



Sociology 3356g (570)
Victimology
Fall/ Winter 2025-2026

Instructor: J. Reynolds
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Course Information

Calendar Description:

This course provides a sociological overview and analysis of victimization from multiple theoretical and critical perspectives. The nature, types, and diverse experiences of victims in the Canadian criminal justice system are examined, with specific focus on the intersections of victimization and race, gender, class, and other forms of social inequality.

Antirequisite(s): [Sociology 3325F/G](#) if taken in 2019-2020.

Prerequisite(s): [Sociology 2266A/B](#), and third or fourth year standing in a Sociology or Criminology module.

Extra Information: 3 hours.

Course Weight: 0.50
Breadth: Category A
Subject Code: SOCIOLOG

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this 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 prerequisites.



**Department of Sociology
WINTER 2026
Sociology 3356G Section 570**

VICTIMOLOGY

Instructor: Jennie Reynolds

E-mail: jnugent5@uwo.ca

Class Time: Tuesdays 6:30-9:30 pm

Office Hours: Tuesdays from 5:30pm-6:30pm OR by appointment via ZOOM

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with a sociological overview and analysis of victimization from a variety of theoretical and critical perspectives. The nature, types, and diverse experiences of victims in the Canadian criminal justice system are examined, with a specific focus on the intersections of victimization and race, gender, class, and other forms of social inequality.

Course Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students should:

- Have a better understanding of victimology theory and how victims have been conceptualized by scholars over time
- Understand the intersections of victimization and race, ethnicity, gender, age, etc.
- Understand issues that face victims of crime at all levels in the criminal justice system
- Be able to critically analyze policy choices surrounding victims in the criminal justice system
- Strengthen and expand critical reading, writing, and presentation skills.

Required Texts

Scott, Hannah. (2016). *Victimology: Canadians in Context*. (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press.

E-book: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/victimology-canadians-in-context-hannah-scott-v9780199014644>

Amazon hard copy approximately \$130-\$150.

Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on:

(1) Participation (10%)

In order to receive marks for participation, you must partake in discussion and/or class activities throughout the course of the term. Please note that this is NOT an attendance grade, and instead requires you to actively engage with your peers throughout the course. At times, this may also involve an online discussion via the Forum tab on Brightspace.

(2) Mid-Term Exam (20%) and Final Exam (25%)

You will be required to complete 2 in-class exams in this course – a mid-term exam to be written on **February 24th** (worth 20%) and a final exam which will be administered during the April exam period (TBD) (worth 25%).

The exams will be made up of both quick-response questions (multiple choice, true/false, etc.) as well as short-answer questions (there are no essay questions on the exams). The exams will be discussed in more detail in class. *NOTE: The final exam is NOT cumulative and will only include material that is covered in the second half of the course (after the mid-term).

The Midterm will require formal documentation for academic consideration.

(3) Group Presentation (20%)

Each student will be responsible for contributing to a presentation on a special topic relevant to victims and the criminal justice system. These presentations will be done in groups (approximately 4-5 students per group). Proposed topics will be posted on Brightspace and sign-ups will occur on a first come first serve basis. The PowerPoint Presentations will be approximately 20 slides (and should take approximately 30-40 minutes) and will include a detailed script for each slide in the NOTES section. Details of the Presentation will be posted on Brightspace and will be discussed in class.

(4) Research Paper /Creative Project (25%) – Due **April 6th by 11:59pm**

You will be required to select a topic related to victimization and complete a final project surrounding that topic. Here, you may choose:

A) A traditional argumentative research paper on a topic of your choosing with a strong thesis statement, using scholarly resources to back up your argument(s) (8-10 pages).

B) A creative medium, such as a poster, Youtube video, Podcast, graphic novel, short story, pamphlet, or any other medium that meets the objectives of for the project (to highlight an important issue/topic, educate the public, make an argument, etc.). If you choose this avenue, please confirm the details of your chosen medium/topic with me.

More information regarding the final paper/project will be posted on Brightspace and discussed during the first few weeks of the course.

Conduct and Expectations

Lectures in this Course

By 4:00 PM on the day before each weekly class, the PowerPoint slides for that class will be posted on the Brightspace course site. You should print out a copy and bring it to class. Lectures assume that students have done the readings listed for each week in advance of class. Accordingly, lectures will be paced assuming that everyone has hardcopies of the slides in front of them and are capable of making additional notes as the lecture proceeds. The format also leaves ample time and opportunity for questions and discussion.

Policy on Laptops in Class

If you own a laptop, it can be a very effective tool for taking notes in class. Unfortunately, experience suggests that some students who bring laptops to class use them to access the Internet in ways that are disruptive to the class (i.e. using the internet for things that are not related to the course). This can prove very distracting to the students around them. Accordingly, accessing the internet in a way that is unrelated to the course/disruptive to others will be considered disruptive behavior and a violation under the Student Code of Conduct.

Policy on Cell Phones

Kindly turn off your cell phones and other electronic devices during lecture. You will have more than sufficient time during the break to check your messages. Students who are warned about their cell phones and persist in using them during lecture may be expelled from class.

Policy Related to the use of AI

Within this course, use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as Chat GPT is not permitted for written work submitted for evaluation. Unauthorized use of AI will be subject to academic discipline.

Notice of Turnitin Analysis

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>).

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Required Readings
<i>Jan. 6</i>	Course Introduction Defining Victims	Introduction
<i>Jan. 13</i>	Victimology and Victims Movements	Chapters 1 and 2
<i>Jan. 20</i>	Typologies of Victims	Chapter 3 and 4
<i>Jan. 27</i>	The Criminal Event: Homicide	Chapter 5
<i>Feb. 3</i>	Gender and Violence: Sexual Assault and Family Violence	Chapters 6 and 7
<i>Feb. 10</i>	The Criminal Event: White Collar Crime	Chapter 8
<i>Feb. 17</i>	READING WEEK! ENJOY ☺	
<i>Feb. 24</i>	MID-TERM EXAM	
<i>Mar. 3</i>	Vulnerable Populations and Victimization (Part I)	Chapters 9
<i>Mar. 10</i>	Vulnerable Populations and Victimization (Part II)	Chapter 10
<i>Mar. 17</i>	Victimization Over the Lifecourse	Chapter 11
<i>Mar. 24</i>	Victims of the Criminal Justice System	Chapter 12
<i>Mar. 31</i>	Life after Victimization	Chapter 13
<i>Apr. 6</i>	Course Conclusions *Final Paper/Project Due April 6th by 11:59pm*	
<i>TBD</i>	Final Exam (April exam period)	

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf.

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

GBSV Support:

King’s is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western’s Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

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; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

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.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.