

Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
SOCI4410C Advanced Studies in Criminology:
Contemporary Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Justice
Course Outline, Fall, 2025

Instructor: Dr. Zhiqiu Lin

E-mail Address: Zhiqiu.lin@carleton.ca

Class Meeting Time: 8:35 am- 11:25 am, Thursdays

Office Hours: Office Hours will be followed immediately after each class (either in the classroom or Loeb 792) or by appointment (please let me know so we can decide a convenient location for the meetings in person or on Zoom)

Method of Delivery: in person at Carleton University campus.

Important Dates for the course: the first class will be on September 4th; no class on October 23; and the final class on December 4th.

Course Description:

The seminars are designed to allow students to actively participate in class discussions, reading presentations and to provide students with opportunities to develop their individual research interests and conduct their research projects. The objectives of the course are to familiarize students with seminal contemporary debates about crime and criminal justice. Although many criminological perspectives have been developed, the contemporary debates in criminology can be largely traced back to the classical traditions of Beccaria and Lombroso. For Beccaria (whose seminal work is *Crime and Punishment* (1763)) crime is an act of free will, while with Cesar Lombroso (*Criminal Man* (1876)), crime is determined by biological factors. The contemporary debates very much reflect this traditional divide in theorizing crime and criminal justice. To reflect the new developments in theorizing of crime and criminal justice, this course is divided into five parts: (1) contemporary theories on the causes of crime; (2) perspectives on social constructions of crime/criminalization; (3) new developments on criminal justice and criminal prevention; (4) Foucauldian influences on contemporary theorization of discipline, social control, and governance; and (5) criminological understanding of genocidal crimes.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement:

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated”.

Summary of the Course Evaluation		
Evaluation Components	Value	Due Dates
Seminar attendance	5%	
Seminar participation	15%	N/A
Presentations of the assigned readings	21%	TBA
Reading Journals/Reflections	4%	See the above listed due dates for these assignments
Research proposals and its presentations	5%	December 4, 2025
Final research paper (Take home exam)	50%	December 20, 2025