

Course Outline

COURSE: CRCJ 1000 A
Introduction to Criminology & Criminal Justice

TERM: Fall 2017

PREREQUISITES:

CLASS: Day & Time: Monday – 2:35pm -5:25pm
Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location.

INSTRUCTOR: Jeffrey Monaghan
(CONTRACT)

CONTACT: Office: C576 Loeb
Office Hrs: Tuesdays 1-3pm or by appointment
Telephone: NA
Email: Jeffrey.monaghan@carleton.ca

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 more details see the [Student Guide](#)

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 see the [Student Guide](#)

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 (www.carleton.ca/pmc/) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Context

Crime is one of the most contentious social issues in the world today. Public debates, political campaigns, media reports, and family discussions circulate around questions of crime rates, the nature of punishment, and the role of police, residents, courts, communities, victims, etc. But what exactly is a crime? Who decides on categories of crime, the enforcement of criminal laws, the rules of a courtroom, prison policies, or correctional programs targeting those convicted of crimes? How can theoretical perspectives help explain crime and criminal justice? How do social issues become criminalized and how have societies – Canada in particular – approached fundamental questions of innocence, guilt, punishment, and justice? Questions about the intersection of crime and society, such as these, are at the heart of contemporary criminological debates. This class will serve as an introduction to the key topics in criminology; exploring intellectual histories of criminological thought, from its emergence as a particular disciplinary undertaking, to its application across a spectrum of social issues in Canada.

During the course, students will explore key aspects of the emergence of criminology as an academic discipline, numerous theories around crime and criminality, and several key issues related to contemporary criminal justice. We will learn various ways to define and conceptualize “crimes,” the basic structures of Canada’s criminal justice system, theories of punishment, studies of policing and police work, the centrality of crime statistics to our social understanding of criminality, as well as discussing a number of diverse frameworks associated with criminological research. Overall, students in the course should be prepared for a detailed introduction to the field of criminology and a willingness to constructively engage with numerous issues related to Canada’s criminal justice system.

Objectives

The objective of the class is to familiarize students with the basic tenets of the criminal justice system and criminological thought, while demonstrating an ability to apply this knowledge to contemporary issues. By the end of the course, students should be comfortable discussing and writing about an array of issues/concepts related to crime and criminal justice. Students should demonstrate:

- > A general understanding of organizations and mechanisms of the criminal justice system in Canada;
- > Knowledge of the historical evolution of criminological thought;
- > A general comfort with the various theories, frameworks, schools, paradigms, etc., for understanding crime and society;
- > An understanding of criminalization processes;
- > A general knowledge of themes related to the penal regime;
- > Comfort in discussing a number of contemporary criminological issues; and
- > An ability to critically analyze issues of crime and society from an academically-informed position.

Required Course Materials

1. *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective* (8th edition). Rick Linden (Editor).

Available at Octopus Books (Third Avenue, just off Bank St., Ottawa).

Additional course readings will be made available through cuLearn. For a full list see the reading schedule provided below.

Evaluation

A – Assignment #1: Review and Critical Reflection (10%)

DUE: Week 6 (October 20th). One page, single spaced. Submit online by 4:30pm on Friday, October 20th. Please include student name, number, course code, and instructor name.

Assignment #1 is a review and critical reflection on two of the required readings for Week 5: a) Howard Morton's chapter entitled "Investigative detentions and street checks" and b) the new Ontario regulations on police carding, known as Regulation 58: Collection of Identifying information in certain circumstances. Your task is to read both readings and write a short critical reflection on the discussion presented within the readings surrounding police use of "carding" practices. Your critical reflection should address: What key legal issues are raised by Morton about the practices of street checks (aka carding)? How do the new Ontario regs address these criticisms? Do you think the regulations are satisfactory? Do you believe that Mr. Morton would believe the regulations are satisfactory? Requirements and approaches for the assignment will be discussed in class during weeks #2, #3, and #4.

Late submissions will be penalized one mark per day to a maximum of four. Late assignments can be submitted until October 24th.

B – Mid-term Examination (40%)

Week 8 (October 30th). Based on the content of all lectures and readings from lectures 1 to 6. Closed-book format. The exam will include true/false, multiple choice questions, and short-answers questions.

C – Final Examination (50%)

Scheduled during final exam period. Closed-book format based on the content of all course materials: lectures and mandatory readings. The exam will include true/false, multiple choice questions, and short-answers questions.

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.

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Statement on Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

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.

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WEEKLY READINGS

Sept 11: Week 1

Introduction and overview to CRCJ 1000: Review of course objectives and important timelines; Introductory remarks on crime, criminals, and criminology.

Sept 18: Week 2

What is a crime? What is criminology? Criminological Emergence

Crime as an object of study; Social distribution of crime; Criminalization processes; Origins of criminology; definitions of crime; deviance; conflict vs consensus theories.

Required readings:

Rafter, Nicole (2011). “Origins of Criminology” in *What is criminology?* Edited by Mary Bosworth and Carolyn Holye. Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press, Pp 143-154.

Chapter 1: “Crime, Criminals, and Criminology” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 2-30.

Sept 25: Week 3

Criminal law and the criminal justice system

Rise of law; social context of dispute resolution; emergence of criminal justice system; functions of criminal law; criminal liabilities; definition of crime in Canada; prosecutorial processes and criminal defences; Charter; Actus reus and mens rea.

Required readings:

Chapter 2: “The social context of dispute resolution and the rise of law” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 31-54.

Chapter 3: “Criminal Law” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 55-89

October 2: Week 4

Crime Statistics and Victimology

Statistics and governance; Official crime data; court statistics; Victimization and Self-Report Surveys; Victimology; correlates of crime; differential offending hypothesis; differential treatment hypothesis.

Required readings:

Chapter 4: “Counting Crime” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 90-118.

Chapter 5: “Correlates of criminal behaviour” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 119-154.

Juristat (2017). Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2016. Online:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/54842-eng.htm>

Recommended reading:

Chapter 7: “Victimology, victim services, and victim rights in Canada” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 187-222.

October 9: Week 5

Statutory holiday, no class.

October 16: Week 6

Introduction to Policing Studies

History of policing in Canada; NWMP; Quebec Police Force; Newfoundland Constabulary; anglo-American policing tradition; Racial profiling and “street checks”. Legal and political issues with carding practices.

Required readings:

Forcese, Dennis (1999). “Origins and Comparisons” in Policing Canadian Society, pp. 11-39.

Morton, Howard (2015) “Investigative Detention and Street checks.” In *Putting the State on Trial*, edited by Margaret Beare, Nathalie Des Rosiers, and Abigail Deshman, Pp. 168 – 197.

Ontario (2016). Reg. 58/16: Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances - Prohibition and Duties. Available online: https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r16058?_ga=1.261110029.1238231610.1471810165

+++++++ MID-TERM REVIEW +++++ Last 15 mins of class.

*****Assignment #1 due by the end of the week, Friday October 20th*****

October 23: Week 7

===== Reading Week =====

October 30: Week 8

Mid-term exam

In-class.

November 6: Week 9

Crime theories I: Classical, biological and Psychological

What are theories of crime? Classical School; Positivist School; Statistical School; Italian School; Phrenology; biocriminology and genetics; the “warrior gene”; psychoanalysis; personality theories; psychopathy; learning theories.

Required readings:

Chapter 8: “Early theories of criminology” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 224-247.

Chapter 9: Psychological perspectives on criminality” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 248-279.

November 13: Week 10

Crime theories II: Strain and conflict

Durkheim: anomie and strain theories; opportunity structures; crimes of powerful and powerless; cultural conflict; group conflict; Marxism; left realism.

Required readings:

Chapter 10: “Strain theories” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 280-302.

Chapter 11: “Conflict theories” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 303-325.

November 20: Week 11

Crime theories III:

Control theory; The Chicago School; Differential association; social disorganization; social bonds; routine action theory; deterrence; neo-classical theories.

Required readings:

Chapter 13: “Interactionist theories” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 357-379

Chapter 14: “Social control theory” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 380-406.

Chapter 15: “Deterrence, Routine activity, and rational choice theories” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 407-432.

November 27: Week 12

Crime theories IV: Critical Criminology, Feminism, Abolitionism

Critical criminology; Marxism and neo-marxism; Feminism; Foucault; risk society; abolitionism.

Required readings:

Chapter 6: “Feminism and criminology” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 155-186.

Chapter 12: “Contemporary critical criminology” in *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*, edited by Rick Linden. Pgs 326-356.

“Abolitionism,” in *Key Perspectives in Criminology*. New York: Open University Press. Pp 1-5.

December 4: Week 13

Topics in criminology: Security aid and global (in)security

Required readings:

Excerpts from Monaghan, Jeffrey (2017). *Security Aid: Canada’s Regime of Security Development*. University of Toronto Press.

December 8: Week 14 (Friday)

Exam Review

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