



**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/uni vsec/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.