



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: THE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE			
Course Number	SOCI 427		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sociology 327 and 313		
Instructor Name	Dr. Cora J. Voyageur	Email	voyageur@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact me over email at any time and be sure to put your course number and section in your email's subject line. Always include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in your email. I will try to answer emails within one business day but response times may vary depending upon the volume of email I receive. I will not answer emails over the weekend so please take this into account when contacting me about questions regarding assignments or exams. Please consult this outline before contacting me about course-related questions. Also, please e-mail me for administrative purposes only – such as setting up an appointment. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours that are listed below. I will be online during office hours.		
Office Location	N/A	Office Hours	Monday 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Class Dates	January 11, 2021 – April 15, 2021		
Class Times	Asynchronous. This means that narrated PPT slides and supplemental course materials will be posted on the course D2L site.		
Class Location	Online		

Course Description

The best criminals are the ones who are never get caught. What happens to those who are caught is the topic of this course. This course is an overview of the various facets of the criminal justice system. It is designed to introduce students to the societal and institutional responses to crime and criminal behaviour in Canada. It addresses the sociological factors that influence criminal events and outcomes of the administration of justice. We begin from the standpoint that crime is a social construct and explore a number of questions: Why are some actions deemed criminal while others are not? Who gets to decide? Is a certain behaviour always considered criminal? What is the role

of the police, the courts, corrections, probation and parole? We will consider the views of practitioners from within the systems in an attempt to gain insights into the laws, policies, and procedures that govern Canada's criminal justice system.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

1. To explore the genesis of laws and criminal behaviour in Canada.
2. To identify and analyse the key components of the criminal justice system.
3. To provide a factual basis on which to assess issues and situations regarding the handling of criminal behaviour in the Canadian criminal justice system.
4. To become familiar with the statistical trends of criminal activity in Canada.
5. To make students aware of the problems, potential injustices and ironies inherent in the Canadian criminal justice system.
6. To explore the circumstances under which a person can be wrongfully convicted and to determine whether there is a "prototypical" wrongfully convicted person.
7. To discuss and remain aware of various justice issues and/or prominent court cases that may arise during the term.

Course Format

This course will be asynchronous through D2L. I will post all narrated PPT lecture slides and other course materials on D2L. Students should check D2L on Monday morning throughout the term to receive weekly course materials.

Learning Resources

- 1) Barbara Perry. (2016) *Diversity, Crime and Justice in Canada* (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press. Don Mills.
- 2) Julian Roberts and Michelle Grossman. (2016) *Criminal Justice in Canada: A Reader*. Thomson Nelson Press. Scarborough.

The assigned readings will *generally (but not exactly)* correspond with the topics covered in the lectures. Thus, lecture topics should serve as a tentative guide and may be adjusted by me

Available at the University of Calgary Bookstore or online vendors

Additional readings and supplemental course materials will be posted on D2L.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see [D2L.ucalgary.ca](https://d2l.ucalgary.ca)).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;

- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	January 11	Introduction	Roberts 1 & Perry 1
2	January 18	Crime as a Social Construction & Crime Statistics	Perry 2 & Roberts 3
3	January 25	Presentation Preparation Video: Justice Denied	Roberts 18 & 20
4	February 1	The Justice Criminal Process	Roberts 2 & Perry 4
5	February 8	Law Enforcement in Canada	Roberts 4 & 12
6	February 15	Reading Week	No Readings
7	February 22	Courts	Roberts 5 & 6
8	March 1	Midterm Exam	No Readings
9	March 8	Sentencing	Roberts 7 & 14
10	March 11	Correctional Institutions	Roberts 10 & 27
11	March 18	Probation and Parole	Roberts 8 & 9
12	March 25	Special Topic -- Women	Perry 12 & Roberts 23
13	April 2	Special Topic -- Indigenous People	Roberts 15 & Perry 5
14	April 9	Special Topic -- Racialized People Residual/Course Wrap-up	Perry 7 & 8

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Examinations 60%

There will be one midterm examination and one take home final (essay) examination. The examinations will cover lectures, videos, and assigned reading materials scheduled up to the exam. This means that students will be responsible for readings and topics covered in course materials.

The exams are non-cumulative. This means that the midterm will cover only materials from the first week of the term to the week class prior to the midterm exam. The final exam will cover materials from the midterm to the last week of class. Although the final exam is non-cumulative, students might find reviewing the midterm exam materials valuable in preparation for the final. In other words, do not

forget everything you learned prior to the midterm. Examination dates are strictly enforced. The dates and assigned weights for exams are as follows:

Midterm – (On-line) 30%

The midterm will be 75-minute examination and a combination of any or all of the following types of questions: multiple choice, true/false, definition, short answer and essay. This manner of testing allows the student to demonstrate varying methods of academic skill. I do not expect the student to rely solely on rote memory. I expect application, analysis, synthesis, and integration of course materials into your reasoned and concise answers. Therefore, you must be specific rather than general in your responses. The short answer and long answer questions require a reasonable standard of writing. Poor spelling disjointed or incomplete sentences, poor grammar and punctuation, inadequate sentence and paragraph structure will only detract from the ideas you are trying to express and will negatively impact your mark. The midterm exam will be accessible on D2L for 24 hours from 9:00 am on March 1, 2021 at 9:00 am to March 2, 2021. When you access the exam on D2L, you will have 2.5 hours to complete it.

Final Exam – (On-line) 30%

The final exam will be 75-minute examination and a combination of any or all of the following types of questions: multiple choice, true/false, definition, short answer and essay. This manner of testing allows the student to demonstrate varying methods of academic skill. I do not expect the student to rely solely on rote memory. I expect application, analysis, synthesis, and integration of course materials into your reasoned and concise answers. Therefore, you must be specific rather than general in your responses. The short answer and long answer questions require a reasonable standard of writing. Poor spelling disjointed or incomplete sentences, poor grammar and punctuation, inadequate sentence and paragraph structure will only detract from the ideas you are trying to express and will negatively impact your mark. The final exam will be accessible on D2L for 24 hours at a time determined by the Registrar When you access the exam on D2L, you will have 2.5 hours to complete it.

The dates and assigned weights for exams are as follows:

Midterm (2.5-hour access via D2L for a 24-hour period) March 1 (9:00 am) to March 2 (9:00 am)
Final Exam (2.5-hour access via D2L for a 24-hour period) on a date determined by the Registrar

Presentation -- 30 %

Our criminal justice system has glitches. One example of the system not delivering justice is the case of the wrongfully convicted individuals. I will form presentation groups (or you can form your own) after the add/drop date. You will receive information about your group members on January 25. Groups can choose a research topic/individual from my list or you can research another with my approval. Your group research project/class presentation will consist of a half-hour recorded presentation and submitted it via D2L. Groups must supply handouts for the presentation. The group research project/class presentation should answer the following questions: Who was the individual? Were there elements of social inequality (race, class, gender, etc.) surrounding the arrest/conviction/sentencing of this person? What evidence led to the conviction? How and why was the verdict overturned? Where did

the system go wrong? Presentations are due on the last day of class. I will arrange a zoom platform for your group to meet.

Students must submit make a 30-minute recorded group presentation. The group presentation will be based on individuals who have been wrongfully convicted in Canada. The presentation must deal with the key facts/points highlighted in the assigned chapter. You can provide supplementary materials (photographs, illustrations, maps, flowcharts, music, quizzes, timelines, analysis, etc.) to fellow students. Be creative!

Colleague Assessment – 10%

Your group members will evaluate your contribution to the group project. This evaluation accounts for 10% of your final mark so you **must** do your share of the work. The mark you get on your colleague evaluation will be proportional to your final grade on the presentation. Further, if you receive a participation grade of "0" from all of your fellow group members then you will not receive a grade for the presentation, and thus, fail the course. This evaluation will be completed via Dropbox on D2L after I have received all the presentations. I may require you to justify the grades you give to your research partners.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Passing Grades

NOTE: Receiving a grade in all components of this evaluation (including the Colleague Evaluation) is mandatory to obtain a passing grade in this course.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

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 can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, 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 re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students:

https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

***Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

***Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

***Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

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 Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. 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.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may **NOT** be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without

permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are **not** permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lecture notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is **not** permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

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.html>

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 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.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here:

<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.