SYLLABUS
SOC6006S-Deviance/Criminology
Fall 2017
Thursday 3:00-5:00
Room 240, Sociology Dept.

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Office Hours: Wednesday 4:00-6:00pm or by appointment

The Course: The content of this course is critical for students working in the area of criminology and deviance for two reasons: (1) it will contribute to your theoretical development and empirical research in the field of criminology and deviance; and it is fundamental to teaching criminology at the university level. To accomplish these goals, we will review and critically analyzes the dominant theoretical traditions in the field of criminology. The emphasis, however, is not just on the “classics” but also on the ways in which the classics have contributed to and shaped current work in the field. According, we will cover original theories with an eye toward their contribution to cutting edge work that is being developed today.

The Requirements:
It should go without saying (but I’ll say it anyway), the required readings are critical to this seminar. It is expected that you have read them before class and you will have formulated one or more questions/issues you would like to discuss based on the readings. Those responsible for the Precis (for a given week) should also include some of the optional/supplemental readings in their presentation of the material assigned for that week.

Optional Readings provide additional current examples of work in a given area. Supplemental Readings are foundational pieces (i.e. should be read if this is your area)

Where to Find the Required Readings for Each Week: All of the required readings for each week are posted (under course materials) on Blackboard. Optional and supplemental readings are not posed on Blackboard but can be easily found in the library.

Precis: Each student will sign up for summarizing the readings for a given week and helping to lead the seminar in that week. Their précis of the core readings will include information on the theory, data, methods, findings and contribution of the article/chapter. They will also be responsible for developing some questions that are based on the required readings and one or more readings from the optional/supplemental list.
**Book Review:** (due: OCTOBER 19) don’t waste time, pick a book that is critical to your scholarly agenda. You can select one from the attached list of “Books You Should Have on Your Shelf,” but you are not limited to this list. Your book review should be a critical evaluation of the book and its contribution to the field, not just a summary of the findings (maximum length: 5 pages).

**Final Project:** One-half of your course grade is based on a 20 page (or longer) paper/research proposal on a topic of interest to you. The paper/proposal should be something that you are aiming to present at a professional meeting, submit for publication, or submit for funding; that is, it should be a project that will advance your career. Given that the semester is short, the availability of data for papers must be a consideration in your plans, unless you are planning a long-term research project or a theoretical piece. We will discuss these and other options in class. YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION SHOULD BE DECIDED as early as possible!

**A Note on Plagiarism**

*From the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters:*

It shall be an offence for a student knowingly: (d) to represent as one’s own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism.

Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on “knowing,” the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known.

For helpful instructions on “HOW NOT TO PLAGIARIZE” go to: [http://www.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize](http://www.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize)

**Grading**

20% Precis
10% Discussion in Class
20% Book Review
50% Final Project (research proposal or empirical paper which is a first draft of a piece that will be submitted for review or presented at a scholarly meeting).

**Late Course Work will not be accepted except where there are legitimate documented reasons beyond a student’s control.**
WEEK 1: Welcome! Course Overview and an Introduction to Different Perspectives on the Field of Criminology

(SEPT. 14)


Wilson, James Q. (1975) Thinking About Crime: Chapter 3 “Criminologists”


WEEK 2: Social Disorganization

(SEPT. 21)

Required Reading


Optional


Supplemental
Kornhauser, Ruth (1978) Social Sources of Delinquency: pp. 51-82


WEEK 3: Off (Work on Book Review)
(Sept. 28)

WEEK 4: Strain Theories
(Oct. 5)

Required


Optional


Supplemental
Kornhauser, Ruth (1978) Social Sources of Delinquency: 139-180


**WEEK 5: Control Theories (OCT. 12)**

**Required**


**Optional**


**Supplemental**


**WEEK 6: Cultural Theories**

**(OCT. 19) Book Review Due & Review Research Questions**

**Required**


**Optional**


Supplemental


WEEK 7: Symbolic Interaction, Identity and Labeling (OCT. 26)

Required


Optional


**Supplemental**


**WEEK 8: Conflict and the Effects of Punishment (Nov. 2)**

**Required**


Optional


Supplemental


WEEK 9: Life Course Theories
(NOV. 9)

Required


Optional


Supplemental


**WEEK 10: FALL BREAK (in lieu of Week 9)**
**(NOV. 16)**

**WEEK 11: Desistance**
**(NOV. 23)**

**Required**


**Optional**


Supplemental


WEEK 12: Generality of Causal Mechanisms: Feminist Perspectives (NOV. 30)

Required


Optional


**Supplemental**


**WEEK 13:** Generality of Causal Mechanisms: Comparative Perspectives

**RESEARCH PROJECTS DUE**

(DEC. 7)

**Required**


**Optional**


Supplemental


Books You Should Have on Your Shelf


