



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021**

**SO2250: CRIMINOLOGY – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr Ana Martins                      **PHONE:** 416 407 8489  
**OFFICE:** N/A    **E-MAIL:** [AMartins@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:AMartins@gprc.ab.ca)  
Monday 2:30pm; Friday 10:30am; or by appointment.  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Zoom Office Hours available: <https://gprc.zoom.us/j/2546818252>

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This is an introduction to the study and analysis of crime from a sociological perspective. The course attempts to answer a number of questions. How much crime is there in Canada? Who are the criminals and what are they like? Why do people engage in criminal behaviour? What are we doing to stop or at least reduce crime in our society?

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** SO1000 or equivalent.

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Carrabine, Eamonn; Cox, Pam; Lee, Maggy; Plummer, Ken; South, Nigel. **Criminology: A sociological introduction.** Routledge: London, 2009.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lectures, Class Discussion, Group Work, Class Presentations, Written Tests, Written projects.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** To understand the framework for studying criminology (e.g. history of criminology, research methods, nature and patterns of crime), to learn the major theories of causation (biological, psychological, social processes), and to learn about the major forms and typologies of criminal behavior (e.g. violent crimes, property crimes, organized crime, public order crimes).

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students will be able to apply their knowledge to be able to navigate the content and structure of the Criminal Code of Canada, follow the process by which criminal laws are enacted, and apply personal and situational defences to alleged offences. More importantly, students will be able to design and formulate crime prevention strategies based on their understanding of crime causation theories.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

**UNIT REFLECTIONS**

At the end of each part/unit, you will write a 1 (ONE) page reflection about what you learned, and your general impression of the unit (enjoyed, criticisms). Unit reflections are based on the material but are a free space to share your thoughts.

Note that we have FIVE parts/units and you have to write only four unit reflections. It means that you can skip ONE.

**QUESTION PRESENTATION**

For the daily Chapter Discussion Question presentations, a group of 2 students will select one question from the ‘Critical Thinking Questions’ section at the back of each chapter, and present their responses at the beginning of each class (approx. 10 minutes). Stay with the chapter we are currently on – there are lots of questions to choose from.

For your presentation, you can use slides, or any other effective way to communicate. You must then submit the slides and/or a written response (1-2 pages) to the question you answered on the day of your presentation, and must include a title page with your names and date.

We will divide the pairs and dates in our first class. If you miss, please send me an email.

## RESEARCH PROJECT

Based on the model introduced in the chapter 3 of our textbook, you have to write a research project on a topic related to criminology and sociology. The topic is up to you but options will be given upon request.

The project will be broken down into the following steps: First, you will come up with a research topic (of your choice). Second, you have to write an outline for a research project, showing how you would conduct a research in this topic: write a research problem statement, and a working thesis or argument.

## MIDTERM TEST AND FINAL TEST

The Midterm term (30%) and Final Examination (30%) will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and open questions. There will be a brief review before each of these evaluations. Tests and final exam will be based on all course material.

## GRADING CRITERIA:

Assessment	Total Point Value	Weight
4 Unit Reflections	5 each = 20	20%
Question Presentation	5	5%
Research Project	15	15%
Midterm Test	30	30%
Final Test	30	30%

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

### Part 1: The Criminological Imagination

September 3	Outline; Course Requirements; Meet-and-Greet; Chapter 1: Introduction
September 6	Labor Day - No Class
September 10	Chapter 2: Histories of Crime
September 13	Chapter 3: Researching Crime

### Part 2: Thinking about Crime

September 17	Chapter 4: The enlightenment and early traditions
September 20	Chapter 5: Early sociologies of Crime
September 24	Chapter 6: Radicalizing traditions
September 27	Chapter 7: Crime, Social Theory, and Social Change
October 1	Chapter 8: Crime, Place, and Space
October 4	Chapter 9: Victims and Victimization
October 8	Review
October 11	Thanksgiving - No Class
October 15	Fall Break - No Class
October 18	<b>MIDTERM TEST - In Class</b>

### Part 3: Doing Crime

October 22	Chapter 10: Crime and Property; Discuss Research Project
October 25	Chapter 11: Crime, Sexuality, and Gender.
October 29	Chapter 12: Crime, the emotions, and social psychology.
November 1	Chapter 13: Organizational and Professional forms of crime
November 5	Chapter 14: Drugs, Alcohol, Health, and Crime

### Part 4: Controlling Crime

November 8	Chapter 15: Thinking about Punishment
November 12	Chapter 16: The Criminal justice process
November 15	Chapter 17: Police and Policing
November 19	Chapter 18: Prisons and Imprisonment

### Part 5: Globalizing Crime

November 22	Chapter 19: Green Criminology
November 26	Chapter 20: Crime and the Media
November 29	Chapter 21: Terrorism, State Crime and Human Rights
December 3	Chapter 22: Criminological Futures
December 6	Review and DUE DATE FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT.
December 11-20: Final Exam Scheduled by the Registrar Office.	

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

You HAVE to read the chapter prior to the class; You HAVE to engage in our discussions; You HAVE to respect everyone and help to build (with other students and instructor) a safe learning environment; You HAVE to complete your assignments and tests on time.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If at any point in the semester you feel you are struggling with the course material or with your course work, please do not hesitate to ask me for assistance. Please contact me by e-mail for an appointment.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

**Additional Information:**

- To communicate with me, please feel free to send me an email any time, and I will be happy to reply as soon as possible.
- If you feel you have received an unfair mark on an assignment or test, please explain in writing what you think is the misalignment between the instructions and your evaluation, and submit It to me via email.
- If you find yourself unable to fully access the course including the content, space, or experience, you are welcome (although not required) to discuss your specific needs with me.