

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code, Number, and Title:

CRIM 2104: - Sociological Explanations of Criminal and Deviant Behaviour

Course Format:

[Course format may vary by instructor. The typical course format would be:]

Lecture 4.0 h + Seminar 0.0 h + Lab. 0.0 h

Credits: 3.0

Transfer Credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Course Description, Prerequisites, Corequisites:

Students examine major sociological perspectives on crime and deviance, including mainstream and critical theories, particularly: anomie, neutralization, control, conflict, sub-cultural, ecological, functionalist, interactionist, and critical. Students scrutinize theoretical assumptions, similarities among and differences between various explanations, the historical/political contexts in which the theories emerged, and the policy implications of different theoretical perspectives. This course aims to foster critical thinking about the influence of sociological theories of crime and deviance while recognizing the intersection of theory, research, and the Canadian context.

One of the following: a score of 4 on the Langara English Test (LET); an essay score of 30 or higher on the Language Proficiency Index (LPI); or a minimum "C" grade in one of ENGL 1123, 1127, 1128, 1129, or 1130; and a minimum "C" grade in one of the following: CRIM 1115, 1116, 1125, ECON 1119, 1220, 1221, HIST 1116, 1126, PHIL 1100, 1101, POLI 1100, 1119, PSYC 1115, 1215, SOCI 1120, or 1121. Students who have other university-transferable credit may request permission from the department to register.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to...

- Distinguish between crime and deviance.
- Identify the core concepts of the sociological theories of criminal and deviant behaviour.
- Critically assess positivist/constructionist approaches and consensus/conflict perspectives in the study of crime and deviance.
- Locate the theoretical perspectives in their historical context and describe the history and evolution of sociological explanations of criminal and deviant behaviour.
- Demonstrate knowledge of key theorists who have shaped sociological theories of crime and deviance (i.e. Durkheim, Marx, Merton, Akers, Sykes and Matza, Sutherland, Becker, Hirschi, Farrington, Sampson and Laub, Daly, and Chesney-Lind among others).
- Evaluate sociological theories of crime and deviance, and the implications of relevant research.
- Analyze critically the theoretical perspectives' strengths and weaknesses.
- Apply theoretical approaches to contemporary criminological problems, examples, or cases.

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- Analyze and apply theoretical approaches to the processes by which crime and deviance are created and dealt with.

Instructor(s): TBA
Office: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

Phone: (604) 323-XXXX
Email: TBA

Textbook and Course Materials:

[Textbook selection may vary by instructor. An example of texts and course materials for this course might be:]

For textbook information, visit https://mycampusstore.langara.bc.ca/buy_courselisting.asp?selTerm=3|8

Note: This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws. Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.

Assessments and Weighting:

Final Exam 25%
Midterm Exam 25%
Quizzes/Tests 10%
Assignments 30%
Participation 10%

Grading System:

Specific grading schemes will be detailed in each course section outline.

Information unavailable, please consult Department for details.

Topics Covered:

[Topics covered may vary by instructor. An example of topics covered might be:]

- Introduction to sociological paradigms, concepts
- Determining what is a good theory
- Distinguishing different types of theories, social contexts
- Conceptions of deviance
- Explanations in the media
- Non-sociological theories (classical school, biological and psychological positivism)
- Social disorganization theory and Chicago school
- Functionalism and anomie/strain and opportunity theory
- Differential association/opportunity and social learning theory

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- Subcultural theories
- Techniques of neutralization
- Symbolic interactionism, societal reaction, and labelling
- Conflict theories (culture, radical, and analytic)
- Social control theories (containment)
- Feminist theories (explanations for crimes committed by and against women)
- Gender and crime, masculinities
- Contemporary rational theories
- Peacemaking criminology
- Themes of crime and deviance (prostitution, sexual violence, family violence, white collar crime, alcohol and drug issues, homicide, terrorism, etc.)
- Future directions in criminology

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

College Policies:

[E1003 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[F1004 - Code of Academic Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Departmental/Course Policies:

Information unavailable, please consult Department for details.

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