



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Sociology

Sociology 225 - Criminology
Section A2 Fall 2015

Lectures: TR 2:00-3:20 - T L B2

Instructor: Greg Eklics

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Office hours: By appointment

Course Description: This course is designed to provide an introduction to criminology, definitions of criminal behaviour, criminological theories and explanations of crime, types of crime, and responses to crime. In the course we will also examine some of the ways crimes in our society are measured and reported.

Prerequisite: There is no prerequisite for this course.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course you will be able to understand and critique how crime is defined by different actors; explain and critically engage social responses to crime; discuss the ways crime is engaged in popular discourse; understand social underpinnings of criminality; apply criminological theories to various issues; and learn to distill key points from large amounts of information.

Please note that regular attendance is paramount for successful learning. This course requires that students keep up on the readings to be able to process the material. If, at any point, you feel that you are unable to keep up with the readings, please talk to the instructor.

Required Text:

Adler, F.; Mueller, G.; Laufer, W.; and Grekul, J. (2012). *Criminology*. Second Canadian Edition. McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

Student Evaluation: The final mark for the course is divided according to the following format:

1. Midterm Exam 1 (35%): Sept. 29 (**Chapters 1 - 4**)
2. Midterm Exam 2 (35%): Oct. 29 (**Chapters 5, 6, 7, 10**)
3. Final Exam (30%): Dec 14 at 2 pm (**Chapters 8, 9, 11, 12, 13**)

Midterm and Final Exams will include multiple choice and true and false questions. The exams will cover course text, lectures and any material presented in class. The exams are not cumulative.

Sample exam questions:

Multiple choice:

Which of the following sources of deviance statistics evolved out of researcher dissatisfaction with police statistics in the 1950s in the United States?

- a. victim studies
- b. non-official agency statistics
- c. fieldwork studies
- d. self-report studies
- e. census studies

True or false

The British North America Act of 1867 provided the provincial governments in Canada law-making power.

- a. True
- b. False

Grading: Grades will be assigned following the grade scale below:

Description	Percentage	Grade	Value
Excellent	93-100	A+	4
	87-92	A	4
	82-86	A-	3.7
Good	78-81	B+	3.3
	74-77	B	3
	70-73	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	66-69	C+	2.3
	62-65	C	2
	58-61	C-	1.7
Poor	54-57	D+	1.3
Minimal Pass	50-53	D	1
Fail	0-49	F	0

Deferred Final Examination

Students must contact their home Faculty within two working days following the missed exam, or as soon as the student is able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence, per the Calendar §23.3(2). Students will need to present appropriate supporting documents – they should contact their home Faculty to find out what documents they need. A deferred final exam will not normally be granted if the student has not been in regular attendance (where attendance is required) and/or has completed less than half of the assigned coursework, excluding the final exam. There is no longer a fee for deferred exams.

The Deferred Final Exam date for this course will be **Saturday, January 16, 2016 at 9 am in BUS 1-06.**

Missed Examination

Approval for an excused absence from term work is at the discretion of the instructor, per the Calendar §23.3. Acceptable reasons include medical illness, severe domestic affliction, car accident, religious conviction, or other serious circumstances. Unacceptable reasons may include vacations, travel arrangements, weddings, as well as student negligence (such as sleeping in or misreading the exam schedule).

Students are to email the instructor within 2 working days of the missed exam or as soon as able, on regard to the circumstances, to apply for an excused absence. The instructor may request supporting documentation.

For incapacitating illness: A medical note cannot be required, but will be accepted if given. Students opting for a medical note should use the “University of Alberta Medical Statement” from www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/Online-Services/Forms-Cabinet.aspx.

In the absence of a medical note, instructors may request other documentation at their discretion. For a student in the Faculty of Arts, this would be a “Faculty of Arts Medical Declaration Form for Students”, which they can download from the Faculty of Arts website. For students in other Faculties, this would be the “Statutory Declaration”, which they can obtain from their home Faculty or the Office of the Registrar. Make note, a “Statutory Declaration” is legally binding, and the students will be required to swear under oath with a Commissioner of Oaths that what they say is true. Any false statements can have serious consequences under both the Code of Student Behaviour and the Criminal Code.

For all other cases, such as domestic affliction, religious conviction, car accident, or other serious afflictions, student should present appropriate documents such as a note from their pastor or coach, accident report, death certificate, or other documents as needed. Statutory Declarations are not normally requested for reasons other than illness.

Important General Information

- Policy about course outlines can be found in 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.
- The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.
- Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

In particular, please note the following sections from the University’s Code of Student Behaviour:

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

- Recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded materials are to be used solely for personal study, and not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).
- Submitting extra work to increase grades will not be considered under any circumstances.
- This will be a classroom in which all will feel free to express opinions and points of view. When you have the floor, it is expected that you will express your views politely. The classroom atmosphere at the same time will allow all to question one another and the world around us in a respectful manner.
- The official class list is produced by the third week of term. Instructors are forbidden to add student names to grade sheets. Students not on grade sheets are not deemed to be properly registered and may not submit exams or assignments. It is your responsibility to check your class schedule on Bear Tracks to confirm that you are registered in this course.
- Students requiring assistance for a variety of needs are encouraged to refer to the following website: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/studentservices which lists support services available to undergraduate students. For example, for concerns regarding exam anxiety and concerns of an academic nature, the Academic Support Centre is available for assistance (780-492-2682); Counselling and Clinical Services (780-492-5205) provides support of a more personal nature; Student Accessibility Services [Formerly SSDS] (780-492-3381) promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment at the University of Alberta.

CLASS SCHEDULE
(The dates for topics may change.)

Sept. 1: Introduction, Course Outline review, Course expectations

Sept. 3: Introduction: What is Crime? What is Criminology?
Reading: Chapter 1

Sept. 8: Measuring Crime; Correlates of Crime
Reading: Chapter 2

Sept. 10: Measuring Crime; Correlates of Crime
Reading: Chapter 2

Sept. 15: Schools of Thought
Reading: Chapter 3

Sept. 17: Schools of Thought
Reading: Chapter 3

Sept. 22: Psychological and Biological Perspectives
Readings: Chapter 4

Sept. 24: Psychological and Biological Perspectives
Readings: Chapter 4

Sept. 29: **EXAM #1 (Chapters 1-4);**

Oct. 1: Strain Theories
Reading: Chapter 5

Oct. 6: Strain Theories
Reading: Chapter 5

Oct. 8: Cultural Deviance and Subcultural Theories
Reading: Chapter 6

Oct. 13: Cultural Deviance and Subcultural Theories
Reading: Chapter 6

Oct. 15: Social Control Theory,
Reading: Chapter 7

Oct. 20: Social Control Theory
Reading: Chapter 7

- Oct. 22: Violent Crimes
Reading: Chapter 10
- Oct. 27: Violent Crimes
Reading: Chapter 10
- Oct. 29: **EXAM #2 (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 10)**
- Nov. 3: Conflict Theory, Radical and Feminist theories
Reading: Chapter 8
- Nov. 5: Conflict Theory, Radical and Feminist theories
Reading: Chapter 8
- Nov. 10: No Class – Fall term break
Nov. 12: No Class – Fall term break
- Nov. 17: Environmental Theory
Reading: Chapter 9
- Nov. 19: Environmental Theory
Reading: Chapter 9
- Nov. 24: White Collar, Corporate and Organized Crime
Reading: Chapter 12
- Nov. 26: White Collar, Corporate and Organized Crime
Reading: Chapter 12
- Dec. 1: Crime against Property and Public Order Crimes
Reading: Chapters 11 and 13
- Dec. 3: Crime against Property and Public Order Crimes
Reading: Chapters 11 and 13
- Dec. 8. Review, Catch-up class
- Dec 14 at 2 pm: **Final Exam (Chapters 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)**