Sociology of Crime and Law Area Reading List

University of Toronto – Department of Sociology

2018–2019 Comp Exam List

Introduction

- Students should read all materials not listed in the “recommended” sections. There is no supplementary reading as used in the past; instead, students will be evaluated only based on their knowledge of the required readings. The recommended readings are included so students who so desire can delve deeper into the material of a particular section or sections, refer back to the reading list when assembling syllabi or doing research later in their career, or have a better sense of what else is out there beyond the bare minimum we have assigned in each area.

- Unless otherwise specified, for books assigned, students should read the introduction and select a chapter that sounds interesting to them.

- There are approximately 225 readings; about 22% of which are about the causes of crime, 50% are about criminal justice institutions (from the criminal law to the exercise or experience of punishment), and about 27% are about the sociology of law. Note that these three sections should not be thought of as independent sets of readings, but overlapping and artificially sorted on the most obvious categories. Many people often group, or put into conversation, the “criminology” and “criminal justice”/“punishment & society” readings (the first two sections) while much of the “criminal justice”/“punishment & society” are part of the “law and society” canon (the third section). Finally, as the quotation marks and different names just mentioned indicate, the labels and naming practices for the sections and how they are described here also reflect divisions or disagreements within the field about how to describe or identify this material and should not be seen as set in stone or a definitive statement.

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## 2 CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS: Criminal Law, Policing, Courts, and Punishment

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## 3 SOCIOLOGY OF LAW: The Interplay of Law and Society

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## 1 CRIMINOLOGY: The Etiology of Crime

### 1.1 Early Foundations

- Beccaria, C. (1764). On crimes and punishments (all)
- Bentham, J. (1791). *Panopticon: or the Inspection House*. Dublin: Thomas Byrne (all)  
  - NOTE: Bentham was not nearly as influential as people say he was, but he’s in every textbook, probably because of Foucault.
1.1.1 Chicago School and Social Disorganization


**Recommended**


1.1.2 Labelling, Secondary Deviance, and Drift


**Recommended**


1.1.3 **Anomie, Strain, Social Bond, Social Control, and Self-Control**


**Recommended**

• Cohen, A. (1955). *Delinquent boys*


1.1.4 Social Learning and Differential Association


**Recommended**


1.1.5 Life-Course and Development


1.1.6 Rational Choice/Deterrence Theory


**Recommended**


1.1.7 Routine Activity Theory

1.2 Topics

1.2.1 Women and Crime


1.2.2 Youth Crime and Gangs


2 CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS: Criminal Law, Policing, Courts, and Punishment

2.1 Classic Theories: Changes in Criminalization

Note: Many of these items are relevant to the L&S sections below.


2.2 Classic Theories: Changes in Punishment+

Note: Many of these items are relevant to the L&S sections below.


**Recommended**


2.3 New Theories on Changes in Criminalization and Punishment (aka: The Late-Modern Punitive Turn—Causes, Dimension, and Future)

* Risk and Post/Late Modernity


Recommended


* Politics/Federalism/Government & Interest Groups/Lobbying


**Recommended**


* Race and Class*


**Recommended**


* American Exceptionalism, History, and Culture*


**Recommended**


* Case Studies


*Recommended*


* Punishment, Social Control, & Culture


*Recommended*


* The Future?


*Recommended*


2.4 Complexity of Punishment and Penal Trends: Contesting Novelty, Finding Variegation and Gaps


Recommended


2.5 New Theories on Changes in Criminalization and Punishment Beyond America, Britain, and Canada

*Recommended*


2.6 Emerging Theoretical Frameworks of Penal Change

*Recommended*


*Recommended*


2.7 Public Opinion


*Recommended*


2.8 Policing

**See also Ethnographies of the Street section.**


*Recommended*

• Bell, J. (2002). *Policing hatred: Law enforcement, civil rights, and hate crime*. NYU Press


• Sherene Rasack. 2015. Dying From Improvement: Inquests and Inquiries into Indigenous Deaths in Custody. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

### 2.9 Courts: Process, Sentencing, and Fines

* Processing


**Recommended**


* Sentencing Disparities


**Recommended**


* Reproducing Inequality Today


• Cleve, N. G. V. (2016). *Crook County: Racism and Injustice in America’s Largest Criminal Court*. Stanford University Press


2.10 Prison Sociology: Classics and New


*Recommended*


### 2.11 Prison Sociology*: New Works (*Adapting to a New Context)

*Recommended*

* Prison Riots and Order—US and UK


* Women’s Prisons in Canada, the UK, and the US


*Recommended*


* The British Context (and Revival of Prison Sociology)

**Recommended**


* Other Countries

**Recommended**


* American Examples: Regaining Access
**Recommended**

- Flores, J. (2016). *Caught up: Girls, surveillance, and wraparound incarceration.* University of California Press – Introduction + Ch. 4

* Studies Specifically on Prisoner Resistance

**Recommended**


### 2.12 Community Supervision and Ethnographies of Control: Parole, Probation, and Reentry


**Recommended**


### 2.13 Spatial Regulation and Quasi-Punishments


**Recommended**


### 2.14 Crimmigration and Immigration Detention


*Recommended*


### 2.15 Gender and Sexuality in the Criminal Justice System


*Recommended:


### 2.16 Consequences for Stratification/Inequality from Policing, Social Control, and Punishment


*Recommended*


### 2.17 Ethnographies of the Street: The Lives of the Overpoliced


*Recommended*


- James Diego Vigil. A Rainbow of Gangs: Street Cultures in the Mega-City
3 SOCIOLOGY OF LAW: The Interplay of Law and Society

3.1 Useful Overviews of the Larger Field’s Emergence, Growth, and Other Trends


**Recommended**


Calavita, K. (2010). *Invitation to Law & Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago – This is really pitched at an undergraduate level, but is an easy enough read and offers another perspective.

### 3.2 Theories of Law

- **Valverde, M.** (2015). *Chronotopes of law: Jurisdiction, scale and governance*. Routledge – Chapters 1, 2, and 7
- **Tamanaha, Brian Z.** A general jurisprudence of law and society. Oxford University Press, 2001. (Chapter 2 is an excellent literature review)

**Recommended**


3.3 Legal Mobilization/Disputing, With or Without the Law


**Recommended**


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3.4 Legal Consciousness


**Recommended**


### 3.5 Legal Regulation and Compliance (aka Law and Organizations)


* Street-Level Bureaucrats and Front-line Workers

*Recommended*


* Organizational Contexts: Civil Rights and the Workplace

*Recommended*


* Non-employment/civil rights examples

**Recommended**


3.6 Law & Race + Critical Race Theory


• Bell, J. (2013). *Hate thy neighbor: Move-in violence and the persistence of racial segregation in american housing*. NYU Press

**Recommended**


### 3.7 Legal Profession


*Recommended*


3.8 Law in Transition, Globalization, and Other International Works


**Recommended**


