

Introduction to Criminology
CRM 166-003
Monday 18:00 – 20:50
Class Room: 211

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Description: This course examines Criminology as a social science. It involves an analysis of its theories, categories, and relevant research and its necessity and relation to the social science discipline. This includes the study of crime, criminal behaviour and its causation, crime victims and consequences.

Objectives:

- Communicate and understanding of the origins, development and evolution of past, current and future criminological thought and discourse;
- Describe, classify, evaluate and analyze the problem of crime, criminological theory and its contemporary application;
- Use conceptual frameworks and paradigms to make independent interpretations and applications using criminal case studies
- Consider, interpret and evaluate the perspectives of other students with sensitivity to the values underpinning those perspectives.

Textbook:

White, R., Haines, F., Eisler, L. (2009) Crime and Criminology: An Introduction. Ontario: Oxford University Press.

Method: Students will be expected to read the assigned chapters in the textbook and to participate in class discussions.

Evaluation: Participation 10%. The material in the lectures and in the readings will be reinforced through active participation in classes and occasional written exercises.

Paper 30%. Outline (5 marks) in less than two (2) typed double spaced pages provide a topic title, a brief thesis statement (i.e. what you hope to examine, explore and /or prove), and a minimum of five (5) references explaining the importance of each reference. **Due February 4, 2013.**

Paper (25 marks) **Due March 11, 2013.**

Your paper will be marked on: 1) Content. This includes how well you articulate your thesis statement or your central idea or position; knowledge of the subject; demonstrated use of theory; and how well you support your statement with facts by referring to the literature.

2) Organization: I am looking for an introduction, body and a conclusion. I am looking for a logical presentation of the more important parts with fully developed paragraphs with proper sentence flow

3) Mechanics: That is, the quality of your writing including grammar and punctuation. Do not use slang, clichés and avoid contractions.

4) Referencing: references are cited using APA in a separate reference page. Only those resources within the body of the paper are to be listed in the reference page. References are to come from a variety of sources (e.g. journals, reports, agency data, books, etc) and should reflect Canadian content.

5) Format: typed, double spaced, unbound, stapled in the top left corner, cover page, pages numbered, 1” Margins, Times New Roman font, 12 Pitch.

Quizzes 30%. There will be three quizzes (**January 28, 2013, February 18, 2013, and March 18, 2013**). Each worth 10% of your final grade.

Exam 30%. Exam will consist of multiple choice, matching, short answer and essay questions.

Lecture Breakdown:

Study of Crime

- Social construction of crime
- How the media impacts our construction of theory
- Strands in Criminology
- How political orientation shapes Criminology

2. Classical Theory

- Historical context
- Principles and concepts
- Strengths and weaknesses

3. Biological and Psychological Positivism

- What is positivism
- Positivism s. Classical
- Basic Concepts
- Incorporating 'science'
- Strengths and weaknesses

4. Strain Theory

- Concepts with Strain Theory
- Subcultures
- Social structure
- Social learning
- Strengths and weaknesses

5. Labelling

- Concepts of labelling theory
- Objective and subjective dimensions
- Influence of labelling theory
- Strengths and weaknesses

6. Marxist Criminology

- Similarities and differences found in Marxist Criminology
- Power and inequality
- Relationship between economic and political power
- Contributions Marxist Criminology has made to the study of how and why crime occurs
- Strengths and weaknesses

7. Feminist Perspectives

- Why Feminist theories developed
- Strands of feminist perspectives within criminology
- Position of women and girls in the justice system
- Impact of feminist theory on the criminal justice system
- Strengths and weaknesses

8. New Right Criminology

- Fundamental concepts
- Historical and political contexts
- Influence of the New Right on the Criminal Justice System
- Strengths and Weaknesses

9. Left Realism

- Fundamental concepts
- Historical and political contexts
- Influence of the left realists on the criminal justice system
- Strengths and weaknesses

10. Restorative Justice

- Fundamental concepts
- Historical and political contexts
- Influence that Restorative Justice on the criminal justice system
- Peacemaking Criminology
- Strengths and weaknesses

11. Critical Criminology

- Fundamental concepts
- Historical and political context
- Concept of power and resource allocation
- Structural and postmodern critical criminology
- Strengths and weaknesses

12. Review