

# LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY ORILLIA

2009 – 2010 COURSE OUTLINE \*\*WINTER TERM\*\*

## **SOCI 2221 YAO: CRIMINOLOGY**

Times: Wednesdays, 7-10pm  
Location: HP 0004

Instructor: Prof. K. Marcellus  
Office Location: HP0012  
Office Hours: Thursdays, 9-12  
Email: kcmarcel@lakeheadu.ca

### ***Course Overview:***

This course will examine crime, criminology, and victimization from a sociological point of view, relying in particular on the 'Criminal Event' perspective (which contextualizes crime, its precursors and aftermath in a broader social framework) to explain the relationships between social life and crime. The goal of the course is to encourage students to understand the social contributors and outcomes of criminal events, and to be able to explain these through in-class and online discussions and written assignments.

### ***Required Materials:***

Key Text: Sacco, V.F. and L.W. Kennedy (2008) *The Criminal Event: An Introduction to Criminology in Canada*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Toronto: Nelson. [available at Manticore Books; abbreviated as 'S+K' in the Course Schedule]

Other Materials (Dates noted in the Course Schedule below)

Beare, M. and Martens, F. (1998) "Policing organized crime: The comparative structures, traditions, and policies within the United States and Canada," *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* 14(4): 398-427.

Capowich, G. (2003) "The conditioning effects of neighbourhood ecology on burglary victimization," *Criminal Justice and Behaviour* 30(1): 39-61.

Copes, H. and L. Vieraitis (2009) "Understanding Identity Theft: Offenders' Accounts of Their Lives and Crimes," *Criminal Justice Review* 34(3): 329-349.

Craun, S. and M. Theriot (2009) "Misperceptions of Sex Offender Perpetration: Considering the Impact of Sex Offender Registration," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 24(12): 2057-2072.

Lanier, C. and M. Maume (2009) "Intimate partner violence and social isolation across the rural/urban divide," *Violence Against Women* 15(11): 1311-1330.

Phillips, T. and P. Smith (2004) "Emotional and behavioural responses to everyday incivility: Challenging the fear/avoidance paradigm," *Journal of Sociology* 40(4): 378-399.

Shover, N. and A. Routhe (2004) "Environmental Crime," in Tonry, M. (ed.) *Crime and Justice: Vol. 32. A Review of Research*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 321-371. [on reserve in the library]

Students are responsible for acquiring these materials for their own use. With the exception of the Shover and Routhe article, these materials are available through the University Library's online resources.

Students are also responsible for familiarizing themselves with WebCT in order to effectively participate in this course. Discussion boards, a copy of this outline, suggestions for success, details about assignments, slides from our meetings, and other materials will be available on the WebCT site.

***Evaluation Scheme (Full Year):***

Fall Term: Participation: 10%; Assignment 1: 20%; Midterm Examination: 20%

Participation: 10%

Assignment 2: 20% (See details below; Due at the beginning of class 24 March 2010)

Final Examination: 20% (Date to be scheduled by the University during the April exam period; Format will include multiple choice, short answer, and long answer questions)

***Course Schedule:***

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>TOPIC</u>                              | <u>ASSIGNED READING</u>                 |
|-------------|---|---|
| 06 Jan.     | Opportunities, Lifestyles, and Situations | S+K Ch.6                                |
| 13 Jan.     | Crime's Aftermath Part I                  | S+K pp. 204-214; Philips and Smith 2004 |
| 20 Jan.     | Crime's Aftermath Part II                 | S+K pp. 215-230; Craun and Theriot 2009 |

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| 27 Jan. | Crime and the Family and Household Part I  | S+K pp. 234-247;<br>Lanier and Maume 2009  |
| 03 Feb. | Crime and the Family and Household Part II | S+K pp. 247-258;<br>Capowich 2003          |
| 10 Feb. | Crime and Leisure                          | S+K Ch. 9                                  |
| 17 Feb. | NO CLASS                                   | READING WEEK                               |
| 24 Feb. | New Media and Crime                        | Copes<br>and Veriatis 2009                 |
| 03 Mar. | Crime and Work Part I                      | S+K pp. 286-308                            |
| 10 Mar. | Crime and Work Part II                     | S+K pp. 308-323;<br>Beare and Martens 1998 |
| 17 Mar. | Environment and Crime                      | Shover and Routhe 2004                     |
| 24 Mar. | Official Responses to Crime                | S+K Ch. 11                                 |
| 31 Mar. | Exam Review; Course Wrap-Up                | None                                       |

***Other Important Dates:***

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>WHAT'S HAPPENING</u>  |
|-------------|--|
| 06 Jan.     | First class of Winter term   |
| 08 Feb.     | Last day to withdraw from Full year courses without academic penalty |
| 24 March    | Assignment 2 due at the beginning of class                           |

### *More Information About...*

Participation: In-class – stories of interest, contributing to discussions; Online – items of interest, questions emailed to instructor for discussion in class or online, WebCT engagement with course materials and other course participants

Requesting a Re-evaluation of Course Work/Challenging A Grade: You may do this after a 24-hour ‘cooling-off’ period following the release of a grade. You *must* provide a roughly one-page write-up outlining *specifically* why you would like your grade to be revisited. I reserve the right to lower the grade if, upon re-examination, this is warranted. If we are unable to resolve the dispute, students have the right to formally appeal a grade through set University guidelines, found here: <http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=116>

Getting Information about the Course: Check your LakeheadU email account regularly to get information about this course (changes to the schedule, last-minute cancellations, Proposal feedback, etc.). You will also need to use this to access the course readings through the library and to access the WebCT components of the course.

Communicating with the Instructor: All email to the instructor regarding this course *must* originate from your LU email account and should include the course number (SOCI 2221YAO) in the subject line. I do my best to respond to email within a 24-hour period (usually much faster) but will not respond to email or WebCT issues on weekends. I suggest making use of the ‘Does Anyone Know...’ discussion board on WebCT to get answers to questions from fellow course participants (and periodically from me); use the ‘Anonymous Feedback’ board to provide me with comments about the course – I will be able to see the comment but not who wrote it. Please feel free to stop by during my office hours; if you need to make an appointment at another time, email me to set something up.

### *Assignment Two Details:*

Due Date: 24 March 2010 at the beginning of class (NOTE: Late submissions will be penalized at 2% per day to a maximum of 10 days including weekends, and may not be returned to students on the same day as assignments submitted on time. If you must submit late, email a .pdf copy of the assignment to me in addition to handing in the hard copy ASAP.)

\*\*Tips for writing a good paper are posted on WebCT, as is the grading scheme. Review the information, follow the suggestions, and visit with the Writing Centre to make sure that you write the best paper possible.\*\*

Your Task: Choose a topic related to any of the types of crime or social domains in which crime might occur that are discussed in the readings for this term. *You must choose a different topic/theme than that which you addressed in Assignment One.*

Write a 7 to 10 page essay on this topic. Your essay must include – but should not be limited to – the following components:

1. The precursors, transaction, and aftermath of the criminal event;
2. Three questions that arose as a result of your research, and which you would be interested in trying to answer in a longer or more advanced paper;
3. The identification of at least two other disciplinary approaches that you think might contribute to a thorough investigation/analysis of your topic.

You may integrate these components into the essay in any way you see fit. Please also list the questions and approaches (Components 2 and 3) on a separate page (which does not count toward your page total), after your conclusion and before your reference list.

References: Your paper should properly reference relevant course materials (S+K and other readings), your chosen article, and at least 7 other scholarly sources, such as journal articles, books from scholarly publishers, conference papers and the like. Textbooks are not scholarly materials. You may use other sources (including textbooks) to support your argument *in addition to* your scholarly materials.

**\*\*Whatever referencing format you use, always include the following information:**

- Author(s) name, last name first
- Year of publication
- Title
- Publisher
- Volume and Issue Information, if using a journal article
- Page numbers, if using an individual article or chapter in an edited collection \*\*