

Course Outline**CRCJ 4002B Cultural Criminology
Winter 2024**

Prerequisites: CRCJ1000, CRCJ2100, fourth year standing, and enrollment in a B.A. or minor in criminology and criminal justice, or by permission of the Institute.

Day & Time: Wednesday 11:35 To 2:25pm

Instructor: Meg D. Lonergan (they/she)

Office Hours: Details on Brightspace.

Email: Megan.Lonergan@cunet.carleton.ca

Link To Brightspace Page: Will be listed on Brightspace under the winter 2024 tab.

Course Description

This course is a special topics seminar on the field of cultural criminology. Cultural criminology is a subfield of criminology that understands both “crime” and “culture” to be processes of collective meaning, wrapped up in symbolism, identity, and socio-political relations. Born out of the subcultural and symbolic interactionist research of Birmingham and Chicago schools in the 1960s, “Cultural criminology actively seeks to dissolve conventional understandings and accepted boundaries, whether they confine specific criminological theories or the institutionalized discipline of criminology itself.”¹ This course will explore how crime is cultural and culture can be criminal.

Content Warning

Learning can be, and often is, an uncomfortable experience. The course contains conversations and themes related to censorship, crime, justice, violence, and victimization. Students will encounter cultural texts that some may find difficult; students are required to attend a film screening without knowing what the film is in advance. Students should discuss any concerns with the instructor as soon as possible.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course students will be familiar with the subfield of cultural criminology within the broader discipline of criminology and criminal justice studies. Students will learn about the historical, contemporary, and future trajectories of research in this field; the theories and methodologies that underpin the cultural criminology; major areas of study; seminal authors in the field; and controversies and critiques of cultural criminology. Seminars will be discussion driven. Being that this is a fourth-year special topics course, students are expected to come to class having completed the assigned readings with questions or points for further discussion with their instructor and peers.

¹ Ferrell, Jeff., Hayward, Keith, and Young, Jock. (2015). *Cultural Criminology: An Invitation* (2nd ed.). SAGE Publications, at p. 5.

Texts

All required readings will be available via Brightspace under the week they are assigned for.

Compulsory Ancillary Fees

Students are required to have or to purchase an annual membership to the Mayfair Theatre at a cost of **\$14** (includes tax). **A current membership card is required for the field trip and corresponding report assignment.** Memberships are good for one year from date of purchase and provide discounts on admission prices for that calendar year. Memberships can be purchased from the Mayfair box office during opening hours at 1074 Bank Street (the corner of Bank and Sunnyside).

Acknowledgement & Affirmation

Anishnabe

Ni manàdjyànàinig Màmìwininì Anishinàbeg, ogog kà nàgadawàbandadjig iyo akì eko weshkad. Ako nongom ega wìkàd kì mìgiwewàdj. Ni manàdjyànàinig kakina Anishinàbeg ondaje kaye ogog kakina eniyagizidjig enigokamigàg Kanadàng eji ondàpinangig endàwàdjìn Odàwàng. Ninisidawinawànàinig kenawendamòdjig kije kikenindamàwin; weshkinìgidjig kaye kejeyàdizidjig. Nigijeweninmànàinig ogog kà nìgànì sòngideyedjig; weshkad, nongom; kaye àyànikàdj.

English

We pay respect to the Algonquin people, who are the traditional guardians of this land. We acknowledge their longstanding relationship with this territory, which remains unceded. We pay respect to all Indigenous people in this region, from all nations across Canada, who call Ottawa home. We acknowledge the traditional knowledge keepers, both young and old. And we honour their courageous leaders: past, present, future.

Evaluation

All course components must be completed to successfully complete this course.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Attendance and active participation: 15%

- *Cumulative*
- Attendance is showing up to class on a regular basis.
- Active participation is different than attendance—it requires active engagement in the form of asking and answering questions, participating in discussions, etc.
- Students are expected to attend class having completed the assigned reading and prepared to discuss content and themes for the week.

Weekly reading reflections and discussion questions: 25%

- *Cumulative*
- Due Tuesday evening by 8pm the night before class via Brightspace
- Should discuss and reflection on the assigned readings.
- Should include at least one discussion question per reading.
- Submissions should be 1-2 pages double spaces; include proper citation and references.
- Further details available on Brightspace and will be discussed in class.

Cultural Criminology in Action and report: 25 %

Must be submitted by March 1st by 8pm via Brightspace

- Students will attend a Sinema screening at the Mayfair Theatre, the oldest cinema in Ottawa (opened in 1932); located a short distance from Carleton University
- Sinema is a members-only film screening event.
- Screenings normally happen monthly (the last Saturday of the month) or sometimes twice monthly on Saturday nights at 11:30pm [specific dates and times to be posted, January 27 and February 24th are confirmed options]
- Students will attend one of the scheduled Sinema events and report on their experience and connect it to course content and themes.
- Report details are available on Brightspace.

Final Project: Criminogenic Culture (?) 35%

- Topics must be signed up for by January 31st.
- Details and list available on Brightspace
- Students will select a case wherein a cultural text was blamed for a crime, whether in court proceedings, the media, popular discourse, or some combination
- Students will demonstrate engagement and understanding of course concepts, themes, theories, etc. by applying them to an original analysis of their selected case and broader criminological context.
- **Due date during examination period as determined by SES.**

Course Calendar

January 10th, 2024

Week 1: Introduction to Cultural Criminology

Ferrell, Jeff. (1999). Cultural criminology. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 25, 395-418.

Presdee, Mike. (2004). Cultural criminology: The long and winding road. *Theoretical Criminology*, 8(3), 275-285.

Webber, Craig. (2007). Background, foreground, foresight: The third dimension of cultural criminology? *Crime Media Culture*, 3(2), 139-157.

January 17th, 2024

Week 2: Meaning in Cultural Criminology

Ebert, Theresa L. (2016). The poverty of (post)humanities. *Knowledge Cultures*, 4(6), 25-54.

Ferrell, Jeff. (2013). Cultural criminology and the politics of meaning. *Critical Criminology*, 21, 257-271.

Wilson, Eric. (2016). "Gods and monsters," in *Lovecraft, the Weird Tale, and Conspiracy Theory*. Punctum Books, pp. 15-28.

Optional: Carrier, Nicolas. (2011). Critical criminology meets radical constructivism. *Critical Criminology*, 19(4), 331-350.

January 24th, 2024

Week 3: Methods of Cultural Criminology

Carrabine, Eamonn. (2017). "Social science and visual culture," in Michelle Brown and Eamonn Carrabine (eds.), *Routledge International Handbook of Visual Criminology*, London: Routledge, pp. 23-39.

Kane, Stephanie C. (2004). The unconventional methods of cultural criminology. *Theoretical Criminology*, 8(3), 303-321.

O'Neill, Maggie. (2010). Cultural criminology and sex work: Resisting regulation through radical democracy and participatory action research (PAR). *Journal of Law and Society*, 37(1), 210-232.

Optional: Ferrell, Jeff., Hayward, Keith., and Young, Jock. (2015). "Dangerous knowledges: Some methods of cultural criminology," in *Cultural Criminology: An Invitation*. London: Sage, pp. 209-239.

January 31st, 2024

Week 4: Narrative

Bleakley, Paul. (2023). The past is prologue: Towards a historico-narrative approach at the intersection of historical criminology and narrative criminology. *Crime, Media, Culture*, 19(4), 421-437.

Presser, Lois., and Sanberg, Sveinung. (2019). Narrative criminology as critical criminology. *Critical Criminology*, 27, 131-143.

Sanberg, Sveinung. (2010). What can 'lies' tell us about life? Notes towards a framework on narrative criminology. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 21 (4), 447-467.

Optional: Georgis, Dina. (2013). "Introduction: What's in a Better Story, or Listening Queerly," in *The Better Story: Queer Affects from the Middle East*. NY: State University of New York Press, pp. 1-26.

February 7th

Week 5: The Visual

Carney, Phil. (2010). "Crime, punishment and the force of the photographic spectacle," in Keith Hayward and Mike Presdee's *Framing crime: Cultural criminology and the imagine*. Taylor & Francis Group, pp. 17-35.

Linnemann, Travis., Hanson, Laura., and Williams, L. Susan. (2013). 'With scenes of blood and pain': Crime control and the punitive imagination of The Meth Project. *British Journal of Criminology*, 53, 605-623.

Young, Alison. (2014). From object to encounter: Aesthetic politics and visual criminology. *Theoretical Criminology*, 18(2), 159-175.

Optional: Linnemann, Travis. (2017). Proof of death: Police power and the visual economies of seizure, accumulation and trophy. *Theoretical Criminology*, 21 (1), 57-77.

February 14th (Happy Valentine's Day)

Week 6: Popular Criminology

Flanagan, Timothy J. (1987). Change and influence in popular criminology. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 15(3), 231-243.

Kohm, Steven A., and Greenhill, Pauline. (2011). Pedophile crime films as popular criminology: A problem of justice? *Theoretical Criminology*, 15(2), 195-215.

Presdee, Mike. (2000). "Hurt, humiliation and crime as popular pleasure" in *Cultural criminology and the carnival of crime*. New York: Routledge, pp. 69-85.

Optional: Jones, Steve. The origin of faeces. *Porn Studies*, 4(4), 473-476.

February 19th to 23rd: Winter Break

February 28th (*It's a leap year!*)

Week 7: Criminology Goes to the Movies

Cleary, Sarah. (2023). "The myth of harm: An introduction," in *The myth of harm: Horror, censorship and the child*. UK: Bloomsbury, pp. 1-33.

Kohm, Steven, and Walby, Kevin. (2022). Deforming justice: Representing punishment in The Human Centipede III: Final Sequence. *Crime Media Culture*, 18(1), 85-104.

Rafter, Nicole., and Brown, Michelle. (2011). "Taking criminology to the movies," in *Criminology Goes to the Movies: Crime Theory and Popular Culture*. New York: New York University Press, pp. 1-13.

March 6th

Week 8: Critiques

Ferrell, Jeff. (2007). For a ruthless cultural criticism of everything existing. *Crime Media Culture*, 3(1), 91-100.

O'Brien, Martin. (2005). What is cultural about cultural criminology. *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(5), 599-612.

Spencer, Dale. (2011). Cultural criminology: An invitation...to what? *Critical Criminology*, 19, 197-212.

March 13th

Week 9: Undisciplined

Naegler, Laura., and Salman, Sara. (2016). Cultural criminology and gender consciousness: Moving feminist theory from margin to center. *Feminist Criminology*, 11(4), 354-374.

Rafter, Nicole. (2008). Criminology's darkest hour: Biocriminology in Nazi Germany. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 41(2), 287-306.

Stephens-Griffin, Nathan. (2023). Biting back: A green-cultural criminology of animal liberation struggle as constructed through online communiques. *Crime, Media, Culture*, 19(2), 252-273.

March 20th

Week 10: Ghost Criminology

Carrabine, Eamonn. (2022). "After the fact: Spectral evidence, cultural haunting, and gothic sensibility," in Michael Fiddler, Theo Kindynis, and Travis Linnemann (eds.) *Ghost Criminology: The afterlife of crime and punishment*, New York: New York University Press, pp. 35-66.

Fiddler, Michael. (2019). Ghosts of other stories: A synthesis of hauntology, crime and space. *Crime Media Culture*, 15(3), 463-477.

Hutchings, Peter J. (2001). "This subject of ghosts," in *The criminal specter in law, literature and aesthetics: Incriminating subjects*. New York: Routledge, pp. 1-25.

Optional: Lonergan, Meg D. (2023). Consuming ghost stories: The spectre of snuff films is haunting Canadian obscenity. *The Annual Review of Interdisciplinary Justice Research*, 12, 147-178.

March 27th

Week 11: Public/Policy Criminology

Atkinson, Christopher L. (2019). "Semiotic analysis and public policy: Theory and practice," in *Semiotic analysis and public policy: Connecting theory and practice*. New York: Routledge, pp. 24-46.

Kohm, Steven A. (2020). Claims-making, child saving, and the news media. *Crime Media Culture*, 16(1), 115-137.

Uggen, Christopher., and Inderbitzin, Michelle. (2010). Public criminologies. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 9(4), 725-749.

March 29th: **Statutory Holiday**

April 3rd

Course Wrap-Up/Paper Workshop

Exam period: April 13th to 25th

Policies and Regulations

Late Penalties and Extension Policy:

Please be sure to ask for extensions as far in advance as is foreseeable. Asking in advance demonstrates organization and planning. Sometimes unforeseeable things do happen, of course, so please let me know if situations arise and you need accommodations. The university's self-declaration form is still available for medical situations. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

Assignments submitted late without notice and extensions will be penalized 5% per day. Assignments more than 7 days late may not be accepted; please contact your instructor to negotiate submission at or beyond the 7-day mark.

Email Correspondence and Etiquette:

I endeavor to respond to all emails within 72 hours. If I have not replied to your email sent between Monday and Friday within that timeframe, please do not hesitate to send a follow-up email. Emails should be of a polite and professional tone.

Plagiarism

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.*" This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source.

Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Resubmitting course work that is substantively the same as has been submitted for another assignment;
- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and

- failing to acknowledge sources using proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

Intellectual Property

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s). **Audio and video recording in lecture is strictly prohibited without the written consent of the instructor.**

Statement on Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>

- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Illness

It is important to remember that COVID, the flu, and other illnesses are present in Ottawa. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus.

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other.

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors and Victims of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation For Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>