

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**SOCI 4850C
WINTER 2023
CHALLENGES FACING POLICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

Course Description

In the 21st century law enforcement agencies face a number of significant policing challenges. As the nature of society changes, police agencies have to adapt and modernize their methods of policing to meet these new challenges. This course will examine the role of policing and a number of different topics will be addressed including: the constraints on police discretion; the role of women in policing; police misconduct; the use of force by police and the defunding of police. This class will examine the events that have precipitated a decline in public support for police across Canada including several high-profile scandals involving police at both the federal, provincial and municipal level. Various policing styles will be examined and analyzed from a research perspective in order to determine their effectiveness at maintaining law and order and reducing crime. Finally, various models of police oversight will be examined to see how effective they are at ensuring police control and accountability in a democratic society.