Course Outline and Objectives
The objective of this class is to investigate a number of socially significant criminal justice issues through the application of various sociological perspectives. Students are expected to think analytically and critically about each of these issues. This is a seminar which means that students should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading with their colleagues. Students will be examined through a variety of means in order to determine their mastery of the material. Please keep in mind this is not a primer course. It is assumed that everyone is a senior student who is comfortable with the theoretical and methodological bases of the discipline. Students who for some reason are completely unfamiliar with the Canadian criminal justice system will be encouraged to review material that should help them fill in the blanks.

Learning Outcomes
By the time this course is completed, students should be able to:
• Think critically about the system of criminal justice
• Understand how sociology uniquely contributes to our understanding of the crime – criminal justice dynamic
• Better appreciate how empirical data can be used to assess theoretical arguments
• Provide an informed analysis of a particular criminal justice issue in which they are interested.
• Better understand the relationship between the criminal justice system and other forms of social control

Required Reading
You will only be required to purchase one book for this course:

There will be copies in the bookstore and it is also available on Kindle and other platforms.
The rest of the reading is available from the electronic holdings in the library as well as other online sources.

Accessibility Needs
Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Wellness Services (SWS) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the Student Wellness website at: http://www.queensu.ca/studentwellness/accessibility-services/.

Academic Integrity
Queen’s University treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. See the Faculty of Arts and Science webpage on academic integrity for guidelines on avoiding departures from academic integrity and the processes for addressing academic offences (http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/students-at-queens/academic-integrity). If you have any questions [Type here]
about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, please contact me or other available campus resources such as Queen’s Learning Commons Student Academic Success Services.

**Grading:**
All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen’s Official Grade Conversion Scale:

**Queen’s Official Grade Conversion Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-56%</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>On going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper #1:</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>February 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Discussion:</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week of March 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper #2:</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>April 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participation**
Participation is critical in a seminar course and you are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the topic and the readings. Accordingly, you will be graded on the basis of your attendance and active participation which involves attendance, the volunteering your ideas and reasoned, thoughtful and informed contributions in class. Of equal importance are the seminar presentations that take place during the final weeks of the course. Each student is expected to make a brief presentation regarding the topic on which their written assignments are based. One hopes to see progress in the period between the first written assignment (see below) and the seminar presentation. Students will be assigned a global mark out of 20 based on attendance, in-class presentation and weekly participation.

**Term Papers**
The student is expected to focus on a particular criminal justice issue. This issue will be the topic around which written papers and seminar presentation will be organized. So choose the topic carefully. Students will be expected to engage with the scholarly literature on the subject. Papers should be double-spaced, with 1 inch margins. Students must reference their work properly using ASA referencing style. Term papers will be submitted electronically. ASA style notes can be found at:


**Term Paper 1**
The first term paper provides an opportunity to offer you preliminary thoughts on the subject you have chosen to focus on. The papers should consist of 1) an introduction 2) description of the topic in which you are interested 3) a brief description of any reading on the topic you have done thus far 4) a preliminary bibliography which will consist of some or all of the items you plan to use in the construction of your final paper. The paper should not exceed 5 pages formatted as discussed above.

**Term Paper 2**
This is the final term paper for the course. It will hopefully show some maturation of thought since the writing of the

[Type here]
initial paper. Hopefully you will be able to make use of whatever feedback you receive on Term Paper 1 and from your seminar presentation. The paper should not exceed 12 pages formatted as described above.

**Book Discussion**

*Through the Glass* is a true story but reads very much like a novel. It presents a rather unconventional view of the criminal justice system in that the book is not written from the point of view of the offender or the victim but rather from the point of view of an offender’s family member. During the week of March 27th, I will arrange a series of appointments during which students will discuss the book with the course instructor. Each 30 minute meeting will consist of the instructor, and 2 students. Students will be free to team up with a particular person if they so choose but they are not required to do so. I will be interested in what you have learned from the book (if anything) and in your critical engagement with the narrative. Performance will be graded in terms of the student’s understanding and insight. Each student is graded individually with a mark out of 20 using the following schedule: ABOVE EXPECTATIONS (16-20) AT EXPECTATIONS (13-15) BELOW EXPECTATIONS (12 or lower).

**Term Work Regulations**

Students are responsible for ensuring the instructor receives all course work. It is also the student's responsibility to back up their work either electronically or by photocopy. Requests for special consideration will not be granted for students who are unable to produce a copy of their term work.

Students will not be given essay extensions due to travel (employment, vacations), weddings, or other personal/professional commitments.

**Late Assignments**

Papers will be due at 11:59 pm on the deadline date. Late papers will incur a 10 percent penalty if they are submitted within one week of this deadline. Papers will be accepted until 11:59 pm on the date one week after the deadline. After that one week late period, papers will not be accepted.

**Accommodations**

Queen’s University is committed to providing academic consideration to students experiencing extenuating circumstances that are beyond their control and are interfering with their ability to complete academic requirements related to a course for a short period of time, not to exceed three months. Students receiving academic consideration must meet all essential requirements of a course. The Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Students in Extenuating Circumstances was approved at Senate in April, 2017.

Each Faculty has developed a protocol to provide a consistent and equitable approach in dealing with requests for academic consideration for students facing extenuating circumstances. Arts and Science undergraduate students can find the Faculty of Arts and Science protocol and the portal where a request can be submitted here: [http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/accommodations](http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/accommodations). If you need to request academic consideration for this course, you will be required to provide the name and email address of the instructor/coordinator.

**Please consider the following:**

Academic consideration requests for brief absences through the portal provide an extension of 72 hours. A request longer than 72 hours requires documentation. Documentation for requests more than 3 days will be vetted by FAS staff.

Requests for consideration during December and April exam periods will require documentation.

If no documentation is readily available for a request that is less than 3 days (in the event the request is not the student’s first), a Formal Attestation may be used. The Formal Attestation is a signed statement that is used in lieu of official documentation, affirming that there is a valid extenuating circumstance. Students can get a Formal Attestation form from the Student Services desk in Dunning Hall.

[Type here]
In order to be considered for an academic consideration, once you have accessed the Portal you must follow-up with me to discuss the request, and confirm which academic consideration can be granted. Failure to follow-up with me will result in denial of academic consideration.

**Requests for Remarking**

If you wish to request a remarking of an assignment, please submit a detailed memo *in writing* in which you specify the portions of the assignment that you believe were marked incorrectly (and why you think the mark was incorrect) within 1 week of the assignment being made available for pick-up, together with the original assignment.

**Course Schedule and Assigned Reading**

**Introduction to the Course (Jan. 8)**

**Justice and Punishment (Jan. 15)**

Department of Justice. 2017. *The Canadian Criminal Justice System: Overall Trends and Key Pressure Points*  


**Victims and the Criminal Justice System (Jan. 22)**


**The Problem of Free Will (Jan. 29)**

Watch Harris, Sam. “On the Delusion of Free Will”. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQJjn-gekn4&app=desktop


**Processing Hate Crime (Feb 5)**
Canadian Race Relations Foundation, *Hate Crime in Canada*.  


The Policing of Crowds (Feb 12)
“A Narrative Account of the Riot” and “Learning from 1994.” Both can be found in Furlong, J. and D.J.Keefe. 2011> The Night the City Became a Stadium.  Victoria: Solicitor General of British Columbia.


READING WEEK (Feb. 19th)

Processing Criminal Organizations (Feb. 26)


Indigenous Canadians and the Criminal Justice System (March 4)


Seminar Presentations (March 11th)

Seminar Presentations (March 18th)

Seminar Presentations (March 25th)

Seminar Presentations (April 1st)