’s work (Internet)
- July 30 Issues in modern genocide
Power article “Bystanders to Genocide” (Internet)
Rosen article “Can We Prevent Genocide” (Internet)
Armenian Genocide: Its Most Valuable Lesson (handed out in class)
“Shake Hands With the Devil”, an interview by Jeff Fleisch with Romeo Dallaire, Mother Jones, 1/25/2005 (Internet)
- July 31 **First exam** – covers material from July 25 – July 30
First impressions and defining terrorism
Martin, chapters one and two; Gareau, introduction
- August 1 The causes of terrorism; terrorism from below; tactics and targets of terrorists
Martin, chapters three, four and ten
- August 2 Violent ideologies: Terrorism from the left and right; religious terrorism; recent developments
Martin, chapters six, seven and nine
- August 7 International terrorism and the role of the media
Martin, chapters 8 and 11
- August 8 **Second exam** – covers material from July 31 – August 7
State terrorism and the U.S. in Latin America
Martin, chapter four; Gareau, chapter one
- August 9 U. S. policy in Latin America
Gareau, chapters two and three
- August 13 **Third exam** – covers material from August 7 – August 9
State terrorism, support of dictators, and roots of the war on terrorism
Gareau, chapters seven and eight
- August 14 U.S. policy in the Middle East and the war on terrorism: recommendations
Gareau, chapters nine and ten
- August 15 **Fourth exam** – covers material from August 13 – August 14

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

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 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: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. 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.**

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.