

**Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**SOCI4410C Advanced Studies in Criminology:
Contemporary Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Justice**

Course Outline, Fall, 2026

Instructor: Dr. Zhiqiu Lin

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Class Meeting Time: 11:25am- 2:25 pm, tuesdays

Method of Delivery: in person on campus.

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 (6) criminological understanding of genocidal crimes.

Reading (s)/Textbook (s):

Eugene McLaughlin and John Muncie, *Criminological Perspectives*, (3rd edition), Los Angeles: Sage Publication, 2013.

Alex Alvarez, *Genocidal Crime*, NY: Routledge, 2010.

And other academic journal articles and book chapters on library reserves - Course 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; .10% per class attendance)
- 2) Seminar Participation (worth 15% in Total; 1.5% per Seminar Participation)
- 3) Presentations of the Required Readings (Worth 16% of the Final Grade)
- 4) Reading Journals/Reflections (Worth 4%, 2% per journal entry)
- 5) The Research Proposal and Its Presentation (Worth 5%)
- 6) Final research paper (worth 50%)

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