

**COURSE INFORMATION**

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Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Crime & Society	SOCI 250-102	3
Class Location	Days	Time
LSK 201	Mondays and Wednesdays	9:30-10:50

**COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

Crime as a social phenomenon, with emphasis on the changing definitions of crime in relation to social and political change in Canadian and other societies. Pre-reqs: None

**CONTACTS**

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Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office	Office Hours
Craig Meadows (he/him)	<a href="mailto:craig.meadows@ubc.ca">craig.meadows@ubc.ca</a>	Zoom link on Canvas	Wednesdays, 17:00-18:00, or by appointment
Teaching Assistants	Contact Details	Office	Office Hours
Alyy Patel (they/them)	<a href="mailto:patelson@mail.ubc.ca">patelson@mail.ubc.ca</a>	Zoom link on Canvas	By appointment
Christy (she/her)	<a href="mailto:cexilus@student.ubc.ca">cexilus@student.ubc.ca</a>	Zoom link on Canvas	By appointment

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

What is crime? How and why do some acts get defined as criminal and other, often more harmful, acts get overlooked? How do the various social and political institutions involved with crime fulfil their roles? What are the impacts of the law, policing, and prisons on crime and on society as a whole? In particular, how are some groups criminalized while harmful activities of other groups are left unpunished? Why are we concerned with crime and how has this concern shifted over time? How are our concerns about crime shaped by social institutions?

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**COURSE STRUCTURE**

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Classes are a combination of lectures based on highlighted readings or excerpted passages in slides, with supplemental images and videos and small group discussions.

The overall purpose of the lectures is to produce understandings of the texts and methods, and to foster discussions of key issues and themes of consumerism and sustainability.

With COVID-19 still posing a serious threat, my goal is to make in-class participation as safe as possible, but also to facilitate virtual methods of accessibility for those feeling ill or who have concerns about public indoor gatherings. All lectures will be recorded on Panopto (subject to ongoing support from the university for this platform). Zoom classrooms will be opened for any group discussions.

I encourage attendance as much as possible. There is a lot of available research and recent evidence showing that completion rates are significantly lower for those who do not attend in person classes.

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**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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You should come away from the course with the following:

1. The ability to analyse how different social institutions function in relation to crime (e.g. the law, courts, prisons, police, media, politics).
2. The development of a critical vocabulary related to types of crime and to develop the ability to understand the strengths and limitations of dominant schools of criminological thought.
3. To evaluate common ideas, assumptions, and responses to crime, and the processes of criminalization, policing, the legal system, and punishment.

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**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

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1. William O'Grady. 2023. *Crime in Canadian Context: Debates and Controversies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
  - a. [https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/crime-in-canadian-context-william-o39-grady-v9780199039852?gclid=CjwKCAjw3qGYBhBSEiwAcnTRLvQrU\\_ro2RGkF3HY8X96xgxuo\\_2ErKOt4SAXsGFHwrxatTW64YwhthoCeb8QAvD\\_BwE](https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/crime-in-canadian-context-william-o39-grady-v9780199039852?gclid=CjwKCAjw3qGYBhBSEiwAcnTRLvQrU_ro2RGkF3HY8X96xgxuo_2ErKOt4SAXsGFHwrxatTW64YwhthoCeb8QAvD_BwE)

Note: the bookstore has brought in a limited number of hard copies of the text for those who prefer that option.

2. All other resources will be supplied on Canvas.

**ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING**

Description	Weight	Due Date
Tests (Multiple choice, open book)	25	Week 4 (26 September): 15 Marks Week 8 (24 October): 10 Marks Week 12 (21 November): 10 Marks
Intra-Group Presentation	15	Week 7 (17 October)
Essay	25	Option 1: Policing, Race & Gender due week 9 (2 November) Option 2: Violent or Corporate Crime due week 13 (30 November)
Final Exam (open book)	25	Final Exam Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multiple Choice: 10 marks</li> <li>○ Long Answer: 15 marks</li> </ul> For the long answer portion, you will have multiple questions that cover the entire course and you will answer 3 of your own choice, excluding topics covered in your essay
Participation	10	(Students who are unable to regularly attend will not have a participation grade. Instead, the remainder of their grade will be prorated to calculate their final grade)
	100	

**Last Days to Drop:**

Without a “W”: 19 September

With a “W”: 28 October

**Late Submissions:**

Late papers will be docked at a rate of 5% per day. Accommodations are made for students registered with the Centre for Accessibility and those who have university recognized absences with supporting documentation. **Students are encouraged to contact their TA as soon as they realize they are falling behind. It is much easier to make accommodations when we know ahead of time.**

- Please do not just “disappear”
- Please do not think that you have to tell us your personal issues. We are not counselors. We are here to facilitate your successful completion of the course.

**Grade Revisions and Petitions:**

There are no re-writes in this course. All submissions are final. Students are welcome to seek additional explanation for their grades from their grader two days after they are returned. If you are unsatisfied with the explanation, a grade petition can be submitted to the grader. Your petition is an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of your work with the grade you think it should have received. Your petition can outline any of the following: how you met the requirements of the assignment; how the critique of your work was in error; or, what you think was missed in the initial assessment. There are three potential outcomes of a grade revision:

1. The grade remains the same
2. The grade is adjusted to your assessment
3. The grade is adjusted to somewhere in between the two assessments

**Participation:** Active engagement with course materials, peers, and the course director are essential to a successful seminar. To this end, the following factors will be taken into consideration when calculating your grade:

- *Verbal/Text Contributions in Lecture & Groups:* Direct contributions that are related to course materials that engage peers and/or the course director.
- *Active Listening:* Allowing space for the contributions of other students and paying attention to/engaging with their comments. Domination of the class, refusal to allow others to speak, active disrespect shown to peers or the course director, or a pattern of refusal to stick to course materials will all negatively impact your grade.

At the end of the course, *STANDING DEFERRED* standing will be granted where necessary (such as serious illness or bereavement) – at which time documentation will be required.

**Grading System:**

This course will be graded as follows:

<b>Percentage Grade</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Score</b>	<b>Descriptive Term</b>
A+	90 and above	4.33	Excellent
A	85-89	3.95-4.30	Excellent
A-	80-84	3.70-3.90	Very Good
B+	76-79	3.30-3.60	Very Good
B	72-75	2.95-3.20	Good
B-	68-71	2.65-2.90	Good
C+	64-67	2.40-2.60	Satisfactory
C	60-63	2.00-2.30	Satisfactory
C-	55-59	1.50-1.90	Satisfactory
D	50-54	1.00-1.40	Marginal
F(Fail)	49 and below		Unsatisfactory

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**

Note: The course director reserves the right to change the weekly schedule. Students will be advised in advance, and a new outline will be issued.

**Week 1: Introduction**

7 September:

- Course Introduction

**Week 2: Understanding Crime**

12 & 14 September

- O’Grady. Chapter 1: Crime, Fear, and Risk.
- O’Grady. Chapter 2: Measuring Crime (pgs. 33-50).

**Week 3: Explaining Crime**

19 & 21 September:

- O’Grady. Chapter 4: Classical Sociological Explanations of Crime.
- Film: “Above the Law.” *CBC Gem*. July 2020. 55 mins.

**Week 4: Policing & Police Culture**

26 & 28 September:

\*Read O’Grady plus one more\*

- O’Grady. Chapter 8: Policing. Pgs. 212-17.
- Wilson, George L. & James Q. Kelling. 1982. “Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety.” *The Atlantic*.
- Crank, John P. 2015. “Angels and Assholes: The Construction of Police Morality.” *Understanding Police Culture*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Routledge. Pgs. 201-212.
- Tufts, Steven. 2020. “Blue Solidarity: Police Unions, Race, and Authoritarian Populism in North America.” *Work, Employment and Society*, 34(1). Pgs. 126-44.

**Week 5: Mass Incarceration**

3 & 5 October

- Alexander, Michelle. 2010. “The Lockdown.” *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: The New Press. Pgs. 58-94.
- Film: *The House I Live In*. 2012. Eugene Jarecki, dir. 109 mins.

**Week 6: Riots or Rebellions?**

12 October

\*Read one of Hinton or Kelley\*

- Hinton, Elizabeth. 2021. “The Cycle.” *America on Fire: The Untold History of Police Violence and Black Rebellion Since the 1960s*. New York: Liveright Publishing. Pgs. 19-46.

- Kelley, Robin D.G. 1994. "Kickin' Reality, Kickin' Ballistics: "Gangsta Rap" and Postindustrial Los Angeles." *Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class*. New York: Free Press. Pgs. 183-205.
- Film: *Uprising: Hip Hop and the LA Riots*. 2012. Mark Ford, dir. 65 mins.

**Week 7: Critical Criminology: Policing and the State**

17 & 19 October

- O'Grady. Chapter 7: Police Misconduct (pgs. 198-202)
- Maher, Geo. 2021. "Who Do You Serve? Who Do You Protect?" *A World Without Police: How Strong Communities Make Cops Obsolete*. London: Verso. Pgs. 47-70.
- Crosby, Andrew & Jeffrey Monaghan. 2018. "Northern Gateway Pipelines Policing for Extractive Capitalism." *Policing Indigenous Movements: Dissent and the Security State*. Halifax, NS: Fernwood Publishing. Pgs. 62-95.

**Week 8: Policing Gender**

24 & 26 October

- Spade, Dean. 2011. "What's Wrong With Rights?." *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics, and the Limits of Law*. Brooklyn, NY: South End Press. Pgs. 38-49.
- Recommended Reading: Balfour, Gillian. 2016. "Prostituted, Policed, and Punished: Exploring the Victimization, Criminalization, and Incarceration of Women in Canada." *Diversity, Crime, and Justice in Canada*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Barbara Perry, ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pgs 234-51.
- Film: *Where Justice Ends*. 2019. George Zuber, dir. Buddha Dog Productions. 51 minutes.

**Week 9: Gender-Based & Domestic Violence**

31 October & 2 November

\*Read one of Ging, Haider or Berardi\*

- Ging, Debbie. 2017. "Alphas, Betas, and Incels: Theorizing the Masculinities of the Manosphere." *Men and Masculinities*. Pgs. 1-20.
- Haider, Syed. 2016. "The Shooting in Orlando, Terrorism or Toxic Masculinity (or Both?)" *Men and Masculinities*. 19(5). Pgs. 555-565.
- Berardi, Franco 'Bifo'. 2015. "The Joker." *Heroes: Mass Murder and Suicide*. London: Verso. Pgs. 9-28.
- Video: "#YesAllWomen: Rebecca Solnit on the Santa Barbara Massacre." *Democracy Now!* 27 May 2014. 16 mins.
- Video: "When it comes to Orlando massacre, Domestic violence is the red flag we aren't talking about." *Democracy Now!* 14 June 2016. 20 mins.

**Week 10: Settler Colonial Violent Crime**

7 November

- MacDonald, David B. "Settler Silencing and the Killing of Colten Boushie: Naturalizing colonialism in the trial of Gerald Stanley." *Settler Colonial Studies*. 11(1). 11 November 2020. Pgs. 1-20
- Film: *Nipawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up*. 2019. Tasha Hubbard, dir. NFB. 44 mins. (watch film prior to class)

**Week 11: Globalized Corporate Crime**14 & 16 November

\*Read O'Grady and one of Barak or Fredrichs &amp; Rothe\*

- O'Grady. Chapter 7: White-Collar and Corporate Crime. Pgs. 180-83.
- Barak, Gregg. 2015. "The Crimes of the Powerful and the Globalization of Crime." *Revisita Brasileira de Direito*, 11, no. 2: 104-14.
- Fredrichs, David O. & Dawn L. Rothe. 2014. "State-Corporate Crime and Major Financial Institutions: Interrogating an Absence." *State Crime Journal* 3, no. 2 (Autumn):147-60.
- Film: "Cartel Bank." *Dirty Money*. 26 January 2018. 50 mins.

**Week 12: Responding to Crime**21 & 23 November

- O'Grady. Chapter 8: Responding to Crime.
  - Crime, Law, and Order, 210-212.
  - Courts & Sentencing, 217-219.
  - Restorative Justice & Harm Reduction, 233-38.
- Recommended Reading: Maher, Geo. 2021. "The Mirage of Reform." *A World Without Police*. Pgs. 71-96.
- Video: "Insite: Drug Consumption Room in Vancouver." March 11, 2014. 10 mins.

**Week 13: Abolitionist Perspectives**28 & 30 November

\*Read one of Gilmore or Whynacht\*

- Gilmore, Ruth Wilson. 2022. "What is to be Done?" *Abolition Geography: Essays Towards Liberation*. London: Verso. Pgs. 25-50.
- Whynacht, Ardath. 2021. "Domestic Homicide and Abolition." *Insurgent Love: Abolition & Domestic Homicide*. Halifax, NS: Fernwood Press. Pgs. 6-29.
- "The Case for Prison Abolition: Ruth Wilson Gilmore on COVID-19, Racial Capitalism, & Decarceration." *Democracy Now!* 5 May 2020. 13 mins.

**Week 14: Course Review**5 & 7 December

- Course summary and review

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

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UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to

acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on [the UBC Senate website](#).

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**LEARNING ANALYTICS**

Will not be used. Online materials are provided to help you succeed in the course. I will not use analytics to surveil students. You are thus free to learn or not learn.

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**COPYRIGHT**

All materials included in the course pack and any links or readings on Canvas are copyrighted materials and must be cited when used.

You are welcome to record lectures, but these are for personal use only. Under no circumstances can you share lectures with others or post them to the internet.

All lecture slide materials and lectures/discussions are public domain and do not need to be cited.

*Version: March 11, 2019*

**Group Participation Evaluation Form**      Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Presenters: Your group members who presented with you</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Contributions /10</b>	<b>Presentation /10</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Comments</b>



<b>Presentees:</b> The other half of the group who you presented to				
Name	Quality of their Presentation /10	Engagement with your Presentation /10	Total	Comments

Note: You must evaluate yourself and your peers. Enter a score out of ten for each column, then total the two columns.

**Evaluation Rubric**

**Contributions**

Excellent: 9-10

Very Good: 8

Good: 7

Satisfactory: 6

Poor: 0-5