

Soc 225 – Introduction to Criminology

3 credits, 3 hours lecture

Examination and attempted explanation of crime and juvenile delinquency, with an analysis of the social processes leading to criminal behaviour. Major theoretical perspectives on criminality and the operation of the Canadian criminal justice system will be reviewed.

Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: – An open mind and a willingness to learn.

Instructor

Mark Stobbe

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Office Hours

Mondays 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:00pm

Wednesdays 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Thursdays 1:30 – 3:00pm

Or by appointment or drop in. “If my door is open, it means you are welcome”

Hours of Instruction

Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 – 4:50 pm

Location: Syncrude Centre Room 218

If demand warrants, there will be an optional tutorial session on Monday mornings at 9:00 am (Location TBA) for students experiencing scheduling conflicts with practicum placements. These sessions will review material covered in lectures.

Required Resources

- Rick Linden, *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective (Eighth Edition)*. Nelson Education Limited, 2016
- Additional readings and/or other resources may be added to Moodle or distributed in class.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Articulate the manner in which societies define some behavior as criminal;
- Demonstrate an understanding of trends in Canadian criminal behavior and the operation of the Canadian criminal justice system.
- Demonstrate an understanding of major criminological theoretical perspectives such as strain, social control, conflict, feminist and labelling theories by applying theories to types of crime and specific criminal acts.

Evaluation

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| First Mid-term Exam | 20% |
| Second Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Essay | 20% |
| Final Exam | 40% |

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

1) *Written Assignment (20%) – March 27th, 2018*

The written assignment will consist of an analysis of a specific criminal incident based on court records and media coverage. Students will be asked to use the theories presented in class to analyze why this crime occurred and what the appropriate societal and justice system response should be. .

2) *IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAMS (20% Each) – January 30 and March 6, 2018*

The mid-term exam may consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, true/false questions and short and long answer questions.

3) *FINAL EXAMINATION (40%) –*

The final exam may consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, true/false questions and short and long answer questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover ALL course materials.

Grading System

| Descriptor | Alpha Grade | 4.0 Scale | Percent | Rubric for Letter Grades |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--|
| Excellent | A+ | 4.0 | > 92.9 | Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format. |
| | A | 4.0 | 85 – 92.9 | |
| | A- | 3.7 | 80 – 84.9 | |
| Good | B+ | 3.3 | 77 – 79.9 | Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format. |
| | B | 3.0 | 74 – 76.9 | |
| | B- | 2.7 | 70 – 73.9 | |
| Satisfactory Progression | C+ | 2.3 | 67 – 69.9 | Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting. |
| | C | 2.0 | 64 – 66.9 | |
| | C- | 1.7 | 60 – 63.9 | |
| Poor | D+ | 1.3 | 55 – 59.9 | Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format. |
| Minimum Pass | D | 1.0 | 50 – 54.9 | |
| Failure | F | 0.0 | < 50 | Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete. |

Proposed Schedule of Topics

| Week | Date | Topic | Chapter |
|------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 | January 9 | Introduction to Class | |
| 1 | January 11 | What is Crime? | Chapter 1 |
| 2 | January 16 & 18 | Profiles of Crime in Canada | Chapters 4 |
| 3 | January 23 & 25 | ➤ Dealing with Crime | Chapters 2 and 3 |
| 4 | January 30 | ***First Mid-term Exam*** | |
| 4 | February 1 | Explaining Crime: Historical and Psychological Perspectives | Chapters 8 and 9 |
| 5 | February 6 & 8 | Explaining Crime: Social Structure | Chapters 10 & 14 |
| 6 | February 13 and 15 | Explaining crime: Power Relationships | Chapters 11 and 12 |
| 7 | February 20 & 22 | Reading Week | |
| 8 | February 27 & March 1 | Explaining crime: interaction or circumstances | Chapter 13 and 15 |
| 9 | March 6 | ***Second Mid-Term Exam*** | |
| 9 | March 8 | Who commits crimes? | Chapter 5 |
| 10 | March 13 & 15 | Gender and Crime | Chapters 6 |
| 11 | November 20 & 22 | Organized Crime and White collar crime | Chapter 16 and 17 |
| | March 27 | ****WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE*** | |
| 12 | March 27 & 29 | Solving crimes: getting it right and getting it wrong | |
| 13 | April 3 | Crime in Fort McMurray | |
| 13 | April 5 | Cannabis Legalization | |
| 14 | April 10 | The Harm of Crime | Chapter 7 |
| 14 | April 12 | Review | |
| 15 | April 16 to 20 | FINAL EXAM: TBA | |

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements**Student Responsibilities**

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the

administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is not a crime but it is behavior that is incompatible with the proper functioning of post-secondary education and will result in significant sanction.

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

Counselling and Accessibility Services

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

SKILL Centre

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.