



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Spring 2021 – Updated MAY 10, 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Integrative Seminar – Threats, Crises and Emergencies: Limits of Regulation			
Course Number	Law and Society 591 – S01		
Pre/Co-Requisites	LWSO 413 and 415, 90 full-course equivalents, admission to the LWSO major		
Instructor Name	Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot	Email	begibbsv@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Please feel free to contact me over email. Please also follow customary email conventions – responses are usually forthcoming within one business day.		
Office Location	N/A	Office Hours	By appointment
Telephone No.	N/A		
Class Dates	Thursday		
Class Times	10 am – 12 pm		
Class Location	Online		

Course Description

At various points over the last two decades, there has been reference to ‘threats’, ‘crises’, ‘disasters’ and ‘emergencies’ to describe specific occurrences, events and processes. We hear of, for example, the opioid crises, humanitarian crises, terrorist threats, and health emergencies. More recently, in January 2020, the World Health Organization declared an international public health emergency, advising that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) could be stopped with significant detection, isolation and treating efforts. In March, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a pandemic, followed by provinces across Canada declaring ‘states of emergency’. The pandemic has brought into stark relief the borderless impact of many threats, as well as issues of control, regulation and response in the face of threat. Along with fears about our health, current protests suggest that the institutions that have been tasked with managing threats, and ensuring safety and protection, are instead sources of insecurity for many.

While words such as ‘threat’ and ‘crisis’ have meaning in everyday language, the application of these words also has legal and social implications and consequences. What are the implications for citizens

when threats are identified, emergencies are declared and formal measures or regulations are invoked? Do state powers change during these times? What are the implications for human rights when emergency legislation is invoked? We consider a variety of threats, crises and emergencies with a view to understanding the regulatory and social contexts that give rise to and address such declarations.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

The objectives in this course are to:

1. Underscore the contexts within which threats, crises and emergencies operate;
2. Identify the factors correlated with naming 'emergencies', 'crises', and 'threats' and the regulatory implications of doing so.
3. Understand the variability in responses to emergencies and crises.

Course Format

This course is a hybrid course, involving both synchronous and asynchronous participation. Our class is scheduled for three hours, from 9 am – 12 pm Tuesday and Thursday. Each week we will meet for a “live” session at 10 am on Thursdays. Live sessions consist of group discussions and activities and will not be recorded.

Learning Resources

Selected readings and their links are posted on D2L.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Selected readings (please see D2L).

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Date:	Topic:	Readings: (*Please note* readings may be subject to minor changes.)
Week 1: May 6	Introduction: Identifying Crises	McCormick & Whitney 2013 Jenkins 2009 Critchler 2009
Week 2: May 11, May 13	Crises, Panics and Emergency Responses DISCUSSION BOARD FORUM 1	Ungar 2008 Zahra et al 2020 Laurent-Simpson & Lo 2019 Crouch 2017 Macfarlane 2020 Lindsay 2014
Week 3: May 18, May 20	Health I: COVID-19 Pandemics DISCUSSION BOARD FORUM 2	Sheptycki 2020 Van Kolschooten & de Ruijter 2020 Speakman et al 2017 Conrad & Barker 2010 Sherlaw and Raude 2013 Joffe 2011
Week 4: May 25, May 27	Health II: Opioids Public health MIDTERM TAKEHOME EXAM	Boyd & MacPherson 2018 Collins et al 2019 Ziegler et al 2019 Gostin 2019 Macfarlane 2014
Week 5: June 1, June 3	Humanitarian I DISCUSSION BOARD FORUM 3	Sabates-Wheeler 2019 Matias 2020 Sadrehashemi 2019 Coulton Boushie Film
Week 6: June 8, June 10	Humanitarian II	Esperti 2020 deLauri 2019 Feindt & Flynn 2009 Neumayer 2013
Week 7: June 15	Environment and Climate FINAL TAKEHOME EXAM	Rotimi et al 2009 Aronsson-Storier & da Costa 2017 Jodoin et al 2019

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Evaluation for this course consists of (1) participation (group discussions and D2L discussion board posts); (2) a midterm examination; and (3) a final examination.

1. **Participation (12%):**
 - a. **DISCUSSIONS:** Thursdays are discussion days. Students will be divided into groups and specific questions will be provided to facilitate discussion on that week’s reading assignments. All class members are expected to attend and participate in these weekly discussions.
 - b. **DISCUSSION BOARD FORUMS:** Students must make three (3) original D2L discussion board contributions. Forums will consist of a particular class-related topic and you will be asked to post a contribution that relates to the readings/class material. Posts are to be original contributions which will typically consist of finding and posting a relevant news article link with accompanying explanation detailing the significance of the link between the chosen article and the topic. Explanations must consist of full sentences in paragraph form. News articles may vary in length with accompanying explanations/narratives ranging from 125-150 words. These contributions are marked out of 4 points each as follows: relevant/working link (1 point), explanation (3 points – relevance and grammar/coherence). Each of three posts is worth a maximum of 4 points (12 in total for three posts).

2. **Midterm examination (48%):** Your midterm examination (short essay format) will be based on your interpretations of questions or subjects related to our weekly discussions and class material for the first half of the course. The exam questions will be available on D2L and a Dropbox will be set up for you to submit your exam.

3. **Final examination (40%):** Your final examination (short essay format) will be based on your interpretations of questions or subjects related to our weekly discussions and class material during the second half of the class. The exam questions will be available on D2L and a dropbox will be set up for you to submit your exam.

Please note that both take home exams are expected to be completed individually and not collaboratively. You have access to all class material to complete these exams. Please consider that collaboration on examinations (through chat groups or file sharing sites) is risky from an academic integrity standpoint due to the potential for students to intentionally or unintentionally use words and ideas from these discussions in their assessments, which can constitute academic misconduct.

Evaluation	Value and Date
Class Participation	12% (Ongoing)
Discussion Board Forum 1	May 13-19
Discussion Board Forum 2	May 20-26
Discussion Board Forum 3	June 3-9
Midterm Examination	48% May 27 (due June 1 st)
Final Examination	40% June 17 (due June 22)

Final Exam Information

There is a take home final exam for this course.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Passing Grades

A passing grade is not required for any course component to pass this course.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

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 can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

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.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. All class assignments are to be handed in online. The Sociology office does not deal with course-related matters.
2. **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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.
3. Final grades are posted online.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in

Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Media Recording

The instructor will use media recordings for pre-recorded lectures. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose.

For our live sessions on Thursdays, recordings will not be made.

Research Ethics

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 Faculty 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.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure](#).

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure

you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

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.html>

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. Please refer to the [policy on Student Accommodations](#). Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here:

<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.