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**SOC 225-X50 — Criminology  
Winter 2018  
Department of Sociology  
University of Alberta**

**Instructor: Dr. 'Tope Oriola**

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Office Hours: Thursday @ 4:30 pm or by appointment

Lecture Time: Thursday @ 6 – 9 pm

Lecture Room: TL 12

**Teaching Assistant: Alec Skillings**

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**Course Objectives:** This course gets students engaged in a critical understanding of why crimes occur in society and the underlying theoretical and extra-theoretical factors in the production of criminals and criminality. It is intended to re/de/construct conventional notions of crime and problematize/challenge taken-for-granted assumptions, perceptions and popular images of crime. It is expected that at the end of the course students would be equipped with the requisite tools to understand and analyze crime through sophisticated theoretical engagement. Additional topics on the response of liberal democratic states to the threat of terrorism and aim to introduce students to transnational crimes and provide a sound international perspective.

**Required Text:** Linden, Rick. 2016. *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*. Eighth Edition. Toronto: Nelson.

**Grade Evaluation**

<u>EXAMS</u>	<u>WEIGHTING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Midterm 1	35%	Thursday, 8 February
Midterm 2	30%	Thursday, 15 March
Final Exam	35%	Thursday, 12 April at 6 pm*

**Format of Evaluation:** There are three exams. All exams are set in multiple choice format. Exams cover lectures, videos, assigned chapters and PowerPoint notes posted on eClass. **Exams are not cumulative.** This means that topics or chapters that have been *previously tested* (for instance, on a midterm) will *not* appear on a future exam (e.g. final exam).

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\* This date is tentative. Students must verify this date when the final exam schedule is posted online.

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**Grades:**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
A+	95-100	4.0
A	90-94	4.0
A-	85-89	3.7
B+	80-84	3.3
B	76-79	3.0
B-	72-75	2.7
C+	68-71	2.3
C	64-67	2.0
C-	60-63	1.7
D+	55-59	1.3
D	50-54	1.0
F	0 -49	0

**Grades will not be curved.** This means that your overall performance is not dependent on other students' performance.

<b>Lecture Schedule &amp; Assigned Readings</b>
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**Week 1:** Introduction & Course overview

What is Criminology?

Readings: Chapter 1

Understanding Crime

Readings: Chapter 3

**Weeks 2:** Response of democratic states to the threat of terrorism: The case of Canada

Readings: Notes

Video: "Will Canada deport to torture?"

Correlates of crime

Readings: Chapter 5

**Week 3:** Early theories of crime

Readings: Chapter 8

**Week 4:** Psychological theories of crime

Readings: Chapter 9

Video: Josef Fritzl: "The Secrets of the Austrian Cellar"

**Midterm #1: Thursday, 8 February 2018. Covers all lectures, chapters (1, 3, 5, 8, 9.) and PowerPoint notes from weeks 1 to 4.**

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**Weeks 5:** Organized crime

Readings: Chapter 16

Video: “The Russian Mafia: A World History”; Hells Angels, Montreal  
Canada documentary

**Week 6:** Strain theories

Readings: Chapter 10

Videos: “Life in Prison”; “Man robs bank for \$1 to get medical care”

Interactionist theories

Readings: Chapter 13

**Week 7:** Social control theories

Readings: Chapter 14

**Midterm #2: Thursday, 15 March 2018. Covers all lectures, chapters (16, 10, 13, 14) and PowerPoint notes from weeks 5 to 7.**

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**Week 8:** Feminism and Criminology

Readings: Chapter 6

**Week 9:** Conflict theories

Readings: Chapter 11

**Week 10:** Street/Conventional crime

Readings: Chapter 15

**Week 11:** Crime and Deviance on the Internet

Readings: Chapter 18 and notes on eClass

**Week 12:** Corporate and white-collar crime

Readings: Chapter 17 and Notes on eClass

Video on Enron.

Revisions

**Final Exam: Thursday 12 April 2018 @ 6 pm. Covers all lectures, chapters (6, 11, 15, 17, 18) and PowerPoint notes from weeks 8 to 12.**

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**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Students are expected to be aware of their academic responsibilities. This section contains important information but does **NOT** exhaust all of your responsibilities.

1. **REGISTRATION STATUS:** Students are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their registration in courses. This can be checked online at any time.

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2. **WITHDRAWING FROM THE COURSE:** Students who stop attending class must officially withdraw from the course. This must be done by the official withdrawal deadline for the course, which is available online. Failure to withdraw properly will result in a grade being assigned that is based on completed course work.
  3. **EXAMS:** Your student photo I.D. is required at exams to verify your identity. At the discretion of the instructor, students may or may not be allowed to begin an examination after it has been in progress for 15 minutes. Students must remain in the exam room for at least 30 minutes from the time the exam commenced. Consumption of food is not allowed during exams. Electronic equipment is not to be brought to exams.
  4. **MISSED EXAMS:** When a student misses an exam, test, or quiz the instructor should be notified of the reason within **48 hours**. In general, some type of official documentation is required in order to obtain an excused absence. For **medical illnesses**, you can present any of the following:
    - “University of Alberta Medical Statement” signed by a doctor (*accepted if provided in lieu of other documents*)
    - "Medical Declaration Form for Students" (*for Faculty of Arts students*)
    - "Statutory Declaration" (*for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from home Faculty or the Office of the Registrar*). For other acceptable absences, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation to the situation. Examples include:
      - For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
      - For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
      - For a car accident – a copy of the accident report
      - For other serious afflictions – consult with Instructor or Department about appropriate documents
    - **The weight of a missed exam cannot be transferred to another exam. There will be a make-up exam if a student meets the necessary requirements.**
  5. **MISSED FINAL EXAM:** Documentary evidence in section 4 (above) applies. In addition, application for deferred exam must be made to your home faculty within 48 hours from the missed final exam. Professors are unable to defer final exams for any student. ‘A student who has missed a final exam because of incapacitating mental and/or physical illness, severe domestic affliction or for circumstances as described in the University's Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy (including religious belief) may apply for a deferred exam. To apply for a deferred exam where the cause is incapacitating mental and/or physical illness and most other cases including severe domestic affliction, a student must present supporting documentation pertaining to the absence to their Faculty office within two working days following the scheduled date of the exam missed, or as soon as the student is able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence.’

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Deferred final exam for this course is scheduled for *Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 9:00 am. The location is BUS 1-10. Approval from your home faculty is required.*

6. **EVALUATIVE/COURSE MATERIAL:** Practice questions will be made available online to ensure adequate preparations for exams. Preparation for each exam should include your notes from lectures, PowerPoint notes on eClass and assigned chapters of the required text. **PowerPoint notes are regularly updated. It is your responsibility to copy the updates during lectures.**
7. **STATISTICAL DATA:** The course material contains many criminal justice-related statistical data. However, *you do not need to memorize statistics*. It is important to understand the context, trends and patterns of the statistics. In other words, what do the statistics speak to? You should learn salient information from the statistics that you can apply when and if required.
8. **EXTRA CREDITS:** There is **no** provision for extra credits in this course. Avoid making any request for extra work or assignment to boost your grade. Such a request will not be entertained. This includes requests for rounding final marks to the nearest whole number.
9. **CELL PHONES AND INTERNET:** Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off during lectures, and exams (except under exceptional circumstances in which approval has been granted by the instructor). It is **not** appropriate to use any devices to browse the Internet when class is in progress.
10. **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students who require accommodation in this course due to a disability are advised to discuss their needs with disability services and the instructor.
11. **INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS AND PRESENTATIONS:** Students are expected to treat all videos screened in class and guest presentations (if any) as part of course material.
12. **CLASSROOM ETHICS:** Students are expected to be punctual. Students may not leave the room during the lecture except in case of a classroom emergency or prior permission from the professor.
13. **COURSE OUTLINE POLICY:** “Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar.”
14. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** “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

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with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [www.governance.ualberta.ca](http://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.”

15. “Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).”

**Disclaimer:** The information in this course outline is subject to change; any changes will be announced in class.