

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
Soci 421-18: Special Topics in Deviance and Criminology
Race and the Justice System
Fall 2012
Course Outline

Instructor

Lecture: MWF 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
Room: MLT 118

Instructor: Monetta Bailey
Office: SS950
Email: mmbailey@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 403-220-6513
Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Course Objectives

This course will focus on the intersection between race and crime in Western countries such as Canada, the United States and Britain. We will assume a critical approach to how certain crimes are racialized in society and the effects this racialization has on the relationship between members of these racial groups and the legal system. The course will assume a Critical Race Theory perspective as we look at specific examples of the racialization of crime and moral panic that is created by the ways these crimes are reported by the media.

Required Readings

Tator, C & Henry, F. 2006 *Racial profiling in Canada: Challenging the myth of a "Few Bad Apples"*.
Toronto: University Of Toronto Press

Additional required readings will be assigned throughout the course. These will be available via Blackboard and on reserve in the library.

Course Requirements

This course offers a great deal as we are all participants in society and we all engage in various forms of social interaction. As such, I encourage you to approach the readings with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Students are expected to come to lectures prepared to participate in class discussion in order to gain the most value from the course. Regular attendance is expected as participation marks will comprise a portion of your final course grade. I will make my PowerPoint slides

available on Blackboard, however I do not distribute my notes. You are encouraged to acquaint yourselves with other students should you require class notes.

You are expected to have an understanding of the material covered in the textbook and other assigned readings as well the material covered in the class lectures, including videos. Exams will cover all material covered in class as well as the required readings whether or not they were discussed in class.

There are 4 components to this course for evaluation:

	Date	% of final grade
Midterm	October 5	35%
Class presentation	November 19-23	20%
Final paper	December 10	35%
Class participation	Ongoing	10%

*There are no classes scheduled for the following dates:

Monday, October 8 (Thanksgiving Day)

Saturday –Tuesday, November 10-13 (Reading Days)

Note: Students are expected to complete **all** course components in order to receive a final grade. Final grades in this course are **non-negotiable**.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

- A+ 95-100
- A 90-94
- A- 85-89
- B+ 80-84
- B 75-79
- B- 70-74
- C+ 67-69
- C 63-66
- C- 59-62
- D+ 54-58
- D 50-53
- F 0-49

Contact information

You may contact me via email or Blackboard, however please be aware that I will only discuss course related questions and information during office hours. You may use email for administrative purposes (for example to inform me of absence from class) and not in lieu of office hours. Substantive course issues will only be discussed during office hours. I will also use Blackboard to communicate with the

class such as posting the course outline, test information, required readings and course announcements. Please make sure you are receiving Blackboard emails from me and check them regularly.

Class protocol

Your cooperation in maintaining a positive learning environment is appreciated; please be respectful of other students' time and contributions to the class. Cell phones and the use of other electronic devices to communicate is not permitted during class time. You may use laptops for note-taking only. The use of these devices for communication purposes may be distracting to your fellow students.

Tentative Course Schedule: (Note that additional assigned readings and corresponding dates will be indicated in class and on Blackboard. Please check course emails regularly to keep abreast of the class requirements.)

Weeks of September 10 & 17

Section 1: Introduction to Critical Race Theory

Introduction to the principles of CRT:

Required readings

Delgado, R. & Stefancic, J. 2007 Critical race theory and criminal justice. *Humanity and Society* 31: 133-145

Delgado, R. and Stefancic, J. 2001 *Critical race theory: An introduction*. New York: NYU Press

Goldberg, D. 2004 The end(s) of race. *Postcolonial Studies* 7 (2): 211-23

CRT perspective on crime:

Required readings

Delgado, R. 1994 Rodrigo's eighth chronicle: Black crime, white fears. On the social construction of threat. *Virginia Law Review* 80 (2): 503-548

Tanovich, D. 2006 *The colour of justice: policing race in Canada*. Toronto, ON: Irwin Law (selected readings)

Weeks of September 24 & October 1

Section 2: Racialization in Western Society

Racialization of crime:

Required readings

Wortley, S.; Hagan, J. and Macmillian, R. 1997 Just Des(s)erts? The racial polarization of perceptions of criminal injustice. *Law and Society Review* 31 (4): 637-676

Wortley, S. 2004. Hidden intersections: Research on race, crime and Criminal Justice in Canada. *Canadian Ethnic Studies Journal* 35 (3): 99-117

Race and crime in the media:

Required readings

Faucher, C. 2009 Fear and loathing in the news: A qualitative analysis of Canadian print news coverage of youthful offending in the twentieth century. *Journal of Youth Studies* 12(4): 439-456
Welch, M.; Price, E.; Yankey, N. 2004 Youth Violence and Race in the Media: The emergence of 'wilding' as an invention of the press. 11(2): 36-48

Weeks of October 8-November 12

Section 3: Racial profiling in Canada

The debate on racial profiling in Canada:

Required readings

Gabor, T. 2004 Inflammatory rhetoric on racial profiling can undermine police services. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* 46 (4): 457-466
Wortley, S & Tanner, J. 2003 Data, denials, and confusion: The racial profiling debate in Toronto. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* 45 (3): 367-389
Wortley, S. & Tanner, J. 2005 Inflammatory rhetoric? Baseless accusations? A response to Gabor's critique of racial profiling research in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* 47 (3): 581-609

A look at the police culture of racial profiling:

Required readings

Tator, C & Henry, F. 2006 *Racial profiling in Canada: Challenging the myth of a "Few Bad Apples"*. Toronto: University Of Toronto Press

Weeks of November 26 & December 3

Section 4: Minority perceptions of the justice system

A look at the perception of racialized groups views on the justice system focusing on minority groups relationships with the police:

Required readings

Chu, D. 2008. Chinese immigrants' perceptions of the police in Toronto, Canada. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management*. 31(4):610-630
Kwok, S. & Tam D. 2010 Chinese immigrant youth and the youth justice system in Canada. *Canadian Social Work* 12 (1): 114-122
Wortley, S. and Owusu-Bempah A. 2009 Unequal before the law: Immigrant and racial minority perceptions of the Canadian Criminal Justice System. *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 10 (4): 447-473

*Changes to the syllabus and changes/additions to the readings, if needed, will be discussed in class.

Other administrative information:

Emergency evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point. The assembly point for this class is the Professional Faculties Food Court.

Deferrals

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

Deferred Final Exam Form

Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at:

http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form

Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed to between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Ethics Research

Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk

The University of Calgary provides a "safe walk" service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.