

PSYC 4400 A : CRIMINALIZED IDENTITIES

Instructor	Ellen Coady
Term	Fall 2026
Course Delivery	In-Person
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Office Hours	TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

It has long been asserted that criminal behaviour is an individual difference. Increasingly, attention has been devoted to circumstances outside of the individual, particularly how the structure of our society, such as its foundation in patriarchy, White supremacy, and ableism, creates risk for marginalized populations. In this course, students will critically evaluate how experiences of gender, race, sexuality, and disability shape journeys into the criminal legal system. Following this, they will learn to differentiate between individual and structurally-created criminal risk by examining how experiences of marginalization may increase an individual's vulnerability to criminogenic factors. Last, students will identify the implications of these processes on criminal rehabilitation approaches. This course will merge identity-neutral and identity-responsive theories of forensic psychology with perspectives from critical race theory, critical criminology, feminist thought, critical sexuality studies, and critical disability theory.

EVALUATION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Students will be evaluated through instructor and student-led discussions/presentations, course readings, and written assignments.

TEXT

Course readings will be available via the MacOdrum library.