

The University of Calgary  
Sociology 327 LEC 20  
INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
Spring 2013

Instructor: Lisa D. Jackson BA(Hons), MA

Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00-8:45 Room: ST 126

Office Hours: Thursday 3:00pm – 5:00 pm or by appointment

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course will introduce students to the structure and operation of the Canadian Criminal Justice system. Although the major components of the system – the police, the courts, and the correctional system – work together in a formal manner, each also has its own goals and mandates, which can result in conflict. We will consider some of the challenges and controversies in the administration of justice. We will pay particular attention to legislative change as well as governance and accountability within the justice system. With increasing concerns over public safety and security, who is a “criminal” and how much does “justice” cost? Key objectives of this course include students identifying the values of the system as well as developing their critical thinking skills through evaluating criminal justice issues in the news. It is therefore imperative that students keep informed of current issues related to the Canadian criminal justice system as presented in the media. Students will also be expected to participate in short class exercises and discussion.

**REQUIRED READING**

Available in the University Bookstore:

Text: Griffiths (2011) Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer

Students are also required to consult Blackboard each week to obtain any exercises or questions for discussion. Additional readings or references may also be posted.

## **EVALUATION**

Test 1		40%
Participation		10%
Final Exam	TBA Scheduled by the Registrar's Office	50%

Material for the tests/exam will be based upon all course content including lectures, guest lectures and assigned readings. Questions will be in multiple-choice format.

Participation includes participation in class discussion and blackboard discussions. Students will be required to post one comment and two replies per question/discussion on blackboard. Active participation requires knowledge of the readings and current media. Blackboard comments are expected to be clear and respectfully written; opinions shared verbally in class are also expected to be respectful.

Instructor notes may be shared in whole, or in part, via Blackboard. Students are expected to check Blackboard regularly for updates.

## **GRADING SCALE**

Please be aware that the grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections to conform to departmental norms.

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

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### *Internet and Mobile Phones:*

Cell phones or other devices connectable to the Internet are **not** to be on/used during class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor in advance of the class.

Students wishing to use laptops for notes during the class will be asked to sit in a specific area of the classroom so as to not distract other students.

### *Recording Devices:*

Recording devices are **not** permitted in the classroom without explicit permission from the instructor. Students with a disability requiring the use of a recording device are exempt provided the student has registered with the Disability Resource Centre for academic accommodation.

*Emergency evacuations:*

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point at 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](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://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf> Once an extension date has been agreed 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 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.

***Students' Union:*** Students' Union contacts can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/contact>

***Student Representation:*** The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), and [arts4@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@ucalgary.ca). Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

***Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:*** Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403)220-5881 or visit them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

## **SYLLABUS AND READINGS**

Students should note that the syllabus is flexible and subject to change. Students will be advised in advance where this occurs.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READINGS</b>
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Course & Overview of Criminal Justice System (CJS)	Chapter 1
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Challenges in Criminal Justice	Chapter 2
May 21 <sup>st</sup> & May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Police Governance, Structure, Operations and People	Chapter 3, Chapter 5
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Police Powers & Decision-making	Chapter 4
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Courts: Structure & Prosecution	Chapter 6, Chapter 7
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	TEST	
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Courts: Sentencing	Chapter 8
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Guest Lecturer	
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Prison Alternatives	Chapter 9
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Corrections	Chapter 10
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Release and Re-entry	Chapter 11
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Review	
June 27 <sup>th</sup> – June 29	Final Exam Period	