

**Department of Sociology  
Brescia University College  
Administration of Criminal Justice  
Sociology 2253A, Section 530  
Summer 2020 - Online**

**Instructor:** Professor Bikos

**Email:** [levans8@uwo.ca](mailto:levans8@uwo.ca)

**Lectures:** Posted On-line (Remember this is an accelerated course which had 2 lectures/week, so there will be material to cover two lessons posted by Monday morning of each week)

**Classroom:** Your house!

**Office Hours:** Email me for a time – we can Zoom, Facetime, call

**Office:** Virtual

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course aims to provide a sociological overview of the criminal justice system in Canada. We will explore the structure, function, and operations of the police, courts, and correction systems in Canadian society. We will extend this analysis to include a critical lens that considers the historical and current impact of our justice system using gender, race, and class as our focus. Trends, critiques, and ideas for reform will be analyzed using current Canadian events.

**Prerequisite(s):** 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level or with permission of the instructor

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe the history of the Canadian criminal justice system and how the multiple levels currently inform and reproduce the roles of each other. (Communication/Social Awareness and Engagement)
2. Critically analyze the criminal justice system in modern Canadian society. (Critical Thinking)
3. Analyze the complex relationship between the criminal justice system, social institutions, and groups. (Inquiry and Analysis/Social Awareness)
4. Apply relevant criminological theories in relation to crime and deviance. (Communication/Critical Thinking/Social Awareness)
5. Participate knowledgeably in discussions of the structure, functions, and operations of the Canadian criminal justice system. (Communication)
6. Evaluate current trends, critiques and ideas for reform. (Inquiry and Analysis/Critical Thinking/Problem Solving)

## **BRESCIA COMPETENCIES**

You will develop the Brescia competencies at introductory and intermediate levels in this course. The Brescia competencies include:

### *Communication*

The ability to exchange information and meaning effectively across cultures, space and time through appropriate modes of communication. Includes oral, written, and interpersonal or group communicate, as well as the ability to use current or innovative media.

### *Critical Thinking*

The ability to engage in thinking characterized by the rational, informed, independent, and openminded exploration of issues, ideas, and events before accepting or formulating a conclusion.

### *Inquiry and Analysis*

The ability to reach informed decisions by breaking down complex issues, exploring evidence, demonstrating information literacy, and describing relationships among persons, things, or events.

### *Problem Solving*

The ability to create and execute a strategy to answer a question or achieve a goal. Includes being able to anticipate the consequence of a potential solution, select a strategy among several alternatives, and decide when an acceptable outcome has been reached.

### *Self Awareness and Development*

The ability to draw meaning, knowledge and value from honest and fair reflection and self-evaluation. Students are able to recognize their values and their impact on others and make a commitment to personal growth.

### *Social Awareness and Engagement*

The ability to respect and be open to diversity (e.g. cultural, religious, political). Students take personal responsibility to actively engage in and contribute to creating positive change in local, regional, national, or global communities and societies.

### *Valuing*

The ability to make decisions or choose actions based on the consistent application of moral principles and ethical codes. Students must also be able to understand the ideas informing one's beliefs and be accountable for their actions

## Required Texts and Readings

- a) *Canadian Criminal Justice*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Curt T. Griffiths. You can find this textbook at the Western Bookstore online. There is also an online version you can access for a fee through the Nelson website. You must have the text – you will read most of it as we are online and it's a good resource we can build from. Here is the link:  
[https://www.nelson.com/catalogue/productOverview.do?Ntt=Criminal+Justice+Lecture+Series%7C%7C21428929242070158252632583101088981060&N=197&Ntk=nelson%7C%7CP\\_EPI&Ntx=mode+matchallpartial](https://www.nelson.com/catalogue/productOverview.do?Ntt=Criminal+Justice+Lecture+Series%7C%7C21428929242070158252632583101088981060&N=197&Ntk=nelson%7C%7CP_EPI&Ntx=mode+matchallpartial)

A course schedule of weekly readings will be posted on Owl.

## Contact Information

The best way to reach me is via email at [levans8@uwo.ca](mailto:levans8@uwo.ca). I will answer within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends. Please remember that your emails to professors should be professional, edited, and come from your UWO account.

## Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

## Course Etiquette

This course is designed as a discussion-based experience (albeit online this year!). I expect you to attempt to complete the readings to the best of your ability each week. We will do our class activities on-line in the Owl forums. These discussions are part of your grade and you are expected to complete them each week, for each lesson (there will be two lessons per week for most weeks). Your discussions must be respectful – language and behaviour will be monitored - no inappropriate behaviour will be tolerated. These requests are out of respect for your peers, your professor, and to help you get the most out of this course.

## **Method of Evaluation**

This will be a discussion-based course that requires your attendance on-line to do well.

Your final grade for this course will be calculated as follows:

Weekly Quizzes	25%
Weekly Class Exercises	30%
Final Exam (June 17th)	45%

## **Weekly Lessons**

This is an accelerated course, meaning there will be two lessons per week, except for the May holiday (there will be one) and the final exam week in June (there will be none). All course material and activities will be conducted through Owl. Lessons will be administered via PPT each week and will be posted by Monday morning, as will class activities and quizzes. This way you can work at your own pace throughout the week. I have decided against Zoom classes at specific times to ensure flexibility and inclusivity in this course. I realize specific times can be challenging with everything else going on in your life at this time. I also realize transferring the class on-line has its challenges for us all. We will work through them together. Feel free to reach out to me with suggestions or concerns.

## **Weekly Quizzes**

We will have weekly quizzes administered via Owl. The quiz formats may be multiple choice, T/F, and written answers. You may be tested on any of the materials covered in the assigned readings and lessons. Specific details and expectations will be posted on Owl. Brescia Competencies: Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis

## **Weekly Class Exercises**

There will be exercises each week that you will complete via Owl to assist you in the application of course material. These will consist of case studies and/or real-life examples that you will read and discuss with your classmates via Owl forums. Specific details and expectations will be posted on Owl. Brescia Competencies: All

## **Final Exam**

Your final exam may be a mixed format, including a long essay, and will be conducted via Owl. Details will be discussed in more depth on Owl.

## **Course Outline**

A complete list of scheduled readings will be posted on Owl.

## **Late Policy**

In the event you will be absent for class activities, assignments, and/or exams, documentation for medical or non-medical academic accommodation must be submitted directly to academic accommodations and not to the instructor. When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor, who will make the final decision. Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

Unless prior arrangements have been made at the instructor's discretion, a penalty of 5% per day (including weekends) will be applied to late assignments.

## **2019-20 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS**

### **1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_12](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12).

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_10](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10)).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;

3. For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

### **Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal**

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may not be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

### **Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence**

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation must be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf) ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty. The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_12](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12)

## **2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates

in the Academic Calendar

(<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.

### **3. ABSENCES**

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory ([http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading\\_68](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68) ).

### **4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at:

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_20](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20).

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

## **5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_14](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14).

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

## **6. PREREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

## **7. SUPPORT**

### **Support Services**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through Mental Health & Wellness at Brescia (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>) and Health and Wellness at Western [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html).

### **Sexual Violence**

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

