



Sociology 3356f (570)
Victimology
Fall/ Winter 2026-2027

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.



VICTIMOLOGY
SOC3356F, Section 570 (Fall 2026)
King's University College at Western University
Department of Sociology

Instructor: Jennie Reynolds (jnugent5@uwo.ca)

Office Hours: Mondays from 11:30am-12:30pm 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.

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students should:

- Evaluate the strengths of victimology and different theoretical perspectives
- Critique how victims have been conceptualized by scholars, the public, and media over time
- Assess critically 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
- Analyze policy choices surrounding victims in the criminal justice system
- Strengthen and expand critical reading, writing, and presentation skills.

Required Texts

Scott, Hannah. (2025). *Victimology: Canadians in Context*. (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press.

E-book: https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/victimology-canadians-in-context-hannah-scott-v9780190168483?_gl=1*1dj10v7*_up*MQ.*_ga*MTE2MjI3MTk0MS4xNzY3NzUzMzQw*_ga_X8P1T5BPJB*czE3Njc3NTMzNDdkbzEkZzEkdDE3Njc3NTMzNDgkajUyJGwwJGgw

Course Evaluation

Participation (10%)
Midterm Exam (20%)
Final Exam (25%)
Group Presentation (20%)
Final Paper/Project (25%)

(1) Participation (10%): 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-person exams in this course – a mid-term exam to be written on **November 2nd** (worth 20%) and a final exam which will be administered during the December 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 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 December 7th 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 or download 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 copies 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 ChatGPT 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>Sept 14</i>	Course Introduction Defining Victims	Introduction
<i>Sept. 21</i>	Victimology and Victims Movements	Chapters 1 and 2
<i>Sept. 28</i>	Typologies of Victims	Chapter 3 and 4
<i>Oct. 5</i>	The Criminal Event: Homicide <i>[Presentation: Homicide]</i>	Chapter 5
<i>Oct. 12</i>	THANKSGIVING / FALL BREAK	
<i>Oct. 19</i>	Gender and Violence: Sexual Assault and Family Violence <i>[Presentation: Sexual Assault]</i>	Chapters 6 and 7
<i>Oct. 26</i>	The Criminal Event: White Collar Crime <i>[Presentation: White Collar Crime]</i>	Readings on Brightspace
<i>Nov. 2</i>	MID-TERM EXAM	
<i>Nov. 9</i>	Vulnerable Populations and Victimization (Part I)	Chapters 10
<i>Nov. 16</i>	Vulnerable Populations and Victimization (Part II) <i>[Presentation: MMIW]</i>	Chapter 9
<i>Nov. 23</i>	Victimization Over the Lifecourse <i>[Presentation: Cyber-Bullying]</i>	Chapter 8
<i>Nov. 30</i>	Victims of the Criminal Justice System Special Topic: Wrongful Convictions	Readings/documentary posted on Brightspace
<i>Dec. 7</i>	Victims in the CJS Life after Victimization *Final Paper/Project Due December 9th by 11:59pm*	Chapter 11 and 12
<i>TBD</i>	Final Exam (December exam period)	

**KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
GENERAL COURSE POLICIES
2026-27**

1. Academic Accommodations (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 at [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

2. Academic Consideration for Student Absences

Students must be approved to write a makeup exam or for an extension of the assignment deadline. If you need to miss an exam or the deadline for the assignment, please follow these instructions.

There are two ways to seek academic consideration:

(i) Academic consideration based on medical or compassionate grounds

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate grounds), they should contact the Academic Advising Office. As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration.

For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is the appropriate documentation. The SMC is available at <https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/pdfs/student-medical-certificate.pdf>

- King's students: The Academic Advising Office website is located in DLH 104. The Academic Advising website is <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising>.
- If your home faculty is Huron or at Western, please submit your documentation to your faculty's academic counselling office.
- Requests must be made as soon as possible, and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

You may submit requests for academic consideration through the **Student Absence Portal**, linked on this website: <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising/academic-consideration-requests-and-student-absence-portal>.

(ii) Academic consideration through an undocumented absence

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per half-course (0.5) weight.

- Note that instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline to confirm this which assessment has been designated as requiring documentation for consideration (that is, exempt from undocumented absences).
- Undocumented absences can not be used as the basis for academic consideration for December or April exams.

If an instructor has built flexibility into their assessments (e.g., “complete 8 of 10 quizzes”), this flexibility will already address consideration needs and thus academic consideration may be denied.

For further information on the academic consideration policy, please see

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

c) Absences from Final Exams

If you miss the Final Exam, **contact your Academic Advising Office** 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 (i.e., you are scheduled to write 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](#)).

d) Religious Accommodations

Students should consult the University’s list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and their 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.

3. Support Services

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

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/accessibility-services>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University College: <https://kings.uwo.ca/campus-life/student-supports/>

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

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

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental-health/index.html>

Academic Support Services at King's University College: <https://kings.uwo.ca/academics/academic-supports/>

4. Statement on Gender-Based Sexual Violence

King's and Western are committed to reducing incidents of gender-based sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: [Mental Health and Wellness at King's](#).

You can reach supports at King's 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 (health@uwo.ca) or by calling 519-661-3568. Additional support services can be found <https://www.uwo.ca/health/gbsv/support/index.html>

5. 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://kings.uwo.ca/sites/2025/assets/files/campus/Kings_Code_of_Student_Conduct.pdf

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.

6. 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 https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.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 you instructor to check which tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in each course.** Note that although some courses may permit the use of such tools, it does not mean use of such tools 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.