

University of Toronto
SOC212H1F: Crime and Deviance – Summer 2019
Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street, Room 2110

Instructor Information

Instructor: Lawrence Williams
Office location: Room 335 (725 Spadina Avenue, Department of Sociology)
Email address: Lawrence.Williams@mail.utoronto.ca
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Quercus/Course web site: Quercus

Course Description

This course provides an overview of the study of crime and deviance. We critically examine how scholars have gone about studying crime and deviance (the methods they use and the statistics they employ) as well as the major sociological explanations for crime and deviance. We also consider the empirical evidence as it relates to the validity of these explanations and some of the policy fallout from different theoretical approaches.

Prerequisite: SOC101Y1 or SOC102H1 or SOC100H. Students without this prerequisite will be removed at any time they are discovered.

Exclusion: SOC212Y1; SOC211H5

Recommended Preparation: SOC150H1

Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to the range of theories sociologists use to explain crime and deviance.
2. To critically evaluate the different quantitative and qualitative methods used to assess crime and deviance.

Textbooks and Other Materials

All readings are available on Quercus.

Class Format and Requirements

This is an intensive reading, lecture, and discussion-based course. All readings for the week are expected to have been read before class, and students should come prepared with questions to pose to the class.

Evaluation

Participation (Ongoing).....	10%
Test 1 (May 23).....	30%
Essay (due: June 6).....	35%
Test 2 (June 13).....	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Participation – Ongoing. 10% of Final Grade

Each class, one or more questions will be asked in-class which must be answered and turned in to the instructor. 10 sets of questions will be asked (1 set in each lecture, with no questions being asked on Test days). Each one will be worth 1% of final grade each (for a total of 10%). If you turn in all 10 responses, your lowest response grade will be dropped, and your highest grade will be counted twice.

Responses MUST be written in-class and submitted in-class at the time requested by the instructor – they cannot be turned in after this point. There are no opportunities for make-ups, regardless of circumstance.

Essay: Theorizing Crime/Deviance – Due Thursday, June 6 at 2:10 p.m. – 35% of Final Grade

In this course, you have been exposed to many different theoretical explanations of crime and deviance. In this essay, I want you to explain how one particular kind of crime or deviant behavior can be analyzed using **a combination of at least 2 theories** that have been presented in this course.

*More details will be provided on Quercus and during lectures.

Formatting:

-Essays must be between 2000 and 2500 words (12-point font, Times New Roman, double spaced).

-A bibliography must be provided. Please use ASA style formatting.

Please submit a hardcopy at the beginning of class on June 6 and upload your paper on Quercus by Thursday, June 6 at 2:10 p.m.

*More details will be provided on Quercus and during class discussions.

Test 1 – May 23 – 30% of Final Grade

This test will cover class materials and readings from Class 1 to Class 5. It will consist of short answer and/or essay questions.

Test 2 – June 13 – 25% of Final Grade

This test will cover class materials and readings from Class 7 to Class 11. It will consist of short answer and/or essay questions.

Procedures and Rules

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory, and students are responsible for all material presented in class. Students who do not attend class are responsible for obtaining information about any announcements that may have been made in class. They are also responsible for obtaining any desired notes on class discussions and/or lectures from other students in the class.

Proper documentation from a University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate or college registrar is required to justify an absence.

Deadlines

Late work will not be accepted unless submitted with proper documentation from your physician and a University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate, or from your college registrar. See below for details.

Documentation from your Physician or College Registrar

If you miss a test or a paper deadline, do not contact the instructor unless you have followed the steps described here.

In case of illness, you must supply a duly completed Verification of Student Illness or Injury form (available at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca). A doctor's note is acceptable but **MUST** contain the start and anticipated end date of the illness. The note or form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work at class or during office hours, within seven days of the missed assignment.

If a personal or family crisis prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar (it is a good idea anyway to advise your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work at class or during office hours.

Make-Up Tests

Students who miss the test for a valid reason and wish to take a make-up test must give the instructor a written request **within three days** of the missed test for special consideration which explains why the test was missed, accompanied by proper documentation from a physician or college registrar (see above). A student who misses a test and the subsequent make-up test for a valid reason will not have a third chance to take the test, and the mark assigned for the test will be a zero.

Late Assignments

To request accommodation for a **late assignment** you must present your case to the instructor via email.

- In order not to be considered late, assignments must be submitted by the due date listed on the syllabus in-class as a hardcopy and on Turnitin.com. ***You are expected to keep a back-up, hard copy of your assignment in case it is lost.***
- For lateness *beyond your control*, the documentation must indicate that you were unable to engage in school work *on the due date of the assignment* for a ONE-day extension.
 - For a longer extension, you must prove that you were unable to engage in school work for a longer period or provide documentation that you encountered an exceptional, unforeseen circumstance. Note that all term work must be submitted *on or before the last day of classes*. Students who for reasons beyond their control wish to seek an extension of this deadline must obtain approval from their instructor for an extension of the deadline. This extension may be for no longer than the end of the final examination period. If additional time beyond this period is required, students must petition through the Office of the Registrar for a further extension of the deadline
- Late assignments for reasons that are *within your control* will be penalized 5% marks per day. The penalty will run from the day the assignment was due until the day it is submitted in the 200-level sociology assignment drop box and Turnitin.com. The penalty period does include weekends and holidays. Assignments that are more than 7 days late will not be accepted.

Electronic Communication and Electronic Learning Technology

Email communication is rapid, convenient, and efficient—and you are encouraged to use it to enhance your learning and experience in the course. With that said, it is essential that you follow a few rules. **Note: Emails that do not follow these guidelines will not receive a response.**

- Assignments will not be accepted via email. See above for how to submit them.

- All course communication should be conducted through Quercus or your utoronto account.
- All emails must include the course code (e.g., SOC212) in the subject line.
- All emails should be signed with the student's full name and student number.
- Emails from students will generally be answered within 72 hours [or 3 business days] of receipt.
- Treat emails as you would any other professional communication. Proofread. Use appropriate language.
- Emails that ask questions that are answered in the course syllabus or website (e.g., "how much is assignment X worth") will not receive a response.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Laptop usage is allowed in class, they should be used for notes only. Other uses (e.g., emailing, web surfing) will result in the student being required to turn off the laptop.

- Videotaping and recording class discussions is strictly forbidden without written permission from the instructor.

Essay Submission

Papers are to be submitted at the beginning of the class on the due date in **two** forms: a hardcopy given to the instructor, and an electronic copy submitted on Turnitin.com (via Quercus)

" Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to **Turnitin.com** for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the **Turnitin.com** reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University's use of the **Turnitin.com** service are described on the **Turnitin.com** web site."

Assignments not submitted through *Turnitin* (via Quercus) will receive a grade of zero (0 %) **unless a student instead provides, along with their essay,** sufficient secondary material (e.g., reading notes, outlines of the paper, rough drafts of the final draft, etc.) to establish that the paper they submit is truly their own. The alternative (not submitting via *Turnitin*) is in place because, strictly speaking, using *Turnitin* is voluntary for students at the University of Toronto.

Plagiarism

Cheating and misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offence face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly: practices acceptable in high school may prove unacceptable in university. Know where you stand by reading the "Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters" in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.

Equity & Diversity

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated.

Course Schedule

Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to each lecture. Note: every attempt will be made to follow this schedule, but it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

May 7. Class 1 – Introduction

No readings

May 9, Class 2 – Classicism and Positivism in Criminology

Tierney, John. 2013. *Criminology: Theory and Context* (third edition). Chapter 3, Pp. 51-64.

Tillyer, Marie S. 2011. "Routine Activities Theory and Rational Choice Theory." Pp. 143-149 in *The Routledge Handbook of Deviant Behaviour*, edited by Clifton D. Bryant. Abingdon, New York: Routledge.

May 14, Class 3 – Social Disorganization and the Chicago School

Tierney, John. 2013. *Criminology: Theory and Context* (third edition). Part of Chapter 5, Pp. 87-101.

Bursik Jr., Robert J. 1988. "Social Disorganization and Theories of Crime and Delinquency: Problems and Prospects." *Criminology* 26(4): 519-551.

May 16, Class 4 – Social Disorganization and Strain II

ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE IN-CLASS AND ON QUERCUS AT 2:10 P.M.

Tierney, John. 2013. *Criminology: Theory and Context* (third edition). Remainder of Chapter 5, Strain, Pp. 102-107.

Merton, Robert K. 1938. "Social Structure and Anomie." *American Sociological Review* 3(5): 672-682.

May 21, Class 5 – Social Control Theories

Pratt, Travis C., Jacinta M. Gau, and Travis W. Franklin. 2011. "Chapter 5: Key Idea: Hirschi's Social Bond/Social Control Theory." *Key Ideas in Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Los Angeles: SAGE.

Hirschi, Travis, and Michael R. Gottfredson. 2017 [1990]. "The Generality of Deviance." Pp. 1-22 in *The Generality of Deviance*, edited by Travis Hirschi and Michael R. Gottfredson. Abington, New York: Routledge.

Hirschi, Travis, and Michael R. Gottfredson. 1990. "Substantive Positivism and the Idea of Crime." *Rationality and Society* 2(4): 412-428.

May 23, Class 6 – TEST 1

No readings

May 28, Class 7 – Cultural Theories

Sutherland, Edwin H. 1947. "A Theory of Criminology." Pp. 1-9 in *Principles of Criminology* 4th edition. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Matsueda, Ross L. 1988. "The Current State of Differential Association Theory." *Crime & Delinquency* 34: 271-306.

Sykes, Gresham M. and David Matza. 1957. "Techniques of Neutralization." *American Sociological Review* 22: 664-670.

May 30, Class 8 – Situational Theories: Context

Birkbeck, Christopher, and Gary LaFree. 1993. "The Situational Analysis of Crime and Deviance." *Annual Review of Sociology* 19: 113-137.

Katz, Jack. "Chapter 9: Seductions and Repulsions of Crime." *In Seductions of Crime: Moral and Sensual Attractions in Doing Evil*. New York: Basic Books.

June 4, Class 9 – Situational Theories: Applications I

Katz, Jack. 1991. "The Motivation of the Persistent Robber." *Crime and Justice* 14: 277-306.

Ditton, Jason. 1977. "Alibis and Aliases: Some Notes on the 'Motives' of Fiddling Bread Salesmen." *Sociology* 11(2): 233-255.

June 6, Class 10 – Situational Theories: Applications II
RESEARCH ESSAY DUE IN-CLASS AND ON QUERCUS AT 2:10 P.M.

Levi, Ken. 1981. "Becoming a Hit Man: Neutralization in a Very Deviant Career." *Urban Life* 10(1):47-63.

Williams, Lawrence H. 2017. "Talk of Pedophilia: The Reflexive Management of Desire." *Deviant Behavior* 38(12): 1406-1418.

June 11, Class 11 – Future Directions

Rebellon, Cesar J., J. C. Barnes, and Robert Agnew. 2014. "A Unified Theory of Crime and Delinquency." Pp. 3-21. In *The Routledge International Handbook of Biosocial Criminology*, edited by Matt DeLisi and Michael G. Vaughn. Abingdon, New York: Routledge.

De Coster, Stacy, and Karen Heimer. 2017. "Choice within Constraint: An Explanation of Crime at the Intersections." *Theoretical Criminology* 21(1): 11-22.

June 13, Class 12 – Test 2

No readings