

**The University of Calgary**  
**Faculty of Arts**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Sociology 427(L01)-Social Organization of Criminal Justice**  
**Course Outline, Fall 2014**

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**Introduction**

This course is about the social organization of criminal justice in Canada. While Sociology 327 introduced students to the basic operations of the Canadian criminal justice system, this course explores shortcomings of the justice system. That is, the course considers how it does not live up to its stated objectives. We will consider why many citizens believe that crime is rampant and the system too lenient on criminals. As well, we will explore how class ideology generates inequities in terms of policing, sentencing, and incarceration. Lastly, we will look at prospects for change in Canadian criminal justice. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to identify problems in the operation of the criminal justice system and think critically about positive social change.

**Required Texts**

The following texts are required in this course:

Reiman, J., & Leighton, P. (2012). *The rich get richer and the poor get poorer*. (10th ed.). Toronto: Allyn & Bacon.

Wilson, James, Q. (2013). *Thinking about crime*. (Revised ed.). New York: Basic Books.

Please review the Reading/Class schedule below.

**Evaluation**

There are several opportunities for students to capture their grades. Students will be expected to produce summaries/critiques of each chapter of the Reiman/Leighton book. The summaries will be 2 pages long and are worth 2% each. It is anticipated that the summaries will be a useful study guide for the mid-term examination. The mid-term examination is worth 30% and will be comprised of short answer questions. During the second section of the course, students will be required to lead a discussion/presentation on a chapter of the Wilson text. This is worth 10% and will involve reading the chapters in question, creating a brief summary, and a list of important points or questions about the readings. Students in each group will grade each other in terms of their relative contributions to the presentation. Other students must also complete the readings and

contribute to class discussions. The final examination is a take home worth 40%. Students will be given a list of questions to respond to in essay format. Finally, class participation is worth 10%. This mark will reflect students' attendance and contributions to class discussions.

Summaries	10%	See Reading Schedule
Mid-Term Examination	30%	October 17
Discussion Lead	10%	See Reading Schedule
Class Participation	10%	Ongoing
Final Take Home Examination	40%	December 15

### Other Responsibilities of the Student

1. A careful and punctual reading of the required material.
2. Regular attendance at lectures and participation in class discussions and questions.
3. Advanced notice to the instructor if unable to comply with the schedule of assignments due to illness.
4. Students are asked to familiarize themselves with University Regulations covering plagiarism.

### 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/Class Schedule

Before reviewing the schedule below, please be aware that it is expected to be flexible. Some topics may require more time than scheduled. Students should ensure that they have completed the readings before each class.

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept 8	Introduction	None
<b>SECTION I - THE RICH GET RICHER AND THE POOR GET PRISON</b>		
Sept 10	A Marxian Critique of Criminal Justice	Appendix I
Sept 12	Between Philosophy and Criminology	Appendix II
Sept 15	Crime Control in America <b>Chapter 1 Summary Due 2%</b>	Reiman/Leighton 1
Sept 17	Crime Control in America	Reiman/Leighton 1
Sept 19	Crime Control in America	Reiman/Leighton 1
Sept 22	A Crime by Any Other Name...	Reiman/Leighton 2

	<b>Chapter 2 Summary Due 2%</b>	
Sept 24	A Crime by Any Other Name...	Reiman/Leighton 2
Sept 26	A Crime by Any Other Name...	Reiman/Leighton 2
Sept 29	...And the Poor Get Prison <b>Chapter 3 Summary Due 2%</b>	Reiman/Leighton 3
Oct 1	...And the Poor Get Prison	Reiman/Leighton 3
Oct 3	...And the Poor Get Prison	Reiman/Leighton 3
Oct 6	To the Vanquished Belong the Spoils <b>Chapter 4 Summary Due 2%</b>	Reiman/Leighton 4
Oct 8	To the Vanquished Belong the Spoils	Reiman/Leighton 4
Oct 10	Criminal <i>Justice</i> or <i>Criminal Justice</i> <b>Chapter 5 Summary Due 2%</b>	Reiman/Leighton 5
Oct 15	Criminal <i>Justice</i> or <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Reiman/Leighton 5
Oct 17	<b>Mid-Term Examination</b>	None
<b>SECTION II - THINKING ABOUT CRIME</b>		
Oct 20	Documentary	None
Oct 22	Documentary/Discussion	None
Oct 24	Crime Amidst Plenty	Chapter 1
Oct 27	Crime and Community	Chapter 2
Oct 29	<b>Presentation 1</b> Thinking About Crime	Chapter 3
Oct 31	<b>Presentation 2</b> The Police and Crime	Chapter 4
Nov 3	Review	None
Nov 5	<b>Presentation 3</b> Broken Windows	Chapter 5
Nov 7	<b>Presentation 4</b> The Police and Community Relations	Chapter 6
Nov 12	Review	None
Nov 14	<b>Presentation 5</b> Penalties and Opportunities	Chapter 7
Nov 17	<b>Presentation 6</b> Incapacitation	Chapter 8
Nov 19	Review	None
Nov 21	<b>Presentation 7</b> Rehabilitation	Chapter 9
Nov 24	<b>Presentation 8</b> The Death Penalty	Chapter 10
Nov 26	Review	None
Nov 28	<b>Presentation 9</b> Heroin	Chapter 11
Dec 1	<b>Presentation 10</b> Crime and American Culture	Chapter 12
Dec 3	Review	None
Dec 5	Conclusion	None

**Emergency evacuations:**

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by the *ICT Food Court*.

**Deferrals:**

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 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://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM\\_0.pdf](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.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).

**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:** Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. 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. Written 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, phone 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 in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and 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 be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.