



SOCI-220 – Sociological Explanations of Criminal and Deviant Behaviour

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022

Course Outline Review Date: 2023-09-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course critically investigates sociological perspectives on crime and deviance. This course explores both mainstream and critical theories and critically analyzes assumptions upon which each theory is based. Topics include: anomie, indigenous theories; neutralization, labelling, control, conflict, subculture, deterrence, and patriarchy, as they relate to crime and deviance.

Program Information:

This course can be used as a social science elective in the University Arts and Science programs.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	

Other

Total	45
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Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Williams, F. P. & McShane, M. D. (latest edition). *Criminological Theory*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall

Reiman, J. Leighton, P. (2016) *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison: Ideology, Class, and Criminal Justice*. 11th ed. Routledge.

Selection of online readings

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- critically analyze and evaluate various theoretical perspectives;
- utilize context in examining theoretical perspectives;
- understand the influence of sociological theories on the criminal justice system; and
- understand specific forms of deviance and crime such as violence and aggression, prostitution, drug use and fraud.

This course should help students

- use written and oral communication skills effectively, employing methods appropriate to message and context;
 - critical analysis;
 - consider context – social, economic, and political; and
 - think clearly and critically, fusing experience, knowledge and reasoning into considered judgement.
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Course Topics:

- Background – defining deviance and crime and meta issues
- Theories of Deviance and Crime: Social Theory, Chicago School, Functionalism; Social Control Theory, Symbolic Interactionism, Conflict Theory, Indigenous, Evolving Theories
- The Practice of Deviance and Crime: indigenous peoples and communities; violence and aggression, prostitution, drug use, organized crime, business crime, mental illness

See instructor's Course Information Sheet for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Midterm Exams	25%
Final Exam	30%
Projects	20%
Research paper	25%

Total	100%
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Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s Course Information Sheet for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as breakdown of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and the use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Equivalent Course: Students who have received COTR Credit for SOCI 220 may not receive additional credit for CRIM 104.

Prior Course Code: CRIM 104/SOCI 220 >> SOCI 220

Date changed: April 2011

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.