



**EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

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

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **C, F, H, N, P, Q**

Date of Previous Revision: **SEPTEMBER 1999**

Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

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

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits						
<p><b>F:</b> Calendar Description: 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><b>G:</b> Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p><b>Lecture</b></p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)</p> <p><b>Lecture: 4 hrs. per week / semester</b></p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester: <b>15</b></p>	<p><b>H:</b> Course Prerequisites:</p> <p><b>SOCI 1125</b></p>							
	<p><b>I:</b> Course Corequisites:</p> <p><b>NONE</b></p>							
	<p><b>J:</b> Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite</p> <p><b>NONE</b></p>							
	<p><b>K:</b> Maximum Class Size:</p> <p><b>35</b></p>							
<p><b>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</b></p> <table border="1"> <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 (<a href="http://www.bccat.bc.ca">www.bccat.bc.ca</a>)</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. Finally 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 and Opportunity Theories
  - The Chicago School
  - Social Disorganization
  - The Ecology of Disorganization
  - Differential Association, Differential Identification
  - 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
  - Felony Homicide
  - Mental and Physical Illness as Deviance
  - Eating Disorders as Deviance
  - Terrorism
4. The Media
  - The Role of the Media in Shaping Our Understanding of a Problem
  - Critical Thinking About Problems Portrayed in the Media

**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:

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

Additional texts include:

Kelly, D. H. (1996). Deviant Behaviour: A Text Reader in the Sociology of Deviance, (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: St. Martin's Press.

Pontell, H. N. (1999). Social Deviance: Readings in Theory and Research, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

**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	30%

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

Under review.

---

Course Designer(s): Lorree Bogden

---

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

---

Dean / Director

---

Registrar