

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMERCE

FALL, 1998

OCT 22 1998

COURSE: Sociology 2250 3(3-0) UT(3)
Criminology
SO 2250 A2 M-W-F 11:00-11:50 (J 201)

PREREQUISITE: Sociology 1000 (or equivalent)

INSTRUCTOR: V. J. Salvo
Office: C313B Phone: 539-2993 (532-0709)
E-mail vince.salvo@gprc.ab.ca
Office Hours:
M - F 10:00 - 11:00
by Appointment, or anytime if I am free.

NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

Sociology 2250 is an introduction to the study and analysis of crime from a sociological perspective. The course attempts to answer the questions:

- (1) How much crime is there in Canada?
- (2) Who are the criminals and what are they like?
- (3) What are the major types of criminal behaviour?
- (4) Why do people engage in criminal behaviour? and
- (5) What are we doing to stop or at least reduce crime in our society?

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

- A. To understand the social and legal basis for the definition of crime and deviance.
- B. To understand the major issues, debates, and controversies which frame the attempts to measure the incidence of crime and the attributes of criminals.
- C. To understand the structural, cultural, and demographic characteristics of criminal behaviour.
- D. To understand the variety and variability of theoretical perspectives to explain crime and criminality.
- E. To understand how historical and contemporary responses to crime incorporate and reflect the goals of punishment, treatment, and prevention of crime.

EVALUATION METHODS:

There will be three examinations, a book analysis, and an optional term paper in this class. Your classroom participation will also be evaluated. Each is described below.

Examinations: The examinations will be a combination of "objective", short answer, and essay questions. The final examination will cover materials from the entire course.

Book Analysis: Each person will prepare a four page analysis of at least one of the books listed at the end of this outline. The analysis will be a critical commentary on the book, relating the content of the book to the materials and topics covered in the course. You may work in a group and hand in one report, but the length, coverage, and depth of the report will have to be greater. You must also prepare a one page "handout" for each person in the class.

Research Paper: A research paper (term paper) is optional in this course. If you think you want to write a term paper, I will make every effort to assist you toward a successful and rewarding experience. I have a hand out with suggestions for the structure and style of the paper. If you think you want to write a paper, make an appointment and we'll talk it over. Group work is encouraged, and the book analysis requirement will be waived.

If you want to write a paper, you must let me know before the first examination so we can adjust the weight on the examinations. You may assign up to 35% of your mark to the research paper if we agree.

Classroom Participation: Each person will start with a credit of 5 marks for participation. Failure to be able to respond or participate in class discussion will result in the loss of marks.

GRADING SYSTEM:

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	PERCENTAGE EQUIVALENT
9		90 +
8	Excellent	80-89
7		72-79
6	Good	65-71
5		57-64
4	Pass	50-56
3	Fail	45-49
2		26-44
1		0-25

MARKS:

Examinations	85%
First Exam	25%
Second Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Book Analysis	10%
Class Participation	05%
Research Paper (optional) <i>(Weight to be negotiated)</i>	

LEARNING RESOURCES:

- Jackson, Margaret A., and Griffiths, Curt T., Eds. CANADIAN CRIMINOLOGY: PERSPECTIVES ON CRIME AND CRIMINALITY, 2nd Edition. Harcourt Brace, 1995.
- Sacco, Vincent F. and Kennedy, Leslie W. THE CRIMINAL EVENT: AN INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY, 2nd Edition. ITP Nelson, 1998.

COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION: Defining Our Criminology Course
02 September

DEFINING CRIME

04 September - 09 September

Read: Jackson & Griffiths, Introduction
Sacco & Kennedy, Ch 1.

EXPLAINING THE "CAUSES" OF CRIME

11 September - 09 October

Read: Jackson and Griffiths, Chs 1-5.
Sacco & Kennedy, Chs 2-6.

FIRST EXAM: 14 October

MEASURING CRIME: HOW DO WE KNOW (What We Know and Don't Know)?

16 October - 30 October

Read: Jackson and Griffiths, Chs 6-9.
Sacco & Kennedy, Ch 7.

SECOND EXAM: 02 November

LEISURE, DOMESTIC AND FAMILY CRIME

04 November - 09 November

Read: Jackson and Griffiths, Chs 10 & 11.
Sacco & Kennedy, Chs 8 and 9.

WORK AS CRIME and CRIME AS WORK

13 November - 20 November

Read: Jackson and Griffiths, Chs 13 & 14,
Sacco and Kennedy, Ch 10

ABORIGINAL CRIME AND CRIMINALITY

23 November - 25 November

Read: Jackson and Griffiths, Ch 12

RESPONDING TO CRIME

27 November - 04 December

Read: Sacco and Kennedy, Ch 11.

***** Final Exam Scheduled by Registrar's Office *****

1. Keep this outline. It will be your course reference throughout the term.
2. You are responsible for changes (additions and/or deletions) to this outline made in class.
3. It is your responsibility to attend class. Should you be unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to find out what was missed.