



**SOCIOLOGY 2266A: An Introduction to Criminology  
Fall 2014 Term  
Section 571**

**DETAILED COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Director: Criminologist Matthew G. Yeager**

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**Office Hours: Mondays, 2:00 – 3:30; Tues. 10:00 – noon; Wed, 3:30-5:00 p.m.**

**Class times: 10:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m., Mondays**

**Class location: LH105C**

**Course Synopsis:**

This course critically examines the processes and structures that designate and respond to criminality (legislatures, police, courts and corrections); the differential application of the law with respect to class, colour/"race", culture, gender and sexual orientation; and the political, economic and cultural contexts within which legal decisions are made. Our examination of criminalization processes point to struggles which reflect fundamental issues of inequality and ideology. Additionally, the social conditions of criminality and informal and formal intervention strategies will be explored. Classical, positivist, and critical approaches are analysed in reference to crime and its application to criminal justice.

**ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES:**

|   |          |                 |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Surprise Quizzes .....                      | 20%      |                 |
| Mid-Term Test (in Class - Essay Style)..... | 30%..... | Oct. 27, 2014   |
| Final Exam*** .....                         | 50%..... | To be scheduled |

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS: General & Grading**

**\*\* The Final Test is based on all material covered throughout the course.**

**\*\*\* Prerequisites: 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level.**

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Final Drop Date: November 5, 2014.

## **MARKING SCALES**

Marks for achievement in courses are assigned as follows:

|         |    |
|---------|----|
| 90 –100 | A+ |
| 80-89   | A  |
| 70-79   | B  |
| 60-69   | C  |
| 50-59   | D  |
| 0-49    | F  |

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS - GRADING**

The final grade will reflect your performance on three evaluation components of the course. These are:

### **(1) Surprise Quizzes (20 points)**

During the class, and at any time, your Course Director will quiz your knowledge of the assigned readings and your lecture material. You can expect four (4) quizzes to be held during the semester. They are multiple choice quizzes, each worth up to 5 points.

### **(2) Midterm (30 points)**

There will be an in-class, written midterm reflecting both your readings and lectures to this mid-point of the class. The questions will be narrative in style, not multiple choice, and will require you to apply your knowledge gained in class to one or more fact situations.

### **(3) Final Exam (50 points)**

There will be a final exam reflecting both your readings and lectures for the **entire** semester. The questions will be narrative in style, not multiple choice, and will require you to apply your knowledge gained in class to one or more fact situations. The final examination will be three (3) hours long and will be held in the final examination period, to be announced.

## **Readings: (at UWO Bookstore)**

Richard Quinney (2007) *The Social Reality of Crime* (Transaction Publishers)  
Diane Crocker (2012) *Crime in Canada* (Oxford University Press).  
E. Herman & D. Peterson (2010) *The Politics of Genocide* (Monthly Review Press)  
J.J. Masters (1997) *Finding Freedom: Writings from Death Row* (Padma Publishing)

## **Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

**September 8, 2014:** Introduction and overview of the course. Lecture: Introduction to Criminology: Basic Concepts

**September 15, 2014:** Lecture: The Classical School in Criminology.  
*Suggested Readings:* Masters (*Forward* -- p. 19), Quinney (Chapter 1)  
*Optional:* Crime Opportunity Theories in Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology

**September 22, 2014:** Lecture: The Positivist School in Criminology  
*Suggested Readings:* Masters (p.20-49), Quinney (Chapters 2-3)  
*Optional:* Biosocial Theories of Crime in Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology

**September 29, 2014:** The Truly Dangerous: A Digression. Read Yeager (2000) "Ideology and Crime: The Case of Lisa Colleen Neve." ON RESERVE  
Read Masters, pp. 51-85.

**October 6, 2014** Lecture: Explaining Crime: Normative/Structural Theories.: Structural Functionalism/anomie/strain; differential association; subculture.  
*Suggested Readings:* Quinney (Chapters 4-7, 9-10)  
*Optional:* Anomie, Strain & Subcultural Theories in Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology.

**October 13, 2014:** Canadian Thanksgiving. Holiday. No Class! Enjoy.

**October 20, 2014:** Lecture: Conflict Theory – A Primer on Quinney  
**Midterm Review**  
*Suggested Readings:* Finish Quinney; Masters, pp. 87-105.  
*Optional:* Radical & Marxist Theories of crime in **Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology.**

**\*October 27, 2014:** *MIDTERM TEST (30%) IN CLASS (Essay Questions)*

**November 3, 2014:** Lecture: Marxist Criminology  
*Suggested Readings:* Start Herman & Peterson, pp.7-27.  
*Optional:* Radical & Marxist Theories of crime in **Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology**.

**November 10, 2014:** Lecture: Feminist Criminology  
*Suggested Readings:* D. Britton (2000) "Feminism in Criminology: Engendering the Outlaw", On Reserve; Start Crocker (Chapters 1-3).  
*Optional:* Feminist Theories of Crime in **Library of Essays in Theoretical Criminology**.

**November 17, 2014:** Lecture: Green Criminology  
*Suggested Readings:* Crocker (Chaps 4-5); Herman & Peterson, pp.29-68.

**November 24, 2014:** Lecture: Crime in Canada – a Discussion  
*Suggested Readings:* Crocker (Chaps. 6-7).

**December 1, 2014:** Lecture: State and White Collar Criminality:  
**Review for Final Exam**  
*Suggested Readings:* Finish Herman & Peterson, pp. 95-112.

### **Special Needs Students**

**Students with special needs** may apply through the Counseling and Student Development Office to obtain special accommodations with their studies and tests. **Please note that it is the student's responsibility to make these arrangements with sufficient time prior to the first test that accommodations can be arranged.**

### **Accommodation for illness or serious personal circumstances**

Illness and serious personal circumstances may prevent the student from meeting the course requirements. In the event that you may miss a test or examination, you must contact the course director in advance, with documentation (ex., a medical certificate) to confirm your claim. It is recommended that in the event of any lengthy illness or personal difficulties, the Office of the Academic Dean be consulted. Please refer to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>).

**Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as, footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and

students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web Site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.

### **For Religious Observance:**

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event.

### **Policy on Laptops and Cell Phones in Class**

If you own a laptop or cell phone, it can be a very effective tool for taking notes in class. Unfortunately, past experience suggests that some students who bring laptops to class or their cell phones use them to access the Internet and make personal calls. This can prove very distracting to the students around them. Accordingly, using your Laptop to access the Internet, or checking messages on your cell phone, will be considered disruptive behavior and a violation under the Student Code of Conduct. Students caught violating this policy may be expelled from class lecture.

### **A NOTE ABOUT THE COURSE OUTLINE**

**Please note that this course outline is subject to revision. Throughout the course, circumstances may arise that will alter the ordering of topics and the pace at which we move through the material. Video clips may also be used as part of the course material. It is your responsibility to do the suggested readings and to take lecture notes. If you are unable to attend class, please consult with your colleagues in order to acquire lecture material or other course content that you may have missed. If you are absent from class for an extended period of time, please inform your course director as soon as possible.**



## ***Statement on Academic Offences***

King's is committed to Academic Integrity.

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholasticdiscipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholasticdiscipline_undergrad.pdf).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

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Unless otherwise noted by your Professor, the following policies are in effect:

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

#### *Use of Electronic Devices:*

You are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations.

#### *Use of Laptops in the Classroom*

"King's University College at The University of Western Ontario acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of laptop computers can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of laptops by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using laptops for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct. See [http://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/studentLife/conduct/code\\_of\\_conduct\\_2003.pdf](http://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/studentLife/conduct/code_of_conduct_2003.pdf). Inappropriate use of laptops during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords."

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**Submission of Late Essays/Assignments - *Only late essays/assignments may be placed in the green mailbox.***

All essays and assignments must be submitted directly to your professor, or designated assistant. Arrangements for submission must be made with the professor for any assignments handed-in outside the scheduled due date/time that are not considered late.

Essays in the late essay/assignment box will be picked-up twice per day: once in the morning (9:30 a.m.) and in the afternoon (4:00 p.m.). All essays dropped off after 4:00 p.m. on a Friday will be date-stamped the following Monday. The drop-box located on the main floor of The (south) Annex.

**Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:**

([http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf))

Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf>

**Tests/Examinations**

Students are responsible for seeking accommodation with appropriate documentation, prior to writing tests/examinations, if they are of the view that their performance may be affected by extenuating circumstances.

**Faculty Office Hours:** Faculty office hours can be found on King's homepage under the menu heading Academics and are also posted on the bulletin board outside the Faculty Secretaries' Office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Dante Lenardon Hall.

**Support Services**

Students who are in emotional/mental health distress should refer to Mental Health@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

University Students Council provides many valuable support services for students (including the health insurance plan) <http://westernusc.ca/services/>.

Information about Counselling and Student Development Services at King's is available at <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-support/>;

for emotional/mental health assistance see specifically: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

The web site for Academic Services at King's University College is:

<http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/courses-enrolment/program-and-course-planning/academic-advising/>

*updated July 2014*