

Course Outline
CRCJ 4002A: Special Topics: Masculinity, Crime, and Victimization
Fall 2025

Instructor: Adina Ilea, PhD
Office Hours: By appointment
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CLASS:
Day & Time: Online, Asynchronous

Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses: CRCJ 2100, fourth-year standing, and enrollment in a B.A. or Minor in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AFFIRMATION

ANISHNABE

Ni manàdjiyànànig Màmìwininì Anishinàbeg, ogog kà nàgadawàbandadjig iyo akì eko weshkad. Ako nongom ega wìkàd kì mìgiwewàdj.

Ni manàdjiyànànig kakina Anishinàbeg ondaje kaye ogog kakina eniyagizidjig enigokamigàg Kanadàng eji ondàpinangig endàwàdjìn Odàwàng.

Ninìsidawinawànànig kenawendamòdjig kije kikenindamàwin; weshkinìgidjig kaye kejeyàdizidjig.

Nìgijeweninmànànig 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

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Both arrest data and self-report data has consistently shown us that men commit more crime than women. Men are also more likely to be the victims of violent crime than women. Yet criminology, as a discipline, has historically ignored these findings by presenting men as the ‘normal subjects’ and ignoring the gendered aspect of their behaviour and experiences. In this course we will explore various subjects related to masculinity, crime, and victimization. The first part of the course focuses on masculinity theories, men’s experiences of crime and imprisonment, while the second part of the course focuses on male victimization, as well as institutional violence against men.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

- This course is offered fully on-line, asynchronously.
- A narrated PowerPoint Presentation (PPT) will be made available on Brightspace every Tuesday by 5:00 PM. Each PPT will correspond with the assigned readings for that day.

- For each class, students will be required to do the corresponding readings (see readings schedule below). In addition, students may be asked to watch documentaries, listen to podcasts and read relevant news stories (links included in the PPT or in Brightspace).
- Please see the **evaluation section** below for a complete breakdown of the various components of evaluation.
- Please note that quizzes and the mid-term exam are based on both PPT content (including documentaries, podcasts, clips, and news stories), AND the readings. Therefore, students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the readings each week.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through the lectures and assigned readings, and engagement with each other students will be able to think critically about gender, masculinity, crime and victimization. The online discussion component of the course will allow students to engage with each other, share ideas and develop their critical thinking skills. The final essay will enable students to demonstrate their ability to conduct research in an area related to masculinity and crime/victimization.

Reading (s)/Textbook (s):

There is no textbook to purchase for this course. All the readings will be provided on Brightspace (under Ares Reserves). Additional short readings (usually news articles or op-ed pieces) may be included in the PowerPoint lecture. Students are responsible for all content, including podcasts, films, short clips, and news articles included in the syllabus and /or in the lectures.

⇒ Please carefully read the course schedule at the end of this syllabus for the weekly assigned material and evaluation components.

EVALUATION

Assigned readings, PowerPoint lectures, including any podcasts, news articles, film or other media clips are considered course material and the information they contain may be included in quizzes and exam.

QUIZZES (20%)

There will be 4 on-line multiple-choice quizzes, each worth 5% for a total of 20%. During the week when there is a quiz, the quiz will become available on **Tuesday at 5:00PM**. You will have until the following **Monday at 11:59PM** to complete it (there is one exception to this; see course schedule at the end of the syllabus). Once you start a quiz, you will have **20 minutes** to complete it (accommodations will be made for students registered with PMC to receive more time).

REFLECTION (15%)

The reflection assignment has two parts (part one is worth 5% and part two is worth 10%). First, students will be tasked with writing an initial reflection of what they believe / know about masculinity, crime, and victimization. This first part of the reflection is due on Monday, September 15 (the day BEFORE our first lecture). Late submissions will not be accepted. Grading of this portion will be lenient (with a pass/fail approach). No outside research is required; this is simply a way to document your initial knowledge of the course topic, which you will use for the second part of the assignment. Specific instructions will be provided on the first day of the course.

The second part of the reflection is due Tuesday, November 25 by 11:59PM. For the second part, students will reflect on a particular reading/ lecture or on the course material as a whole and submit a well-thought-out reflection on the impact of the course material (or the particular reading and /or lecture) on their thoughts and beliefs on masculinity, crime, and victimization. Students should consider, and refer to, their initial reflection in this second, more developed reflection. The assignment should use proper in-text citations and include a reference page. No outside research is required for this assignment. Specific instructions will be provided during the second week of the course.

ON-GOING ONLINE DISCUSSION (10%)

Students will be expected to participate in the on-going discussion board on Brightspace. Prompts will be provided. More information on how to participate in online discussions and expectations will be provided during the first week of the course.

TEST (30%)

The test will open on Tuesday, November 18, at 10:00AM and close on Wednesday, November 19, at 11:59PM. Once you log in to write the test, you have 2 hours to complete it. You can only attempt writing the test once. Accommodations will be made for students registered with PMC to receive extra time. Includes: Medium-length answer questions (no multiple choice). Students will be required to use their own words and write in full sentences. More information on the test, including a study guide will be provided at least a week in advance.

NOTE: Students who miss the **test** due to illness, or other circumstances beyond their control are required to contact the professor as soon as possible. Please note that no accommodations will be made for students who miss a test due to work or travel plans.

ESSAY (25% topic, thesis statement and outline 5% and final draft 20%)

Students are tasked with writing an 8–9-page essay on a specific topic related to the course content. Suggested topics will be available, or students can choose their own topic related to masculinity and crime or victimization. For example, students can choose to conduct a media analysis (either of a news story or a movie/ show using the theoretical concepts (i.e., hegemonic masculinity) covered in class. Students are strongly encouraged to provide the professor with their proposed topic at least two weeks before the essay is due. The essays will be graded on grammar, spelling, and organization, as well as content; the essay should have a thesis (argument), and the main body of the essay should be devoted to supporting the argument that is proposed. More specific instructions for the essay will be provided after the fall break. The topic, thesis statement and outline will be due on Tuesday, October 28, by 11:59PM. The term paper will be due on Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 11:59PM.

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.

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:

- 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 through the use of 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).

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 link to information about all of the resources, both on campus and off, that you may find helpful: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes can be found at the below link:
<https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATES	Topics	Readings to be done BEFORE class
Week 1: Tuesday, Sept. 9	Introduction to course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus: expectations, course evaluations, and readings. Reflection assignment explained and specific instructions for part one provided. Expectations and instructions for online discussion will be provided. First part of reflection assignment due Monday, September 15 at 11:59PM (5%); Late submissions will NOT be accepted.
Week 2: Tuesday, Sept. 16	Gender in criminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 1: Gender and criminological theory in Messerschmidt, J. W. (1993). <i>Masculinities and crime: Critique and reconceptualization of theory</i>. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. (pp. 1-29). Podcast: Episode 40 of Crackdown: <i>Boys don't cry</i>. Link here
Week 3: Tuesday, September 23	Masculinity theories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Messerschmidt, James W. "Masculinities and Femicide." <i>Qualitative sociology review: QSR</i> 13.3 (2017): 70–79. Christensen, A. D., & Jensen, S. Q. (2014). Combining hegemonic masculinity and intersectionality. <i>NORMA: International Journal for Masculinity Studies</i>, 9(1), 60-75. <p>⇒ Quiz #1 (covers weeks 2 & 3). This quiz opens Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 5:00PM and closes on Monday, Sept. 29 at 11:59PM.</p>
Week 4: Tuesday, September 30	Violence against homeless individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allison, K., & Klein, B. R. (2021). Pursuing Hegemonic Masculinity Through Violence: An Examination of Anti-Homeless Bias Homicides. <i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i>, 36(13–14),

Week 5: Tuesday, October 7	Violence against women & racialized men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halpin M, Preston K, Lockyer D, Maguire F. (2024). A soldier and a victim: Masculinity, violence, and incels celebration of December 6th. <i>Canadian Review of Sociology</i>. 61(1), 7-24. The Fifth Estate Documentary: <i>Dear Mr. Bissonnette</i> link here Quiz #2 (covers weeks 4 & 5). This quiz opens Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 5:00PM and closes Monday, October 13 at 11:59PM.
Week 6: Tuesday, October 14	Youth & criminalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rios, V., & Sarabia, R. (2016). Synthesized masculinities: The mechanics of manhood among delinquent boys. <i>Exploring masculinities: Identity, inequality, continuity, and change</i>, 166-77. Henry, R. (2015). Social spaces of maleness: The role of street gangs in practicing Indigenous masculinities. <i>Indigenous men and masculinities: Legacies, identities, regeneration</i>, 181-196.
Week 7: Tuesday, October 21	Fall Break	No class/ no readings
Week 8: Tuesday, October 28	Imprisonment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cesaroni, C., & Alvi, S. (2010). Masculinity and resistance in adolescent carceral settings. <i>Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice</i>, 52(3), 303-320. Gooch, K. (2019). Kidulthood': Ethnography, juvenile prison violence and the transition from 'boys' to 'men. <i>Criminology & Criminal Justice</i>, 19(1), 80-97. Documentary: "The Mask You Live In" on Kanopy link here (sign in with your Carleton library log in info) Quiz #3 (covers weeks 6 & 7). This quiz opens Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 5:00PM and closes Monday November 3, at 11:59PM Essay outline including thesis statement due by 11:59PM (5%)

Week 9: Tuesday, November 4	Victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christie, N. (1986). The ideal victim. In E.A. (Ed). From crime policy to victim policy: Reorienting the justice system (pp. 17-30). London: MacMillan Press. Kevin F. Hogan, Victoria Clarke & Tony Ward (2022): The Impact of Masculine Ideologies on Heterosexual Men's Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence: A Qualitative Exploration, <i>Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma</i>, DOI: 10.1080/10926771.2022.2061881
Week 10: Test (30%)	<p>Opens: Tuesday November 11 at 10:00AM</p> <p>Closes: Friday, Wednesday November 12 at 11:59PM</p>	<p>The test will be available on Brightspace. Please note that you have only ONE chance to write the test, meaning once you open the test, you must complete it. This means that you must be careful with your time management; you will have 2 hours to complete the test (students registered with PMC, your time will be adjusted accordingly).</p> <p>Detailed information on the test (such as number of questions) will be provided the week before the test.</p>
Week 11: Tuesday, November 25	Sexual victimization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Javaid, Aliraza. "The Unknown Victims: Hegemonic Masculinity, Masculinities, and Male Sexual Victimization." <i>Sociological research online</i> 22.1 (2017): 28–47. Depraetere, J., Vandeviver, C., Beken, T. V., & Keygnaert, I. (2020). Big boys don't cry: A critical interpretive synthesis of male sexual victimization. <i>Trauma, Violence, & Abuse</i>, 21(5), 991-1010. Reflection Part 2 (10%) due November 25, by 11:59PM

Week 12: Tuesday, December 2	Police use of force/ victimization & race	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carlson, J. (2020). Police warriors and police guardians: Race, masculinity, and the construction of gun violence. <i>Social Problems</i>, 67(3), 399-417.• Smiley, Calvin John, and David Fakunle. "From 'Brute' to 'Thug:' The Demonization and Criminalization of Unarmed Black Male Victims in America." <i>Journal of human behavior in the social environment</i> 26.3-4 (2016): 350–366.• Quiz #4 (covers week 11 & 12). This quiz opens Tuesday, December 2 at 5:00PM and closes Friday, December 5, at 11:59PM• Last day to participate in class participation discussions.• Essay (20% of final grade) due by Tuesday, Dec. 2 by 11:59PM.
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