

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Sociology 2221 YA

Criminology

Fall/Winter 2013-2014

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11:30 - 1:00 p.m., AT 2001

Sociology web-page <http://sociology.lakeheadu.ca>

Instructor: Walid Chahal

Phone: 343-8426

Office: UC 0037

e-mail: wchahal@lakeheadu.ca

Required and Recommended Readings (Available at Lakehead University Bookstore)

1) O'Grady, William. 2011. *Crime in Canadian context: Debates and Controversies* (2nd ed.). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

2) *Reading Package for Sociology 2221YA—Criminology*

3) Recommended (for the purpose of improving your writing skills): Northey Margot, Lorne Tepperman & Patrizia Albanese. 2012. *Making Sense in the Social Sciences: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing* (5th ed.). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Course Focus:

In this course, we will critically examine the social construction of criminal law and its application, and the social causes of crime and delinquency by relying on several analytical perspectives. Our main focus, however, will be on perspectives that incorporate gender, class and ethnic relations of power and resistance and their socio-economic, political and historical links.

Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- (1) assess a multiplicity of perspectives on the social causes and nature of crime;
- (2) evaluate theoretical explanations of crime causation;
- (3) critically appraise the role of law, and other institutional arrangements in society;
- (4) grasp the nature and distribution of crime and deviance;
- (5) analyze specific types of crime in Canada, including conventional crime, corporate and political crime;
- (6) appraise the policies and programs that are aimed at combating crime and deviance in society.

Course Topics

Required & Recommended Readings

1. Introduction

- Definitions of Crime &
Crime Perspectives O'Grady, chapter 1
2. The Origin & Role of Law in Society
Biological & Psychological Theories of Crime—O'Grady, chapter 3
 3. The Crime Picture in Canada
The Problems with the Crime Statistics—O'Grady, chapter 2
 4. Traditional Sociological Explanations of Crime—O'Grady, chapter 4; Brooks, chapter 1 (pp:23-31)
 5. The Emergence of Pluralist Theories in Criminology—Brooks, chapter 2
 6. Critical Criminology Brooks, chapter 3
 7. Crime, Social Exclusion & Victimization—O'Grady, chapter 6; Case Study: Brooks, chapter 12 [**Reserve**]
Marginalization & Wrongful Convictions—Race, Class, & Gender—Anderson, chapter 1
Case studies: Anderson (TBA)
 8. Racialization & Policing—Comack, *Racialized Policing (RP)*, chapter 1 (pp:23-26)
Racial Profiling Comack (**RP**), chapter 2 (pp:27-35; 56-65)
Racialized Policing & Reproducing Order—Comack (**RP**), chapter 8 (pp:219-224)
 9. Youth Crime, & the Evolution of Juvenile Justice
Crime, Justice & the Treatment of Children—Schissel, *Still Blaming Children (SBC)*, chapter 1 (pp:13-24)
Understanding Child-Hating Schissel (**SBC**), chapter 2
Blaming Children: Media, Discourse & Representation—Case Study: Schissel (**SBC**), chapter 4 [**Reserve**]
A Civil Rights Agenda for Young People—Case Study: Schissel (**SBC**), chapter 7 [**Reserve**]
 10. Crime & Race, Class, & Gender Comack, *The Power to Criminalize (PC)* chapter 1
Theorizing Law & Race, Class, & Gender—Comack (**PC**), chapter 2
Gendering Violent Crime Case Study: Comack (**PC**), chapter 3 [**Reserve**];
Recommended: Comack, *Women in Trouble* [**Reserve**]
Racializing Violent Crime Case Study: Comack (**PC**), chapter 4 [**Reserve**]
Law & Sexual Assault Case Study: Comack (**PC**), chapter 5 [**Reserve**]
Zero Tolerance & Domestic Violence Case Study: Comack (**PC**), chapter 6 [**Reserve**]
Engaging with the Law: The Struggle for Justice—Case Study: Comack (**PC**), chapter 7 [**Reserve**]
 11. Racialization of Crime—Case Studies: Brooks, chapters 5 & 16 [**Reserve**]; Recommended: Joy Mannette, *Elusive Justice: beyond the Marshall Inquiry* [**Reserve**]
 12. Corporate Crime—O'Grady, chapter 7; Recommended: L. Snider. *Bad Business*
The Extent & Scope of Corporate Crime
Defining & Conceptualizing Corporate Crime
Prevalence & Measurement of Corporate Crime
Theoretical Perspectives—Explanation of Corporate Crime
 13. Political Crime Recommended: N. Chomsky, *Power & Terror*;

See also the following Films (1-8): <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vom6q-HFobk>>

International Violence & Terrorism—Recommended: Kenton Worcester et al,

Violence & Politics; T. Ali, *Bush in Babylon*

Terrorism & the Palestinian /Israeli Conflict—Recommended: E. Said, *From Oslo to Iraq*;

Chahal: <http://edocs.lib.sfu.ca/ccrc/>

Towards a Theory of Anti-Terrorism—S. Rollings-Magnusson—**Gary Teeple**, chapter 2

14. Global Violence & the Corporate Media—Recommended: H. Friel & R. Falk, *The Record of the Paper*; **Media Analysis of US Coverage** of the Arab-Israeli Conflict - Parts 1-3

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIOzo82emA0>

Crime, Terrorism & Islam—Recommended: K. H. Karim, *Islamic Peril* (Intro., & chap. 4)

15. Responses to Crime O’Grady, chapter 8

16. Peace and Social Justice Perspectives on Crime—Recommended: R. Quinney, *The Problem of Crime* (chapter 6—*Peace & Social Justice*);

Roger C. Barnes: <<http://www.nssa.us/journals/2007-29-1/2007-29-1-05.htm>>

Restorative Justice & Social Inequality—Chahal:

<http://www.multiculturaldays.com/downloads/perspbookcomp.pdf>

Changing Responses to Crime—Case Studies: Brooks, Chapters 19, 20 & 21 [**Reserve**]

Racialized Policing—What Is to be Done?—Comack (**RP**), chapter 8 (pp:224-234)

Thunder Bay Police & Race & Equity—Case study: “*Diversity in Policing*” Report—See

Diversity Thunder Bay:

<http://www.diversitythunderbay.ca/diversity-in-policing.html>

Course Requirements

There are **four (4) requirements** for this course.

1. **Two Take-home Exams**. Due dates: October 24th and March 6th (**2 @ 10% each**)....**20%**
Each take-home exam consists of one or two essay question(s), and covers all class work, lecture and reading material to date (more details will be given in class).

2. **One Presentation**.....**20%**

Students need to work together in groups and divide the work evenly among the members of their group for this assignment. Every group will consist of two students, and every group is required to do the following:

(A) In-Class Article-Presentation

Every group will be provided with (an) article(s) on the topic of crime from specific social science journals or books. The group is expected to present at least one article. The presenters should not only sum up the main argument(s)/viewpoint or idea(s) of the article, but also provide a critique of the article by making use of the concepts, theories and other material covered in class. It is important that the presenters understand their article well and effectively communicate its content to the rest of the students. The presenters should be prepared to lead the discussion and answer questions regarding their topic. They may use overheads or any other prop that will improve their presentation.

(B) **Short Film**--In addition to the article, students may chose to include a short film, or parts of a film (up to 5 minutes) in order to facilitate understanding of a particular part of their topic.

(C) **Community Involvement/Observation (to be incorporated in the presentation)**

Further details will be provided in class.

3. **Two** in-class **Tests**: November 21st and March 27th (**2 @ 25% each**).**50%**

The tests consist of short-answer and essay questions and may include multiple-choice questions. The tests cover all class work, lecture, student presentations, and reading material to date.

4. **Class Participation, Quizzes, and Critical-Reflection**.....**10%**

Class attendance is expected: In order to do well in this course, you must attend class on a regular basis. There will be substantial in-class discussions and much of the material covered in lectures will not be found in the reading. In order to participate in class discussions, it is important that you do the readings before coming to class. You must come to class ready to contribute to discussion in a thoughtful way, to ask questions, as well as reflect on the assigned readings. Students are strongly encouraged not to engage in private conversations during class lectures.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The essays (take-home exams) must be formatted according to the **ASA** (American Sociological Association) Style Guide for referencing and citations. For more information, see the following website: <http://www.calstatela.edu/library/guides/3asa.pdf>
- Make sure you keep **backup copies of these** essays (take-home exams).
- There is a **penalty** for essays (take-home exams) handed in late.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the University regulations. For more information, see University Regulations section “**IX Academic Dishonesty**,” Lakehead University Calendar 2013-2014:

<http://calendar.lakeheadu.ca/current/contents/regulations/univregsIXacdishon.html>

Further, the student will be given additional information concerning course topics, course requirements, evaluation procedures and any other relevant material on the first day of class.

Reading Package for Sociology 2221SA—Criminology

Anderson, Dawn & Barrie. (2009—Chapter: I—pp. 7-25). *Manufacturing Guilt: Wrongful Convictions in Canada* (2nd ed.). Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Brooks, Carolyn & Bernard Schissel. (2008—Chapters: I-III—pp.23-79). *Marginality and Condemnation: an Introduction to Critical Criminology* (2nd ed.). Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Comack, Elizabeth & Gillian Balfour. (2004—Chapters: I & II—pp. 9-19; 32-49). *The Power to Criminalize: Violence, Inequality and the Law*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Comack, Elizabeth. (2012—Chapters: I & II; VIII—pp. 23-26; 27-35 & 56-65; 219-234). *Racialized Policing: Aboriginal People's Encounters with the Police*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Rollings-Magnusson, Sandra. (2009—Chapter II—pp. 32-58). *Anti-Terrorism: Security and Insecurity after 9/11*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Schissel, Bernard. (2006—Chapters: I & II—pp. 13-38). *Still Blaming Children: Youth Crime, Moral Panics and the Politics of Hate*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Further Recommended Readings

Ali, Tariq. 2003. *Bush in Babylon: the Recolonization of Iraq*. London: Verso.

Carrigan, D. Owen. 1991. *Crime and Punishment in Canada: A History*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart.

Chahal, Walid. 2004. "Restorative Justice: Rethinking Policy for Canada's Aboriginal Peoples." Pp: 136-150, in Dawn M. Zinga (ed.). *Perspectives on Multiculturalism (E-book)*, Hamilton Zing Media Inc. Available: <http://www.multiculturaldays.com/downloads/perspbookcomp.pdf>

Chahal, Walid. 2004. "Knowledge Discourses and International Peace and Justice." Pp: 1-39, in *Canadian Critical Race Conference: Pedagogy and Practice*, May 2003, Conference Proceedings. Simon Fraser University Library's website. Available: <http://edocs.lib.sfu.ca/ccrc/>

Chomsky, Noam. 2003. *Power and Terror: Post-9/11 Talks and Interviews*. New York: Seven Stories Press.

Chomsky, Noam. 1987. *Pirates and Emperors*. Montreal: Black Rose Books.

Chomsky, Noam. 1979. *The Political Economy of Human Rights: After the Cataclysm, Volume II*. Boston: South End Press.

Comack, Elizabeth. 1996. *Women in Trouble*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Friel, Howard and Richard Falk. 2004. *The Record of the Paper: How the New York Times Misreports US Foreign Policy*. London: Verso.

Gabor, Thomas. March 31, 2004. "The Views of Canadian Scholars on the Impact of the Anti Terrorism Act." *University of Ottawa, Department of Criminology*.
<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/antiter/rr05_1/p3_1.html>

Karim, H. Karim. 2003. *Islamic Peril: Media and Global Violence*. Montreal: Black Rose Books.

Mannette, Joy. 1992. *Elusive Justice: Beyond the Marshall Inquiry*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Quinney, Richard and John Wildeman. 1990. *The Problem of Crime: A Peace and Social Justice Perspective* (3rd ed.). California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Reiman, Jeffrey & Paul Leighton. 2010. *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison: Ideology, Class, and Criminal Justice*. (9th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Said, Edward. 2003. *From Oslo to Iraq and the Road Map*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Silverman, Robert A., and Marianne O. Nielsen. 1994. *Aboriginal Peoples and Canadian Criminal Justice*. Toronto: HBC.

Simon, R. David. 2007. *Elite Deviance* (9th ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Smart, C. 1976. *Women, Crime and Criminology: A Feminist Critique*. London Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Snider, L. 1993. *Bad Business: Corporate Crime in Canada*. Scarborough: Nelson Canada.

Taylor, Ian. Paul Walton, and Jock Young. 1975. *Critical Criminology*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Wardlaw, Grant. 1982. *Political Terrorism: Theory, Tactics and Counter-Measures*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Worcester, Kenton, Sally A. Bermanzohn, and Mark Ungar. 2002. *Violence and Politics: Globalization's Paradox*. New York: Routledge.