COURSE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The course is built around 3 principal goals:

i). to examine and assess the socio-genesis and manifestation of, and resolution to, forms of aggression, violence and victimization;

ii). to examine and assess the varied ways that forms of aggression, violence and victimization have been explained sociologically;

iii). to expand conventional definitions of ‘sports violence’ and move toward a more inclusive -- and sociological -- understanding of ‘Sports-Related Violence’.

Essentially, then, this seminar-style and heavily interactive course investigates “violence” using aspects of aggression, violence and victimization related to sport as its substantive focus. It will draw centrally from two literatures: Criminology and the Sociology of Sport. The course is intended for senior students in the final year of their Criminology/Deviance Concentration. As a 400-level specialized course in this area of concentration, it assumes intimacy with concepts, theories and ideas taught in Sociology 325 (Deviance and Social Control). Substantively, it would also be helpful for students to have taken other 400-level Criminology Concentration classes as well as Sociology 399 (Sport), but these are not essential or required.

REQUIRED READING

Because research in the Sociology of Violence area has not been extensively assembled in monograph or edited volume form, and its literature is therefore surprisingly ‘spread out’, a Book of Readings has been prepared and is available from the UofC Bookstore. Its Table of Contents is as follows:


**Assigned Readings:** Students will be directed to required and preferred readings on a weekly basis.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. A careful and punctual reading of the required material.

2. Regular attendance at lectures and participation in class discussions and questions. (The University of Calgary has no policy of mandatory attendance, but attendance is strongly recommended.)

3. Advance notice to the instructor or the Department of Sociology main office (220 6501) if unable to comply with the schedule of exams. Students who do not provide this advance notice may not be allowed to retake exams. Also see note on “Academic Accommodation” and “Policy for Students who Miss Exams” below.

4. Students are advised to familiarize themselves with University regulations regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Cheating is regarded as a serious academic offence. The University Calendar provides a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

5. Students who are having difficulty with the course are advised to contact the instructor immediately to discuss the situation.

6. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with changes (additions, deletions, shifts) to this outline made in class.

7. 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.

8. Please note the following:
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. Term 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, she/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

9. 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.

10. Keep this outline. It will be your course reference throughout the term. Most of the questions students ask are answered on it. **Once again, no hard copies will be provided.**

### Academic Accommodation

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

### EXAMINATIONS / EVALUATION

Students are examined / evaluated in 4 different ways:

1. **To be submitted at approximately the half way point (Thursday, October 22) and concluding the first phase of the course,** students must prepare a 4-page (12 font, double spaced) ‘**short essay**’ answer to a question provided early on in the class on a topic central to the course materials and the course premise. More information and an instruction guide will be provided in class. **Value: 20%**.

2. **Class participation component.** Since a). 400-level classes in the Department of Sociology are capped to allow students to benefit from a *relatively* ‘small group seminar’ experience, and b). Criminology Concentration classes allow students to critically engage with a specialist sub-topic, 10% of the overall mark will be given to ensuring, in a context of fairness and respect, that the class is participatory and not simply observational for students. **Value: 10%.**

NB: Public speaking is often intimidating; not all people enjoy it. This factor is acknowledged and built in to the allocation of the grade. However, Soci. 425 places emphasis on the creation – by the professor and students alike – of an interactive and respectful classroom climate conducive to listening, learning and critiquing. Students are required to attend and contribute to class discussion and debates. Registration will be kept, and student involvement noted.
3. **Group Presentation -- 20%**. Students will ‘team up’ in groups of approx. 4 to study and prepare for a presentation that will be made to the class, and discussed by the class, on an assigned date during the second half of the semester. The presentation will represent an equal division of labour in all aspects. Since they depend on class enrolment, the exact format and duration of presentations will be decided once enrolment settles, but presentations will be approximately 20-30 minutes in duration.

4. **Term paper -- 50%*. At the end of the semester, and representing their overall position on the course content, students must submit a considered, 10-page, also 12-font and double spaced, term paper worth 50% of their overall mark. A detailed instruction package containing both the essay question itself and style guidelines will be given to students following the grading of the ‘short essay’. **The term paper is to be submitted at the end of class (which students must attend in full) on Thursday, December 3.**

* In the case of both written submissions, late penalties of 10% per day will apply.

* It is the responsibility of students, not the professor, to keep a copy of handed-in work.

**POLICY FOR STUDENTS WHO MISS EXAMS**

You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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 problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements, holidays and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

**GRADING SCALE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>64-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS*

*This is designed to be a flexible schedule. When and how certain topics are covered in class may change, and we will complete the following only if time allows. Students are strongly advised to attend class to keep informed of any changes that may occur. Video material, which may include content not identified below, will be used to complement lectures where relevant and available. Video content shown in class may be examined on the tests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tues. Sept. 8 | FALL SESSION CLASSES BEGIN  
Introduction to the course: Objectives, topics, grading, expectations  
‘Meet’ the Prof. & Students: Why professional interest in the Sociology of Violence? |
| Thurs. Sept. 10 | Violence, Aggression and Victimology: Social Scientific Approaches |
| Tues. Sept. 15 | Violence, Aggression and Victimology (… continued)                     |
| Thurs. Sept. 17 | Sports-Related Violence (SRV): Expanding a Sub-discipline’s Terrain  
- Player violence  
- Crowd violence  
- Political violence / terrorism  
- Fan-player attacks  
- Player violence away from the game  
- Males and aggression  
- Females and aggression  
- Sexual assault  
- Partner abuse  
- Stalking, threat  
- Coach abuse  
- Parental abuse  
- Initiation / hazing  
- Environmental violence  
- ‘Blood’ and animal sports  
- Racism  
- Violence against sports industry workers  
- Violence against the environment |
Tues. Sept. 22  SRV (... continued)
Thurs. Sept. 24  SRV (... continued)

Tues. Sept. 29  SRV (... continued)
Thurs. Oct. 1  SRV (... continued)

Tues. Oct. 6  SRV (... continued)
Thurs. Oct. 8  SRV (... continued)

Tues. Oct. 13  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Oct. 15  Student Presentations and Debate

Tues. Oct. 20  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Oct. 22  SHORT ESSAY DUE IN (20%)

Tues. Oct. 27  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Oct. 29  TBA

Tues. Nov. 3  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Nov. 5  Student Presentations and Debate

Tues. Nov. 10  TBA
Thurs. Nov. 12  READING DAY: NO CLASSES

Tues. Nov. 17  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Nov. 19  Student Presentations and Debate

Tues. Nov. 24  Student Presentations and Debate
Thurs. Nov. 26  Student Presentations and Debate

Tues. Dec. 1  TBA
Thurs. Dec. 3  Course review, conclusion, and implications for further study in Criminology / Sociology of Sport 
TERMPAPER (LONG ESSAY) DUE IN (50%)

Tues. Dec. 8  FALL SESSION CLASSES END

---

- At the completion of this course each student will be asked to complete a Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) form.
- The course outline is posted on the Sociology Dept. webpage: [http://soci.ucalgary.ca/](http://soci.ucalgary.ca/)
- For more information about the Sociology Department (its faculty, funded and other research projects, and undergraduate and graduate program), also go to: [http://soci.ucalgary.ca/](http://soci.ucalgary.ca/)
Emergency Evacuations: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by the Food Court in the Professional Faculties Building.