Instructor: Marta-Marika Urbanik
Email: urbanik@ualberta.ca
Office: Tory 1050
Office Hours: Tuesday, 4:45-5:45pm or by appointment
Lecture Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30-4:20pm
Lecture Room: CAB 281

Course Description: Crime is complicated! In this class, we will explore and tease out the complexities surrounding crime and criminal behaviour, with a particular focus on why crime occurs. We will conduct a sociological and social psychological study of crime, exploring various theories that try to “explain” criminal behaviour and criminal careers, different types of crime, the ways that crime is measured in Canadian society, and how Canadian criminal law regulates crime. Throughout the class, we will be critically analyzing various explanations of criminality, challenging taken-for-granted assumptions about crime, and problematizing common perceptions and popular images of crime.

Course Objectives:
- Understand the major criminological explanations of crime and their respective shortcomings.
- Be able to explain crime through criminological theory.
- Understand the nature of a variety of criminal activities, and how social context impacts criminal decision-making and behaviour.
- Be able to critically assess explanations of crime.
- Understand the origins and elements of criminal law.
- Understand how crime is measured in Canadian society.
- Become a critical consumer of the media and political discourse about crime and criminals.

*Please note that there is a cheaper, and environmentally friendly electronic-version of this text available online.

Supplementary Text: Periodically, additional reading/media materials will be posted on EClass.

Teaching Approach: The course will consist of lectures, required readings, class discussions, guest speakers and videos. Everything that is covered in the classroom and in the readings should be considered “fair game” for tests. In other words: the content of guest lectures and videos may be covered on tests and on the final exam. You are also responsible for all assigned readings, whether or not such readings are specifically covered in class.

Classroom Atmosphere: The classroom will be a dynamic and lively place of learning, discussion, and debate. As such, I expect that you all do the readings before class and come to class prepared to engage with the material and ready to participate in class discussions. We will be learning with and from each other, so it is important that we all come to class with an open mind, ready to share ideas and – potentially – have them challenged by someone else (you should also feel free to question me!). When we discuss different points of view, it is imperative that we always do so respectfully and professionally, so please respect whoever is speaking and refrain from chatting and distracting other students- we have a lot of material to cover in a short time, so let’s focus and make the most of our learning experience!
Grade Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
<td>May 19, 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
<td>June 2, 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both tests and the final exam will be multiple choice, scantron examinations. The final exam is non-cumulative. Students must show their UAlberta ID or a piece of government issued photo ID prior to submitting their midterms or exam. Final marks will neither be scaled nor put on a bell curve. Final grades will be converted to the 4-point scale according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</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>Good</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>Satisfactory</td>
<td>68-71</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>64-67</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will post sample questions on E-Class for the tests and exam one week prior to the test date.

Attendance: Students who attend class will be more likely to understand the material and will therefore be in a better position to do well in the course. Attendance at lectures is extremely important because some topics presented in class are not covered in the readings. If you do need to miss class because of illness or other commitments, please arrange to get notes from another student. My lecture notes will not be available online.

Missed Mid-term Tests: If you miss one of the tests, you must contact me within two days after the test date to request an opportunity to write a make-up test, with regard to circumstance. A make-up test will only be granted if there are legitimate medical or compassionate grounds. Deferred tests are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction; applications based on minor or inconsequential ailments will not be approved. Excused absences are not automatic and are at the discretion of the instructor, who may request supporting documents as follows:

- For incapacitating medical illness, students can present one of the following:
  - “University of Alberta Medical Statement” signed by a doctor
  - “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 all other cases, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation to the situation. This could include the following:

  - 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
Email: Email works well for communicating simple information (Oftentimes answers can be found right on this syllabus!), but extended conversations are better conducted in person. Please make the subject of the email SOC 225 so that I can prioritize your email and get back to you as quickly as possible. I will generally reply to email inquiries from students within 48 hours. If you do not receive a reply within this period, I may have missed your email so please resubmit your question(s).

Missed Final Exam:

- As per the Academic Regulations in the University Calendar, “a deferred final examination will not be approved if a student (a) has not been in regular attendance where attendance and/or participation are required, and/or, (b) excluding the final exam, has completed less than half of the assigned work.”
- You will have to apply to your home faculty student services office for a deferred final exam within two business days of the missed exam, or as soon as you are able to in regards to the circumstance underlying the absence. Instructors do not have permission to grant or deny these requests.

Course policies: Policies about course outlines can be found in §23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

Video/Audio recording: Consistent with University guidelines, “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 content author(s).”

Student Accessibility Services: If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Student Accessibility Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca).

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.”

For further information about Academic Integrity and to access the Academic Integrity Handbook for students, visit the Student Conduct and Accountability website at http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en/Students.aspx.
Course Schedule

May 10th: Course Introduction- What is Criminology? What is a Crime?  Chapter 1 & 3
May 12th: Counting Crime and Correlates  Chapter 4 & 5
May 17th: Early Theories of Criminology  Chapter 8
May 19th: TEST ONE (Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 8).  Chapter 9
May 24th: Strain vs. Rational Choice  Chapter 10 & 15
May 26th: Interactionist Theory  Chapter 13
May 31st: Conflict Theory  Chapter 11
June 2nd: TEST TWO (Chapters 9, 10, 15, 13, 11)  Chapter 14

June 7th:
Social Disorganization Theory and Regent Park


June 9th: Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Criminology


June 14th: Organized Corporate, and White Collar Crime  Chapter 16 & 17

- This schedule is tentative and may be adjusted as we move through the material-