



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2016

SO 2250 (A2/VC) – Criminology - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hrs.

INSTRUCTOR: René R. Gadacz, Ph.D **PHONE:** 780.539.2831
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OFFICE HOURS: Daily; by appointment; drop-ins especially welcome

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S): SO 1000 or equivalent

REQUIRED TEXT(S)/RESOURCE MATERIALS: Brown, Hoffman, and Siegel 2017 (3rd Canadian edition), CRIM. Nelson Education: Toronto; Elliott Leyton, 2005 (2nd ed.), Hunting Humans: The Rise of the Modern Multiple Murderer. Random House: Mississauga.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This is an introduction to the study and analysis of crime from a sociological perspective. The course attempts to answer a number of questions. How much crime is there in Canada? Who are the criminals and what are they like? Why do people engage in criminal behavior? What are we doing to stop or at least reduce crime in our society?

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): lectures, class discussion, group work, class presentations, written tests, written projects

OBJECTIVES: To understand the framework for studying criminology (e.g. history of criminology, research methods, nature and patterns of crime), to learn the major theories of causation (biological, psychological, social processes), and to learn about

the major forms and typologies of criminal behavior (e.g. violent crimes, property crimes, organized crime, public order crimes).

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will be able to apply their knowledge to be able to navigate the content and structure of the Criminal Code of Canada, follow the process by which criminal laws are enacted, and apply personal and situational defenses to alleged offenses. More importantly, students will be able to design and formulate crime prevention strategies based on their understanding of crime causation theories.

TRANSFERABILITY: U of A, UC, AU, UL, AF, CU, CUC, KUC.

Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	95 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 94	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	76 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 75	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Mid-Term Exam (20%)..... October 20
Final Exam (30%)..... TBA

Semester Work --

Daily Chapter Discussion Question (1 x 10%)..... **begins** September 13
Assignment #1 (20%)..... **TBA**
Assignment #2 (20%)..... **TBA**
Guest Speaker(s) summary & feedback (bonus 5%)..... **TBA**

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

[A] EXAMS consist of multiple choice questions, true-and-false, matching and/or glossary terms/concepts to define -- based on all lecture and text materials.

[B] SEMESTER WORK comes in several parts:

(1) For the daily Chapter Discussion Question presentations, each group of 2 students will select one question from the ‘Chapter in Review’ section at *the back of each chapter* (Brown, Hoffman, Siegel 2017, **CRIM**), and present their responses at the beginning of each class (approx. 10 minutes, including general class questions and discussion). *Stay with the chapter we are currently on – there are lots of questions to choose from.* **Hello: Many students in the past have chosen to present the Question using PowerPoint slides, which can be effective.** You must then submit the printed slides and/or a written response (1-2 pages) to the question you answered *on the day of your presentation*, and must include a title page with your name, date, and course I.D. Please work cooperatively with your presentation partner, as you will be sharing the mark.

(2) There will be **2 semester assignments** in this course. These assignments relate directly to the book Hunting Humans (Leyton). Assignment #1, for example, asks you to develop profiles for three serial killers discussed in **HH**; and Assignment #2 asks you to formulate an appeal (brief, or *factum* asking the court for alternatives to, say, the

death sentence) upon conviction. Further details, guidelines, and specific instructions will be provided as the course progresses! You may work individually or with a partner (and so will share the mark). You may follow *any* standard style format for your written submission (where applicable), e.g. MLA, APA, Chicago -- in regards to layout, punctuation, referencing and source citations, footnotes.

PLEASE NOTE:

A missed exam unfortunately cannot be accommodated - *unless* the situation is an unexpected personal or family emergency. No make-up exams unless it's an emergency.

What the course assignments and Chapter Discussion Question presentations entail will be discussed in detail as classes get underway and as the course progresses. Students will work in groups of 2 for the daily Chapter Discussion Question presentations; as well, for the two semester assignments students may work individually or in groups of 2 – your choice!

You will be provided with additional instructions, details, and relevant information with plenty of lead time. These will also be posted on Moodle.

Plagiarism detection software may be used in this course, and students may be required, individually or collectively, to submit key assignments/components in electronic form.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all your work is at a level appropriate to your year in college/university studies. Always spell- and grammar-check your work; always keep a hard copy or HD copy of your work as back-up. There is writing help in the library, and if in doubt you are always welcome to ask me, your instructor, for clarification. Poor spelling, grammar and organization always interfere with the clear

communication of ideas and you could lose marks if your over-all communication is ineffective.

Attendance at lectures is strongly encouraged; the same applies to your participation in class discussions. ***Be an active participant in your education!***

Late assignments (or any applicable assignment/course components) will result in an automatic loss of 5 percentage points PER DAY, up to and including the day of a late submission, unless prior arrangements, based on exceptional circumstances, have been made. Documented personal or family emergencies, of course, will be accommodated.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at

www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Please Note: Refer to the table of contents of the **CRIM** textbook for detailed content. Lectures will not always follow the book sequence or timeline below because: (a) material will be presented in class which does not appear in the textbook, especially early on in the course; (b) various guest speakers will take class time, meaning that a chapter or some content will be moved to the next day or beyond. The chapters and weeks will likely overlap, giving you the chance to get 'caught up' or to read ahead, as the case may be. **When, and what, to read in Hunting Humans will be assigned as the course progresses.**

Week of (Fall 2016):

September 1 -- Brief meeting; course requirements, etc.; begin reading Chapter 1 in our text (abbreviated here as **CRIM**), and Leyton's **Hunting Humans**.

September 6, 8 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 1 – crime and criminology; overview

September 13, 15 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 2 – nature/extent of crime; measuring crime
Daily chapter question presentations begin on September 13th

NOTE: Other important materials relating to criminology, such as our legal Charter rights, criminal defenses, details on the rule of law and due process in criminal proceedings will be introduced early in the course, perhaps contributing to changes in the following weeks' time-line. Guest speakers will have the same impact.

September 20, 22 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 3 – victims, victimization, victimology

September 27, 29 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 4 – rational choice theory and utilitarianism

October 4, 6 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 5 – trait theory – biology, genetics, psychology

October 11, 13 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 6 – social structure theories

October 18, 20 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 7 – socialization theories **Mid-Point Exam on October 20th**

October 25, 27 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 8 – social conflict theories;

November 1, 3 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 9 – integrating the theories – new approaches?

NOTE: The focus of the course is essentially on Chapters 1 to 9; Chapters 10 to 14 are referred to as 'content' or 'substantive' chapters – facts, numbers, etc., as opposed to explanations and theories. So while we discuss material in Chapters 1 to 9, we'll

be drawing information and numbers from Chapters 10-14 to provide examples and illustrations. Thus, Chapters 10-14 *per se* won't be on the mid-term or final exams.

November 8, 10 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 10 – Violent crimes **Fall Break, no class on 10th**

November 15, 17 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 10, continued; Chapter 11 – Crimes against property; Chapter 12 – White collar, corporate and organized crime

November 22, 24 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 12, continued; Chapter 13 – Public order crimes

November 29, December 1 -- **CRIM**, Chapter 13, continued; Chapter 14 – Crime in the 21st century

[Classes end Monday, December 5, 2016; Final Exams December 7-16, 2016]

Six Ways To Make This Course More Valuable:

- 1. Participate, to engage your learning**
- 2. Question, to enhance your learning**
- 3. Read, to expand your learning**
- 4. Reflect, to measure your learning**
- 5. Apply, to transfer your learning**
- 6. Innovate, to adapt your learning**