

**The University of Calgary**  
**Faculty of Arts**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Sociology 427(L01)-Social Organization of Criminal Justice**  
**Course Outline, Spring 2015**

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**Introduction**

This course is about the social organization of criminal justice in Canada. While Sociology 327 introduced students to the basic operations of the Canadian criminal justice system, this course explores shortcomings of the justice system. That is, the course considers how it does not live up to its stated objectives. We will consider why many citizens believe that crime is rampant and that the system is too lenient on criminals. As well, we will explore how class ideology generates inequities in terms of policing, sentencing, and incarceration. Lastly, we will look at prospects for change in Canadian criminal justice. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to identify problems in the operation of the criminal justice system and think critically about positive social change.

**Required Texts**

The following texts are required in this course:

Reimer, J., & Leighton, P. (2010). *The rich get richer and the poor get poorer*. (9th ed.). Toronto: Allyn & Bacon.

Wilson, James, Q. (2013). *Thinking about crime*. (Revised ed.). New York: Basic Books.

Please review the Reading/Class schedule below.

**Evaluation**

There are several opportunities for students to capture their grades. Students will be expected to produce summaries of each chapter of the Reiman/Leighton book. The summaries will be 2 pages long and are worth 2% each. It is anticipated that the summaries will be a useful study guide for the mid-term examination. The mid-term examination is worth 40% and will be comprised of short answer questions. The final examination is a take home essay worth 40%. Students will be given a list of questions to respond to in essay format. Finally, class participation is worth 10%. This mark will reflect students' attendance and contributions to class discussions.

Summaries	10%	June 2
Mid-Term Examination	40%	June 4
Class Participation	10%	Ongoing
Take home final	40%	Due June 30

### Other Responsibilities of the Student

1. A careful and punctual reading of the required material.
2. Regular attendance at lectures and participation in class discussions and questions.
3. Advanced notice to the instructor if unable to comply with the schedule of assignments due to illness.
4. Students are asked to familiarize themselves with University Regulations covering plagiarism.

### Grading Scheme

The following grading scheme will be used in this course.

A+ > 95%	B+ 80%-84.99%	C+ 67%-69.99%	D+ 54%-58.99%
A 90%-94.99%	B 75%-79.99%	C 63%-66.99%	D 50%-53.99%
A- 85%-89.99%	B- 70%-74.99%	C- 59%-62.99%	F <49.99%

*\*The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.*

### Reading/Class Schedule

Before reviewing the schedule below, please be aware that it is expected to be flexible. Some topics may require more time than scheduled. Students should ensure that they have completed the readings before each class.

Date	Topic	Chapters to have read
<b>May 14</b>	Introduction A Marxian Critique of Criminal Justice	None
<b>May 19</b>	Between Philosophy and Criminology	Appendix I and II
<b>May 21</b>	Crime Control in America A Crime by Any Other Name...	Chapters 1 and 2
<b>May 26</b>	...And the Poor Get Prison	Chapters 3
<b>May 28</b>	To the Vanquished Belong the Spoils	Chapter 4
<b>June 2</b>	Criminal <i>Justice</i> or <i>Criminal Justice</i> Review	Chapter 5
<b>June 4</b>	<b>Mid-Term</b>	None
<b>June 9</b>	Crime Amidst Plenty Crime and Community	Chapters 1 and 2
<b>June 11</b>	Thinking About Crime The Police and Crime	Chapters 3 and 4
<b>June 16</b>	Broken Windows The Police and Community Relations	Chapters 5 and 6
<b>June 18</b>	Penalties and Opportunities	Chapters 7 and 8

	Incapacitation	
<b>June 23</b>	Rehabilitation The Death Penalty	Chapters 9 and 10
<b>June 25</b>	Heroin Review	Chapter 11
<b>June 30</b>	<b>Take Home Final Examination</b>	None

**Emergency evacuations:**

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by 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://www.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 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.