

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

SOCIOLOGY 2266A

Fall 2013

(An Introduction to Criminology)

Course Director: Dr. Peter Chimbos
Telephone: 519 432-8353 (Ext.28241)
Office: Merici Wing, Room 220

Time: Tuesday: 6:00-9:00pm
Room 135

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The objective of this half course is to introduce the student to theory and research dealing with the problem of crime in contemporary society. Lectures will be divided into topic areas, including the historical development of criminology, methodological problems in studying criminal behaviour, critical analysis of criminological theories and research, victims of crime, the police, and selected types of criminality (e.g., homicide, rape, sexual deviation, organized crime, corporate crime, crime by the state and terrorism). Attention will be given to existing Canadian criminological literature and students will be encouraged to examine crime and criminals in Canada. Crimes involving trafficking in humans (e.g. women and children traded for the purpose of sexual slavery) and crimes committed by the military in war against civilian populations will also be examined.

By the end of the course students will be able to explain the major theories and research which have contributed to the field of criminology. It is also essential that students will have a comprehensive understanding of the nature and extent of crime and victimization as well as offender typologies from a critical and a cross-cultural perspective. In this way they can better understand the patterns of crime, predict their occurrence and consider prospects for prevention and control.

This course will not only be helpful to students who major in the social sciences, but also to counsellors, social workers, police officers, teachers and students of law.

Prerequisite(s): Sociology 020 or Sociology 021E, “unless you have either the prerequisites for the course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record.

Class Attendance: Any student who in the opinion of the instructor is absent too frequently from class may be debarred from taking the required examinations in the course.

GRADING STRUCTURE:

Mid-term test	October 22, 2013, 6:00p.m.-8:00 p.m.....	50%
Final Examination	December 2013 (date to be posted by the registrar’s office).....	50%

NOTE: The above exam dates are tentative and therefore subject to change.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Siegel, Larry and Chris McCormick, Criminology in Canada: Theories, Patterns and Typologies Nelson Canada, 2012 (fifth edition).

Reference Texts: These books will be used as reference when required. Do Not buy these books.

1. Larsen, Nick and Russell Smandych, Global Criminology and Criminal Justice (2008)
2. Lilly, J. Robert et al, Criminological Theory: Context and Consequences (2011)
3. Walsh, A. and C. Hemmens, Introduction to Criminology: A Text/Reader, Second Edition (2011)

WESTERN UNIVERSITY

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

SOCIOLOGY 2266A

Fall 2013

(An Introduction to Criminology)

GENERAL OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF CRIME AND CRIMINALS

1. Criminology and the Problem of Crime (see text, chapter 1)

- a) Objectives of the course
- b) Why do we study crime?
- c) Historical development of the study of criminals (classical and positivistic criminology)
- d) Research problems and ethical issues in criminology
- e) Types of offenses in Canada

2. A general View of Crime in Canada (see also text, chapters 3)

- a) How much crime is there in Canada?
- b) Are rates of crime increasing?
- c) What are the most common crimes?
- d) Do some groups and categories experience higher crime rates?

3. The Victims of Crime (see text, chapter four)

- a) What groups are more likely to become victims of crime?
- b) Victim - precipitated crime
- c) Victim/offender relationship in interpersonal crimes
- d) Compensating the victim
- e) The victim's response

II. EXPLAINING CRIME

1. Individual Theories of Criminal Behaviour (Trait Theories) (see text, chapter 6)

- a) Biological theories
- b) Psychoanalytic theories
- c) Mental illness and crime
- d) Sociopathy and crime
- e) Evaluation of individual theories

2. Major Sociological Theories

a) Social structural theories (see text, chapters 7 and 9)

1. Economic Determinism (K. Marx, W. Bonger)
2. Strain Theories (Robert Merton)
3. Cultural Conflict Theories (T. Sellin)
4. Critical Criminology (R. Quinney)

b) Social process theories (see text, chapter 8)

1. Differential Association Theory (E. Sutherland)
2. Labeling Theory (E. Lemert and H. Becker)
3. Social Control Theory (W. Reckless)
4. General Theory of Crime (M. Gottfredson and T. Hirschi)

c) Choice Theories (see text, chapter 5)

d) Evaluation of sociological theories

MID-TERM EXAM — OCTOBER , 22, 2013

III INTEGRATED THEORIES (see text, chapter 10)

IV THE STUDY OF CRIMINAL TYPES

A. Violent Crimes (see text, chapter 10)

1. Homicide and Injurious Assault

- a) The seriousness of the problem in Canada and other countries
- b) Sociological variables of homicides and injurious assaults
- c) Victims of violent crimes
- d) Intra-family homicides and assaults: the other side of the family
- e) Special types of murderers: mass murderers and serial killers

2. Terrorism (ideological/political)

- a) definition and forms of terrorism
- b) tactics, targets and objectives of terrorism
- c) Who are the terrorists? Demographic and psychological profile
- d) understanding terrorism: the application of an integrated theoretical model
- e) prevention and control of terrorism

3. Forcible Rape (see text chapter 10)

- a) Rape and the criminal law in Canada
- b) The seriousness of the problem
- c) Why men rape: some theoretical views
- d) The impact of rape on its victims
- e) Prospects for prevention

B. Sex Offenders (see chapter 13)

- 1) Defining the sexual offender
- 2) Types of sexual offenders: clinical aspects
- 3) Some theoretical explanations for sexual criminality
- 4) Societal reaction to sex offenders
- 5) The treatment of the sexual offender

C. Property Crimes (see text, chapter 11)

- 1) Break and Enter (burglary)
- 2) Shoplifting and Pilferage
- 3) Auto Theft
- 4) The Fence
- 5) Arson

D. Crimes of Power (see text, chapter 12)

1. The Organization of Criminals for Profit and Power

- a) The extent of organized crime in Canada
- b) Who are those involved in organized crime?
- c) Explanations for organized crime
- d) The new faces of organized crime
- e) What can be done to prevent and control organized crime?

2. Corporate Crime: Crimes Against the Public by the Powerful and Respectable Citizens.

- a) What are some of the criminal acts committed by big business?
- b) What factors contribute to corporate crime?
- c) How does society react to crimes by the powerful?
- d) What can be done about corporate crime?

3. Crimes by the State (Government)

- a) How do we define governmental crime?
- b) What criminal acts are committed by governments?
- c) What factors explain governmental crime?
- d) Crimes committed by the military in war and against civilian populations

V. CRIME CONTROL AND THE FUTURE

1. Perspectives for penal reforms
2. Dealing with convicted offenders
 - a) dispositions by the court
 - b) treatment and rehabilitation: Do they work?
3. Prospects for future research

READING ASSIGNMENTS

A For the **Mid-term examination (October, 2013)** read the following reading assignments

1. Siegel L. and C. McCormick, Criminology in Canada: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

B. For the **Final examination (December, 2013)** read the following reading assignments.

1. Siegel L. and C. McCormick, Criminology in Canada: Chapters: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the U