



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Institute of Criminology

CRIM 211

*Introduction to
Criminological Thought*

Course Outline

CRN 1100: 20 POINTS: TRIM 1, 2010

COURSE COORDINATOR: DR TREVOR BRADLEY

*Room 1103, Murphy Building
Tel: (04) 463 5432
Email: trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz*

LECTURES: WED 11AM – 12 NOON & FRI 3 – 4PM HU LT 323

Institute of Criminology

CRIM 211 – Trimester 1, 2010

Introduction to Criminological Thought

COURSE COORDINATOR: Dr Trevor Bradley
Level 11, Murphy Building, MY1101
Tel: 463-5432
Email: Trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz

LECTURERS: Dr T Bradley & others tba

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9 -10am
If you are unable to utilise the above time for consultation, please phone/e-mail to arrange an alternative. This is the best way to ensure that you see the course co-ordinator when you need to.
Administration is on Level 9, Murphy Building and is generally open from 9.00am to 4.00pm.

LECTURES: Wednesday 11.00 – 11.50am HU LT 323 and
Friday 3.10 – 4.00pm in HU LT 323
Commencing Wednesday 3rd of March

TUTORIALS: There are nine one-hour tutorials (sign-up via S-Cubed). Please note that the attendance at tutorials is **optional**.
Commencing in the week beginning 15th of March.
The tutorial questions cover issues that will aid discussions and students are expected to prepare for these discussions before each tutorial. Please ensure that you bring these questions with you. They are included at the back of this outline and will be posted on Blackboard (BB).

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	1 March to 4 June
Study week:	7 to 10 June
Examination period:	11 to 30 June

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

The focus of the first half of CRIM 211 is on theoretical explanations for crime and criminality. The second half of the course begins by examining the nature and extent of crime, before exploring the various social dimensions of crime including ethnicity, class, gender and age. CRIM 211 ends with an examination of contemporary approaches to crime prevention.

This course is designed to introduce students to the subject of criminology, tracing some of the major themes that arise within this discipline. The course begins with an overview of crime and the development of criminology before introducing the major schools of thought and theoretical perspectives making up criminology. The course then moves on to consider the two main avenues by which the public obtain information about crime - the media and official statistics. The image of criminals presented in these sources - in particular, the criminal as a young, lower class, ethnic minority male - are then questioned through an examination of the processes that produce societal definitions of crime and the broader social and political context within which crime occurs. The relationship between ethnicity, gender and age and crime are critically examined before the course concludes with an overview of crime prevention policy.

CRIM 211 TUTORIAL SIGN-UP

The times and locations of tutorials will be confirmed in the first lecture on 3 March 2010.

Students will need to sign up for a workshop group via 'S-cubed'. Sign up instructions will be posted on Blackboard. If you are familiar with this system you can go to the following address on the university website to sign up to your workshop session. <https://signups.victoria.ac.nz/>

S-cubed will be available for tutorial sign up from 22 February - 15 March 2010

NOTICEBOARD

There are noticeboards on level 9 and 11 of Murphy. Please check them regularly for updated information on the course.

COMMUNICATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to the noticeboard on level 11 CRIM 211 uses Blackboard (BB) to communicate with students where you can also find useful course information including: tips on assessments, lecture slides, tutorial questions, essay topics and course announcements

COURSE MATERIALS

This course is supported by a core text book '*An Introduction to Criminological Thought*' (Walters and Bradley, 2005), which is available from Vic Books on campus.

Essential weekly readings will be taken from the course text with additional supplementary reading material posted on Blackboard for each week session. The tutorial programme will list the sources for each weekly discussion. Students can freely access the supplementary reading material via Blackboard (<http://blackboard.scs.vuw.ac.nz>). The supplementary reading material might also prove useful for the essays. You **must** try to read and be familiar with the relevant course materials in advance of the lectures and tutorials in which it will be discussed. Unless you are advised otherwise, the topics will be dealt with in the order shown in the Teaching Programme.

TEXT BOOK

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Students are able to order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or by email: enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or be picked up from the shop once notified.

Opening hours are 8am – 6pm, Monday – Friday during trimester (closing at 5.00 pm during trimester breaks), phone: 463 5515.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This course will be assessed by a combination of the following:

- ***In-class test*** – worth 20% of your final grade
- ***Essay*** – worth 35% of your final grade
- ***Final examination*** – worth 45% of your final grade

Students wishing to make aegrotat applications should consult the full aegrotat regulations, which can be found in the <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/timetables/aegrotat.aspx#when>

TUTORIAL PROGRAMME & QUESTIONS

The Tutorial questions (used in conjunction with the Course text) are designed as a general guide for and aid to discussion. There is no expectation, and given the time limitations it is very unlikely, that each and every tutorial question will be addressed during the tutorial. Students are none the less advised that a familiarity with all of these questions, along with the responses to them, will assist preparation for tutorial discussions **AND** the in-class test and

final exam. You are also encouraged to generate further questions and bring them to tutorial groups.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of CRIM 211 students should be able to:

1. Summarise and knowledgeably discuss the key concepts, themes and schools of thought contained within the academic discipline of criminology. (This will be assessed in the in-class test and exam).
2. Critically evaluate and discuss the ideas of key criminological theorists and apply them in a clear well focussed academic argument. (This will be assessed in the essay and the exam).
3. Critically evaluate and discuss the broad social and political environment in which crime occurs showing an understanding of relationships of power and how these are affected by gender, race, age and class. (This will be assessed in the essay and in the exam).
4. Critically read and challenge criminological texts (books, journal articles) and think about the relevance of the theoretical approaches covered to contemporary society and the criminal justice system.

TEACHING PROGRAMME

Week	Commencing	Tuesday 11am –12 noon	Friday 3 - 4pm
1	1 March	Introduction: Defining Crime & Criminology	Deterrence and Rational Choice Theories of Crime
2	8 March	Criminological Positivism I (Individual)	Criminological Positivism II (Sociological)
3	15 March	‘Radical’ Criminology	Recent Critical Criminologies
4	22 March	‘Realist’ Criminology	<i>In class test</i>
5	29 March	Official Crime Statistics (I)	Official Crime Statistics (II)

<i>2 – 18 April Mid-Trimester Break</i>			
6	19 April	Crime and the Media (I)	Crime and the Media (II)
7	27 April	Ethnicity and Crime (I)	Ethnicity and Crime (II)
8	4 May	Class and Crime (I)	Class and Crime (II)
9	11 May	Revision	Gender and Crime (I)
10	18 May	Gender and Crime (II)	Age and Crime (I)
11	25 May	Age and Crime (II)	Preventing Crime
12	1 June	Summary	Examination Prep

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- sit the In-class test on Friday 26 March
- submit your Essay no later than 4pm, Tuesday 20 April 2010
- attend the two hour exam during examination period 11 – 30 June

EXTENSIONS

The essay assignment must be handed in by the due date. You are expected to keep to this deadline, as otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances, and should be sought from the course coordinator prior to the deadline. An example of an exceptional circumstance would be illness supported by a letter from a medical practitioner. **Please note** that lack of organisation, other work demands and word-processing failures are **not** “acceptable reasons”. Late submission of work without an extension will be penalised by the following deductions:

- **One grade** = period up to and including 24 hours past due date.

- **Two grades** = period from 24 hours up to and including 72 hours past due date.
- **Work that is handed in later than 72 hours without permission WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

WORKLOAD

Taking into account class attendance, reading for workshops, preparation for assignments and so on, students should spend around 16 hours per week working for CRIM 211.

E-MAIL POLICY

Due to the large volume of e-mail communication received by course coordinators we ask CRIM 211 students to confine their e-mail communications with staff to matters that cannot be resolved in lectures, workshops or office hours, or for matters that may not be appropriately raised and dealt with in lectures or workshops. Essays **cannot** be submitted as e-mail text or attachment.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Head of School:	Dr Allison Kirkman, MY1013 Tel: 463 5676 E-m: Allison.Kirkman@vuw.ac.nz
International Student Liaison:	Dr Hal Levine MY1023 Tel: 463 6132 E-m: Hal.Levine@vuw.ac.nz
Maori and Pacific Student Liaison:	Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101 Tel: 463 5432 E-m: Trevor.Bradley@vuw.ac.nz
Students with Disabilities Liaison:	Dr Russil Durrant, MY1120 Tel: 463 9980 E-m: russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz
School Manager:	Carol Hogan, MY918 Tel: 463 6546 E-m: Carol.Hogan@vuw.ac.nz
School Administrators:	Monica Lichti, Alison Melling, Heather Day MY921, Tel: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677 E-m: sacs@vuw.ac.nz