

Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Sociology 4480: Advanced Studies in the Sociology of Law
Course Outline, Winter 2025

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Class Meeting Time: 11:35am - 2:25 pm Mondays

Method of Delivery: Online Synchronous classes (Campus presence is not required)

Course Description

The objectives of this course are to explore various questions on the relationship between the law; the questions include how the law helps shape the society and how various social issues and concerns affect the formation and enforcement of the law. To address these issues, the course consists of three parts. The first part surveys various classical sociological theories in understanding law and legal systems in society, including classical authors like Marx, Weber, and Durkheim. The second part introduces contemporary theories and perspectives about the role of law in our societies. And the third part of the course will focus on some contemporary debates on the relations and interactions between social processes and law, including the relation between law and gender, race, and politics. In this course, students will obtain the knowledge and understanding on the relations between the law and society through studying assigned readings, writing reading journals, active participation in seminar reading presentations and discussions. The course also provides the students opportunities to develop their individual research interests and make contributions to respective research areas.

Readings and Textbooks:

Javier Trevino, *The Sociology of Law: Classical and Contemporary Perspectives*, London: Transaction Publishers, 2008. (Please note that his text has been ordered through Carleton University bookstore; and E-copy of this book is also available at Carleton Library)

David Garland, *Punishment and Modern Society: A Study in Social Theory*; Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1992. (E-copy of this book is available at Carleton Library)

Please note that there are many other required and recommended readings which are available in course online Library Reserves (ARES).

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation

The final grades will be determined based on the completion of the following requirements:

- 1) Class Attendance (worth 5% of the final grade; .5% per class attendance)
- 2) Seminar Participation (worth 16.5% in Total; 1.65% per Seminar Participation)
- 3) Presentations of the Required Readings (Worth 16% of the Final Grade)
- 4) Reading Journals/Reflections (Worth 7.5%, 2.5% per journal entry)

- 5) The Research Proposal and Its Presentation (Worth 5%)
- 6) Final research paper (worth 50%)