

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Sociology 3395-001
Criminal Justice & Corrections
Fall 2021

Instructor: Prof. J. Scott Kenney

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Office: AA-4049C

Office Hours: Office Hours:

Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 AM
(online)

Class Time: Tues/Thur 2:00-3:15 PM

(Distance)

Website: <http://jscottkenney.yolasite.com/course-materials.php>

INTRODUCTION:

The increasingly expansive and powerful role of the criminal justice system in Canadian society makes it an important topic of study. In this class criminal law and procedure are examined as social institutions influenced by various socio-political forces, as contested instruments of social control and change. Emphasis will be placed on the production of “criminal justice” through the criminal justice system by focussing on the operation and interaction of its various institutions (the police, courts and corrections), as well as on the roles, responsibilities, and key encounters that occur between various actors therein (the accused, victim, police, defence counsel, crown prosecutor, judge, and correctional authorities). In addition to gaining a realistic understanding of the limits and possibilities of criminal law, students will be engaged in recent debates about law reform (e.g. gender and justice, sentencing controversies, restorative justice, victims and offender rights etc.).

Text:

Goff, Colin (2017) Criminal Justice In Canada (Eighth Edition)
(Toronto: Thomson- Nelson Canada).

In addition, I will be placing supplemental readings on reserve at the Library as the class progresses. These are marked with an asterisk in the class schedule below.

EVALUATION:

1. Mid-Term Assignment (30%)

The mid-term assignment will cover both lectures and readings. It will consist of a choice of different types of questions and be due on **Thursday, October 21**. Details will be distributed in class.

2. Term Paper (40%)

A 10 page term paper on a select deviance topic will be due in class on **Thursday, October 7**. Details will be distributed in class.

3. Take-Home Assignment (30%)

This assignment will be handed out on **Thursday, November 4** and be due on **Thursday, December 2**. It will consist of a choice of essay questions in which you must demonstrate your understanding of both the material covered in class and your own additional research on select criminological topics.

LATE AND MISSED ASSIGNMENTS:

- A student is, at times, prevented from completing a part of the evaluation by illness or medical conditions of less than five calendar days' duration. In such cases, a student may apply for an alternate evaluation by declaring to me that he or she has experienced such an illness or medical condition. This declaration should be made via telephone or in writing through the student's @mun.ca e-mail account. This declaration should be made in advance of the original date on which an in-class part of the evaluation is to be held or a take-home part of the evaluation is due, wherever possible, but no later than 48 hours after the original date of the part of the evaluation. If the declaration is made by telephone, written confirmation must then be received by the relevant instructor within seven calendar days of the original date of the part of the evaluation.
- A student who is prevented from completing a part of the evaluation by illness of at least five calendar days' duration, bereavement or other acceptable cause, duly authenticated in writing, may apply for an alternate evaluation. This application should be made in advance of the original date on which an in-class part of the evaluation is to be held or a take-home part of the evaluation is due, wherever possible, but no later than 48 hours after the original date of the part of the evaluation. If application is made by telephone, written confirmation must then be received by the head of the appropriate academic unit within seven calendar days of the original date of the part of the evaluation. The following supporting documentation is required:
 - For illness or medical conditions, medical documentation from a health professional is required. Students should provide the health professional with a copy of the Student Medical Certificate:
www.mun.ca/regoff/STUDENT_MEDICAL_CERTIFICATE.pdf

- For bereavement or other acceptable cause, official documents or letters that support the reason for the request (e.g. death certificate, letter from employer, etc.) are required.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

I am committed to facilitating and promoting an accessible, inclusive, and mutually respectful learning environment based on the principles of equity, accessibility, and collaboration. Accommodations are provided within the scope of the University Policies for the Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (www.mun.ca/policy.php?id=323). Students who may need an academic accommodation are asked to initiate the request with the Glenn Roy Blundon Centre (www.mun.ca/blundon) at the earliest opportunity. University policies and procedures pertaining to accommodations for students with disabilities can be found at www.mun.ca/policy/site/policy.php?id=239”

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM:

Students are expected to adhere to those principles which constitute proper academic conduct. A student has the responsibility to know which actions, as described under Academic Offenses in the University Regulations, could be construed as dishonest or improper. Students found guilty of an academic offense may be subject to a number of penalties commensurate with the offense including reprimand, reduction of grade, probation, suspension, or expulsion from the university. For more information regarding this policy, students should refer to the University Regulations for Academic Misconduct (Section 6.12) in the University Calendar.

In particular, I want to draw attention to section 6.12.4: “Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or works of another as one’s own. This applies to all material such as essays, laboratory assignments, laboratory reports, work term reports, design projects, seminar presentations, statistical data, computer programs, research results, and theses. The properly acknowledged use of resources is an accepted and important part of scholarship. Use of such material without acknowledgement is contrary to accepted norms of academic behavior. Information regarding acceptable writing practices is available through the Writing Centre at www.mun.ca/writingcentre.

CLASS SCHEDULE + ASSIGNED READINGS:

September 9-14: Overview of the Canadian Criminal justice system

Read: Goff Chapter 1

September 16-21: Criminal Law and Criminal Justice in Canada

Read: Goff Chapter 2

September 23-28: Crime Control/ Criminal Justice Policy

- Read: Goff Chapter 3
- September 30:** **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: No class**
- October 5:** **Trends, Patterns and Perceptions of Crime**
Read: Goff Chapter 4
- October 7-14** **Police Operations**
Read: Goff Chapters 5 and 6
****TERM PAPERS DUE October 7****
- October 12:** **Fall Term Break: No class**
- October 19-21:** **Issues in Canadian Policing**
Read: Goff Chapter 7
**** MID-TERM ASSIGNMENTS DUE October 21****
- October 26-28:** **Pretrial Criminal Procedures**
Read: Goff Chapter 8
- November 2-4:** **The Courts and Trial Procedure**
Read: Goff Chapter 9
*Roberts & Grossman, pp.146-185
- November 4:** ****TAKE-HOME ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED****
- November 9:** **Sentencing and Punishment**
Read: Goff Chapter 10
- November 11:** **Remembrance Day: No class**
- November 16:** **Alternatives to prison**
Read: Goff Chapter 11
- November 18-23:** **Corrections**
Read: Goff Chapter 12
- November 25:** **Community Reintegration**
Read: Goff Chapter 13

Nov. 30-Dec.2: Victims and Criminal Justice

Read: *Kenney pp. 81-104; 135-201

December 2: *TAKE HOME ASSIGNMENTS DUE*