

LWSO 591-02

Integrative Seminar: Issues in Sociolegal Studies

Fall 2016

T/R, 12:30 – 1:45

ST 130

Instructor: Dr. Ted McCoy
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Course Description

Since this course is the integrative seminar for the Law and Society program, the overall goal is to permit students to bring to bear the whole range of their experience and knowledge in the Law and Society program to analyze social issues and design a research project that will accomplish these objectives.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to critically evaluate legal philosophical and theoretical texts and a variety of other materials as well as understand the way in which the law, politics, and society influence each other and how the law in Canada and other liberal democracies is made and reformed over time.

Textbooks and Readings:

Recommended for Purchase:

Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*
(Available in the bookstore, and in multiple online stores as a used copy. You should be able to find a copy of this text very cheaply either new or used.

Ted McCoy, *Hard Time: Reforming the Penitentiary in Nineteenth-Century Canada*.
This text will be available as a hard copy in the bookstore. **It is also available as a free PDF on D2L)**

Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in an Age of Colour Blindness*, 2010.

Note: All of the other required readings are listed in the seminar schedule in this outline. These are available as e-texts from the Taylor Family Digital Library. Some students may wish to secure used copies online for texts that are particularly relevant to your assignment choices.

Assignments and Evaluation

Course Participation: 20%

- Class participation will be evaluated on the basis of your participation in course discussion.
- Discussion will take place during seminar-style debate, smaller group work, and in the message board of the D2L site.
- **This is not a grade for attendance.** Students should consider that participation is a way for you to demonstrate understanding of the texts and key concepts.
- **Failure to participate will result in a failing grade on this portion of the course.**

Book Review 20% – due in class September 27

- This paper will be an analysis of one of the course texts. It should be constructed as a formal academic book review. This paper will have a word limit of 750 words.

Abstract of Project and Early Bibliography 5% – Due in class October 4

- This assignment is a preliminary abstract and bibliography of your project. It is to help the instructor catch problems with your initial research and approach, or to suggest additional sources for your research.

Conference-Style Presentation (20% of final grade) – Weeks 10-12.

- The last three weeks of the course will be taken up with student presentations of their final papers.
- These presentations will take the form of a mock academic conference. Students will present their research on panels with other students presenting on similar themes.
- Each presentation will be approximately 6 minutes in length with questions and discussion to follow. Your presentation date will be assigned to you after submission of your abstracts

Research Project 35% – due in class, December 8

The research project is designed to allow students to familiarize themselves with a specific area of sociolegal research, conceive of an original question (or gap in the literature) and work through the process of designing a response to this.

It is comprised of the following sections:

- **Abstract:** A one-page synopsis of the research question, key findings of the literature review, and discussion of methodology and limitations of the data.
- **Literature Review:** 2,500 words discussing the contributions of key scholars, debates in the field, and gaps in the existing literature.

- **Methodology:** 1,500-words discussing of theoretical approach and methodological approach that best addresses the research question.
- **Bibliography:** Annotated list of your sources in Chicago style.

The paper should be set in Times New Roman 12 point font with standard margins.

Papers on other topics of law should not be considered.

All written assignments should be submitted to the electronic drop box.

Seminar Schedule and Format

Each week is set up in roughly the same format. The Tuesday class will involve a seminar discussion with the entire class. This means students must have the text read and comments prepared before class on Tuesday.

Thursday classes will be divided up into different exercises. These will include more detailed discussion of the texts based on questions provided by the instructor; workshops on academic skills and development (paper tutorials, peer review, conference practices); other assignments as developed by the instructor.

It is very important that you keep up to date with the D2L site from week to week. Assignments for the Thursday class will be posted each week so that students are aware of what is expected of them from week to week.

Week 1: Course Introduction No readings. Course introduction by the instructor. **No seminar on September 15** . Use this time to complete readings for the following week and select a text for your book review assignment.

Week 2: Justifying Punishment Ted Hondrich, *Punishment: The Supposed Justifications Revisited*, 2006. HV8675 INTERNET.

Week 3: Structuralism and the Postmodern Turn in Foucault Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*

Week 4: Foucault Continued Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison* Continued.

Week 5: Canadian Prison History Ted McCoy, *Hard Time: Reforming the Penitentiary in Nineteenth-Century Canada* HV9507 INTERNET

- Note: *Hard Time* is also available on the D2L site as a PDF download. This may make it easier to read than the library version.

Week 6: Crime Control and Modern Society David Garland, *The Culture of Control: Crime and Society Order in Contemporary Society* HV9960.G36 2002 INTERNET

Week 7: The Penitentiary and Race Scott Nelson, *Steel Drivin' Man: John Henry, the Untold Story of an American Legend* E185.97 .H455 INTERNET

Week 8: Race Continued: Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in an Age of Colour-Blindness*

Week 9: Gender: Kelly Hannah-Moffat, *Punishment in Disguise: Penal Governance and Federal Imprisonment* HV9507 INTERNET

Week 10: Conference Presentations

Week 11: Conference Presentations

Week 12: Conference Presentations

Week 13: Conference Presentations

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No.

NOTES:

- 1. Grade Reappraisal:** Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reconsidered mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
- 2.** The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
- 3. Academic Misconduct:** Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>
- 4. Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. "If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."
- 5. Ethical 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.

6. **Deferrals:** If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments 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 health issue 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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

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 https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.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).

7. **Student Representation:** The 2016-17 Students’ Union VP Academic is Alicia Lutz - suvpaca@ucalgary.ca. The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>

8. **Emergency Evacuation:** In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at the **Professional Faculties Food Court**. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

9. **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.

10. **Academic Accommodation:** Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

11. All written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

12. **Grading System** The following grading system is used in the Faculty of Arts:

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

13. **Policy for Late Assignments** Assignments submitted after the start of class on the due date will be penalized with the loss of a full letter grade (e.g.: A- to B-) for each day late. This includes weekends.

14. **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam. For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

15. **Plagiarism** Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and

possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

16. Academic Misconduct For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

17. 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 SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at 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 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.