

SOCIOLOGY 327 (B1)
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION IN CANADA
Winter, 2017
M W F 3:00 - 3:50
T B 95

Instructor: Dr. Alison Dunwoody

Office: T 6-12

Office Hours: M and W 8:30 – 9:30, or by appointment

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NOTE: Generally, students can expect a response to email within 24 hours, except on weekends and holidays. However, emails sent from accounts other than the U of A will not be opened or responded to. Please indicate SOC 327 in the subject line of all emails.

NOTE: Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar.

Course Description:

This course offers a comprehensive look at the Canadian criminal justice system with a particular emphasis on policing, courts and corrections. As we explore this complex and continually evolving system, we will address the broader social forces and conditions that impact the development, implementation, and evolution of criminal justice. We will also discuss some of the current issues facing the justice system including the challenge of balancing retribution with rehabilitation, as well as, controversies surrounding community policing, victims' rights, wrongful convictions, and capital punishment. **Prerequisite:** SOC 225 or consent of Instructor.

Course Objectives:

- To help students understand the various components of the criminal justice system and how they relate to and interact with one another
- To help students appreciate the law and how it is interconnected with crime, criminal justice professionals and public expectations
- To make students aware of the problems, potential injustices and ironies inherent in the Canadian criminal justice system
- To provide students with a foundation from which to critically reflect on Canada's response to criminal behaviour

Classroom Policies:

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and to remain until the end of the lecture.
- While students are encouraged to ask questions and contribute to class discussion, they are not permitted to engage in casual conversations with their fellow students during the lecture.
- While laptops are permitted in class, they are to be used solely for the purpose of taking notes. The use of other electronic devices (e.g., cell phones) is not permitted.
- **The Instructor will not provide lecture notes or videos to students who miss class. Neither will links to videos be provided. Students who miss class are responsible for obtaining the notes from another student and for accessing any missed videos.**

NOTE: 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).

Required Course Text:

Criminal Justice in Canada: A Reader (2016 – Fifth Edition) by Julian V. Roberts and Michelle G. Grossman (published by Nelson Education).

Course Requirements:

Mid-Term – 30% - scheduled for March 1

Assignment – 30% - due on March 20

Final Exam – 40% - **tentatively** scheduled for April 24 at 2:00 pm

Grading Policy:

Grades will not be assigned on the basis of a particular distribution (e.g., bell curve) but will be assigned based on the individual merits of students. Grades are not negotiable. While guidelines for grading are provided by the University, they are to be thought of as just that, guidelines. Consequently, while the distribution of grades for this course will likely approximate these guidelines, it will not necessarily correspond with them exactly.

Mid-Term and Final Exam:

The mid-term and the final exam will be comprised of multiple choice and short answer questions. Students are responsible for all lecture notes, class discussions, videos and assigned readings from the text. Sample exam questions will be posted on eClass at the conclusion of our coverage of each major lecture topic.

Neither absence from class nor travel plans will be accepted as legitimate reasons for failure to attend an exam. An unexcused absence will result in a grade of zero for that exam. Should a student miss the mid-term, he or she must contact the Instructor via e-mail within two working days of the originally scheduled exam, or as soon as the student is able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence. Please note that depending upon the circumstances, appropriate documentation may be required (e.g., “Medical Declaration Form for Students,” “Statutory Declaration,” police report, death notice, court documents). Students with an excused absence must write the missed exam rather than shift the weight of that exam to other course requirements. Students who have missed the midterm, and who have an excused absence, will write an alternate midterm on Monday March 6 at 8:00 am. If a student fails to write the final exam, he or she must formally apply to his or her 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, in order to be considered for a deferral. The decision to grant a deferred final exam is not the Instructor’s. Deferred examinations are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction; applications based on minor or inconsequential ailments will not be approved. Please also note that as stated in Attendance of the University Calendar, “a deferred examination will not be approved if a student (a) has not been in regular attendance where attendance and/or participation are required, and/or, (b) excluding the final exam, has completed less than half of the assigned work.” There is only one date for deferred final exams. Students granted a deferred final exam will write the exam on Saturday May 6, 2017 at 9:00 am in BUS 1-10.

NOTE: Students are required to have their University of Alberta Student ID card for ALL exams. Students may not enter the exam area after the first 30 minutes has elapsed. Students may not leave the exam area until the first 30 minutes has elapsed.

Assignment:

A description of the assignment and the criteria by which it will be evaluated will be posted on eClass.

Assignments are due by 4:00 pm on March 20. Assignments may be submitted either in class or to the main

office of the Sociology Department (Tory 5-21). **E-mail submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.** Late assignments will have 10% deducted per day beyond the due date (including weekends) and assignments more than one week late will not be accepted. In such instances, a grade of zero will be given.

Tentative Lecture Schedule and Assigned Readings:

Date	Topic	Reading
Jan 9	Introduction to the Course	
Jan 11-13	Criminal Justice in Canada: An Overview	Ch 1
Jan 16-18	Criminal Justice and the <i>Charter</i>	Ch 2
Jan 20	Media Representations of Crime and Criminal Justice	Ch 3
Jan 23-27	Policing: History, Structure, and Organization	Ch 4
Jan 30	Community Policing	Ch 11
Feb 1	Police Oversight and Accountability	Ch 12
Feb 6	Criminal Law and the Court System	
Feb 8	Key Players: Lawyers and Judges	Ch 5, 6 & 7
Feb 10-13	The Criminal Court Process	Ch 13 & 14
Feb 15-27	Sentencing	
Mar 1	Mid-Term (covers Chapters 1-7 and 11-14)	
Mar 3-6	Institutional Corrections	Ch 10, 27 & 28
Mar 8	Community Corrections	Ch 8
Mar 10-15	Conditional Release	Ch 9
Mar 17-22	Offender Populations	Ch 15, 16 & 17
Mar 24	Youth Justice	Ch 21 & 22
Mar 27-29	Wrongful Convictions	Ch 18, 19 & 20
Mar 31	Domestic Violence	Ch 23 & 26
Apr 3	Crime Victims	Ch 24
Apr 5-7	Corporate Crime	Ch 25
Apr 10-12	Capital Punishment	

Class attendance is NOT optional. Periodically, videos will be shown in class, details from which are considered testable material. It is students' responsibility to ensure that they have all necessary materials in preparation for exams as neither lecture notes nor videos will be made available outside of class. Lecture outlines will be posted on eClass. However, outlines should not be taken as a substitute for attending class as important information may not be covered in the outlines.

Grading:

Description	Percentage	Grade	Value
Excellent	95 – 100	A+	4.0
	90 – 94.9	A	4.0
	85 – 89.9	A-	3.7
Good	80 – 84.9	B+	3.3
	75 – 79.9	B	3.0
	70 – 74.9	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	66 – 69.9	C+	2.3
	62 – 65.9	C	2.0
	58 – 61.9	C-	1.7

Poor	54 – 57.9	D+	1.3
Minimal Pass	50 – 53.9	D	1.0
Fail	0 – 49.9	F	0.0

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 with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at 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.

For further information about Academic Integrity and to access the Academic Integrity Handbook for students, visit the Student Conduct and Accountability website at <http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en/Students.aspx>.