



EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2010
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A: Division: **EDUCATION** Effective Date: **JANUARY 2010**

B: Department / **CRIMINOLOGY** Revision New Course
 Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **A, N, O, P, R**

Date of Previous Revision: **April 2004**

Date of Current Revision: **October 2009**

C: CRIM 2252 D: SOCIOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR E: 3

| Subject & Course No. | Descriptive Title | Semester Credits | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <p>F: Calendar Description:</p> <p>This course will critically examine the sociological, socio-cultural, and socio-psychological explanations of criminal behaviour such as the ecological theories, conflict theories, control theories, and symbolic interactionist theories. Some of the specific theories subjected to critical examination will be those concerned with class and group conflict, subcultures, social conditioning, containment, differential association, labelling and gender.</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p>Lecture</p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)</p> <p>Lecture: 4 hrs. per week / semester</p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester: 15</p> | <p>H: Course Prerequisites:</p> <p>SOCI 1125</p> <p>I: Course Corequisites:</p> <p>NONE</p> <p>J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:</p> <p>NONE</p> <p>K: Maximum Class Size:</p> <p>35</p> | | | | | | | |
| <p>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="256 1728 332 1881"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Non-Credit</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Non-Transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Transfer:</td> </tr> </table> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.bc.ca)</p> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Credit | <input type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Non-Transfer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Transfer: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Credit | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Non-Transfer | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | College Credit Transfer: | | | | | | | |

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

The primary objective of this course is to familiarize students with the general principles of sociological analysis. Students will learn to describe sociological explanations of law and sociological explanations of deviant and criminal behaviour. In addition, students will learn to critically evaluate and assess sociological theories of crime and deviance and discuss the implications of relevant research. Students will be able to apply specific theoretical perspectives to the exploration of how deviance and crime are created and maintained and how specific individuals become identified as deviant or criminal both within institutional and non-institutional settings.

N: Course Content:

1. Introduction and Overview
 - Reviewing Sociological Paradigms and Concepts
 - Determining What is Good Theory
 - Distinguishing Different Types of Theories
 - Social Context and Theories
 - Conceptions of Deviance

2. Theories and Perspectives
 - The Classical School
 - The Positive School
 - The Functionalist Perspective
 - Anomie / Strain and Opportunity Theories
 - The Chicago School
 - Social Disorganization
 - Differential Association/Differential Opportunity
 - Techniques of Neutralization
 - Control/Containment Theories
 - Culture, Radical and Analytical Conflict Theories
 - Peacemaking Theories
 - Postmodernist Theories
 - Gender Theories

3. Themes of Crime and Deviance, such as:
 - Prostitution
 - Rape and Other Sexual Assaults
 - Family Violence Including Sexual Abuse
 - White Collar Crime
 - Alcohol and Drug Issues
 - Homicide
 - Mental and Physical Illness as Deviance
 - Terrorism

O. Methods of Instruction:

The course will employ a variety of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives, including some of the following:

- lectures
- seminar presentations
- audio visual materials including video
- small group discussions
- research projects
- research papers

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

Texts will be updated periodically. Typical examples are:

Reiman, J. (2010). *The Rich Get Richer, The Poor Get Prison*. (9th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Thio, A., Calhoun, T.C., Conyers, A. (2010). *Readings in Deviant Behaviour*. (6th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Additional texts may include:

Williams, F. P. & McShane, M. (1999). *Criminological Theory*, (4th ed.). New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Brym, R.J. (2008). *Sociology as a Life or Death Issue*. Toronto: Pearson .

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be based on course objectives and carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester. Evaluation will be based on some of the following:

1. Short Answer Tests
2. Exams
3. Oral Presentation
4. Research Project/ Term Paper
5. Class Participation

An example of one possible evaluation scheme would be:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Two Mid-Semester Exams, each | 30% |
| Final Exam | 10% |
| Research Paper | <u>30%</u> |
| | 100% |

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Lorree Bogden and Heidi Currie

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: Dr. Kathy Denton

Acting Registrar: Brenda Walton