SOC 321 — Youth, Crime & Society  
Fall 2015  
Department of Sociology  
University of Alberta

Instructor: Dr. ‘Tope Oriola  
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E-mail: oriola@ualberta.ca (preferred)  
Office Hours: Thursdays @ 2 - 3 pm or by appointment  
Lecture Time: Tuesday & Thursday @ 4 – 5: 20 pm  
Lecture Room: T B45

TA: Aryan Karimi  
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Course Objectives: Why are youth presented in the media and popular discourse as chronic hedonists, crass consumerists or ‘folk-devils”? What are the challenges facing youth today with respect to the criminal justice system? Do these challenges equally affect or influence the lives of youth across divergent socio-economic and cultural backgrounds? In what may the challenges of the facticity of maleness or femaleness consist for youth vis-à-vis becoming law-abiding citizens? This course is designed to ensure a critical engagement with how structural factors and forces influence the lives of youth. Students should be prepared for a hands-on approach to teaching and learning, a lively conversational class atmosphere and demonstrate a readiness to have their taken-for-granted assumptions and beliefs about youth crime challenged.


Grade Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>WEIGHTING</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Thurs. Oct. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Thurs. Nov. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>16 Dec. @ 2 pm*</td>
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</tbody>
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Format of Assignments and Exam: There are three exams. All exams are set in multiple choice format. Exams cover lectures, videos, assigned chapters and PowerPoint notes posted on eClass. Exams are not cumulative. This means that topics or chapters that have been previously tested (for instance, on a midterm) will not appear on a future exam (e.g. final exam). The questions are

* This is a tentative date. Students must verify when the final exam schedule is posted online.
designed not only to test ability to remember basic information but also assess students’ critical thinking and analytic capacity.

**Grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-94</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>76-79</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>72-75</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>68-71</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>64-67</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Lecture Schedule and Assigned Readings**

Lecture 1: Introduction: Defining ‘youth’ and juvenile delinquency  
Readings: Chapter 1

Lecture 2: Measuring youth crime  
Readings: Chapter 2 & 5

Lecture 3: Societal response to youth crime  
Readings: Chapters 3 & 4

Lecture 4: Keeping youth under control  
Readings: PowerPoint notes

Lecture 5: Gendering youth crime  
Readings: Chapter 6

Lecture 6: Youth and substance abuse  
Readings: Chapter 9

Lecture 7: Aboriginal youth and the criminal justice process  
Readings: Chapter: 10

Lecture 8: Crime and Deviance on the Internet  
Readings: PowerPoint note
Lecture 9: Street-involved youth in Canada  
   Readings: Chapter 12

Lecture 10: Sexual exploitation of young men  
   Readings: Chapter 13

Lecture 11: Violence and youth: Gangs, guns and the road to prison  
   Readings: Chapter 11

Lecture 12: The idea of restorative justice  
   Readings: Chapters 14 & 15  
   Revisions

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Students are expected to be aware of their academic responsibilities. This section contains important information but does **NOT** exhaust all of your responsibilities.

1. **REGISTRATION STATUS:** Students are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their registration in courses. This can be checked online at any time.

2. **WITHDRAWING FROM THE COURSE:** Students who stop attending class must officially withdraw from the course. This must be done by the official withdrawal deadline for the course, which is available online. Failure to withdraw properly will result in a grade based on completed course work being assigned.

3. **EXAMS:** Your student photo I.D. is required at exams to verify your identity. At the discretion of the professor, students may not be allowed to begin an examination after it has been in progress for 15 minutes. Students must remain in the exam room for at least 30 minutes from the time the exam commenced. Consumption of food is not allowed during exams. Electronic equipment is not to be brought to exams.

4. **MISSED EXAMS:** The professor should be notified within **48 hours** if a student misses an exam. In general, some type of official documentation is required in order to obtain an excused absence. For **medical illnesses**, you can present any of the following:
   - “University of Alberta Medical Statement” signed by a doctor (*accepted if provided in lieu of other documents*)
   - "Medical Declaration Form for Students" (*for Faculty of Arts students*)
   - "Statutory Declaration" (*for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from home Faculty or the Office of the Registrar*). For other acceptable absences, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation to the situation. Examples include:
     - For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
• For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
• For a car accident – a copy of the accident report
• For other serious afflictions – consult with Instructor or Department about appropriate documents
• Note: Failure to comply with the above within 48 hours will result in automatic ‘F’ on the missed exam.

5. DEFERRED FINAL EXAMS: Documentary evidence in section 4 (above) applies. In addition, application for deferred exam must be made to your home faculty within 48 hours from the missed final exam. Professors are unable to defer final exams for any student. Deferred final exam for this course is scheduled for May 9th, 2015 at 9:00 am. Approval from your home faculty is required.

6. EVALUATIVE/COURSE MATERIAL: Past/practice question papers will be made available online to ensure adequate preparations for exams. The course material contains a lot of statistical data. However, you do not need to memorize statistics. It is important to understand the context, trends and patterns of the statistics. In other words, what do the statistics speak to? You should learn salient information from the statistics that you can apply when and if required. Preparation for each exam must include your notes from lectures you attended, PowerPoint notes on eClass and assigned chapters of the required text. PowerPoint notes are constantly being updated. It is your responsibility to copy the updates during lectures.

7. EXTRA CREDITS: There is no provision for extra credits in this course. Avoid making any request for extra work or assignment to boost your grade. Such a request will not be entertained. This includes requests for rounding final marks to the nearest whole number.

8. CELL PHONES AND INTERNET USE: You are required to turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during lectures, and exams (except under exceptional circumstances in which approval has been granted by the instructor). It is not appropriate to use any devices to browse the Internet (other than eClass) when lecture is in progress.

9. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students who require accommodation in this course due to a disability are advised to discuss their needs with disability services and the professor.

10. INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS AND PRESENTATIONS: Students are expected to treat all videos screened in class as part of course material.

11. COURSE OUTLINE POLICY: “Policy about course outlines can be found in §23.4(2) of the University Calendar.”
12. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: “The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

13. “Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor.”

Disclaimer: The information in this course outline is subject to change; any changes will be announced in class.