



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2022

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

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

COURSE TITLE:			
Course Number	Sociology 427: Social Organization of the Criminal Justice System		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sociology 327 and 313 or the consent of the Department. Sociology 331 and 333 are recommended.		
Instructor Name	Dr. Cora Voyageur	Email voyageur@ucalgary.ca	
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for a meeting, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours.		
Office Location	906 SST	Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00 via Zoom	
Telephone No.	403 220 6507		
Class Dates	January 10, 2022, to April 12, 2022		
Class Times	MWF 1:00 pm to 1:50 pm (Synchronous)		
Class Location	Via Zoom		

Course Description

The best criminals are the ones who 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? Are certain behaviors 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

Classes are synchronous and will combine several formats: text readings, guest lectures, videos, in-class assignments. I will cover some of the assigned readings but I will also lecture from additional materials. Therefore, you are responsible for any assigned readings and other materials posted on D2L. I will hold office hours (via Zoom) from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM each Wednesday morning. Please feel free to contact me if you are having any issues with the course. Students should check D2L every Monday morning to receive their weekly course materials.

Learning Resources

- 1) Barbara Perry. (2022) Diversity, Crime and Justice in Canada (3rd Edition). Oxford University Press. Don Mills.
- 2) Julian Roberts and Michelle Grossman. (2016) Criminal Justice in Canada: A Reader. Thomson Nelson Press. Scarborough.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2 L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant course resources and materials (see 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

Proposed Course Schedule

Winter 2022

Sociology 427:01 SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	January 10	Introduction	Roberts 1 & Perry 1
2	January 17	Foundations of Crime	Perry 2 & 4
3	January 24	Crime as a Social Construction	Roberts 2 & Perry 3
4	January 31	The Justice Criminal Process	Roberts 13 & 14
5	February 7	Crime Statistics	Roberts 4
6	February 14	Midterm Review Exam on Friday	No Readings
7	February 21	Reading Week	No Readings
8	February 28	Law Enforcement in Canada Presentations begin	Roberts 8 & Perry 9
9	March 7	Courts, Procedures and Sentencing	Roberts 4 & 6
10	March 14	Correctional Institutions	Roberts 17 & Perry 12
11	March 22	Probation and Parole	Perry 17 & 18
12	March 28	Special Topic -- Women	Perry 7 & 5
13	April 4	Special Topic -- Indigenous People	Roberts 16 & Perry 14 & 19
14	April 11	Study Week (No Classes)	No Readings

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

1. Examinations: 60%

There will be 1 mid-term examination and 1 final examination. I believe the examination as a means of determining an individual student's knowledge, analysis and interpretation of the course materials. The

examinations will cover lectures, guest lectures, videos, class discussions, and assigned reading materials scheduled up to the exam. This means that students will also be responsible for readings and topics not covered in class.

The mid-term will be a 75-minute examination and a combination of any, or all, of the following: multiple choice, true/false, definition, short answer and essay questions. 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 written 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 mid-term exam will be accessible on D2L for 24 hours from 1:00 pm on February 18 to February 19 at 1:00 pm. When you access the mid-term exam on D2L, you will have 75 hours to complete it (for example, if you start when the exam first opens, you will have from 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm to finish the exam). I will be available online from 1:00 PM until 2:15 PM on February 18 .

Students who use chatrooms or file sharing sites for collaborative purposes place themselves at risk from an academic integrity standpoint due to the potential of intentionally or unintentionally using words and ideas from these discussions in their assessments, which can constitute academic misconduct. Further, my course materials may not be uploaded to any chat rooms or online note sharing sites.

The final exam is non-cumulative. This means that the mid-term will cover only materials from the first class to the class prior to the mid-term exam. The final exam will cover materials from the mid-term to the last day of class. Although the final exam is non-cumulative, students might find reviewing the mid-term exam valuable in preparation for the final. In other words, do not forget everything you learned prior to the mid-term. Examination dates are strictly enforced. The dates and assigned weights for exams are as follows:

Mid-term (75-minutes via D2L access for a 24-hour period) February 18 (1:00) 30%

Final Examination Date set by the Registrar 30 %

2. Group Research Project/Class Presentation: 30%

Research Project/Class Presentation 25%

Our criminal justice system has glitches. One example of the system not delivering justice is the case of the wrongfully convicted individuals. 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 class presentation. Groups must supply handouts for the class. 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 will begin in early March. I will allow class time for group members to confer.

Colleague Evaluation

5%

Your group members will evaluate your contribution to the group project. This evaluation accounts for 5% 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 poster presentation, and thus, fail the course. This will be done after all the class presentations are completed. I may require you to justify the grades you give to your research partners.

3. In-class Pop Quizzes:

10%

Throughout the course I will give five in-class pop quizzes worth 2% each. These quizzes will be based on information from that day's class. Your answers must be turned in at the end of the class. You must be present on the days these quizzes are given to receive the mark – no exceptions.

Final Exam Information

The final exam is worth 30% of your grade and will be scheduled by the Registrar.

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

Receiving a grade in **all components of this evaluation** (including the Colleague Evaluation and pop quizzes) 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 their own 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.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/> .

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning 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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/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 screengrabs 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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lectures 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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>

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 Accommodation is available at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

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.

Revised November 2021