



Sociology 3409f (570)
Thinking Criminologically
Fall/ Winter 2026-2027

Instructor: L. Kennedy
Email: lkenne56@uwo.ca

Course Information

Calendar Description:

Mobilizing various theoretical frameworks, this course revisits 'mainstream' criminology and engages with a range of contemporary perspectives on crime, criminalization, and crime control

Antirequisite(s): [Sociology 4409F/G](#).

Prerequisite(s): [Sociology 2266A/B](#) and enrolment in third or fourth year of one of the Criminology modules.

Extra Information: 3 lecture 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.

King's University College
SOC3409F
Thinking Criminologically

Course information:

Instructor: Liam Kennedy

Contact Information: lkenne56@uwo.ca

Student hours: Wednesday 11:30-12:30 or by appointment

Course description: Mobilizing various theoretical frameworks, this course revisits 'mainstream' criminology and engages with a range of contemporary perspectives on crime, criminalization, and crime control. One of the major objectives here is to think critically about the discipline itself.

Course learning outcomes:

- 1) identify, apply, evaluate, and critique various systems of knowledge production, with a specific focus on the relationship of these systems to knowledge about crime and criminal justice;
- 2) relate social issues to the criminal justice system and articulate how broader social forces shape individual experiences of criminalization and victimization;
- 3) integrate scholarship from other disciplines to broaden criminological perspectives;
- 4) critically evaluate theoretical perspectives, existing research, and current issues relating to crime, criminality, and the criminal justice system in local and global contexts;
- 5) demonstrate confidence in their ability to express their criminological knowledge & skills;
- 6) present complex criminological theories, issues, and/or perspectives in a clear and accessible manner using relevant formats;
- 7) propose strategies to address social inequality that impact criminalized and/or marginalized populations;
- 8) deconstruct the connection between the local and the global as it relates to issues of crime and crime control

Mode of Instruction: *in-person*

Course textbooks/materials:

All journal articles are available via the library website. Other required readings are available for **free** from the instructor.

Method of evaluation:

Your academic performance in this seminar course will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Attendance & Participation	15%
In-Class Reading Journal 7 x 2.5%	17.5%
Research Statement	2.5%
Final Project – Oral Presentation	10%
Final Project – Written Submission	25%

Final Exam

30%

Academic Considerations:

- 48-hour submission window for the final project – written submission. No late penalty for the first 48 hours post-deadline. 10% penalty per day following this.

Academic Integrity / Remote Proctoring:

- Link to Western Scholastic Discipline policy:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.pdf
- Student use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT and grammar-checking tools) is **not** permitted for any work submitted in this course. Unauthorized use of AI will be subject to academic discipline. The use of translation tools is permitted.
- 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.

Schedule of Classes, Readings, Assessments:

Week 1 – Sept 9

Syllabus Review

NO Required Readings

Week 2 – Sept 16

Abolishing Criminology

Required Readings:

Pitman, Brian, Stephen T. Young, and Ryan Phillips. 2023. "The History of Criminal Justice as the Academic Arm of State Violence." In *Abolish Criminology*, edited by Viviane Saleh-Hanna, Jason Williams, and Michael J. Coyle.

Saleh-Hanna, Viviane. 2023. "The History of Criminology is a History of White Supremacy." In *Abolish Criminology*, edited by Viviane Saleh-Hanna, Jason Williams, and Michael J. Coyle.

Week 3 – Sept 23

Bodies, Disability, and Critiquing the Bio(social) turn

Required Readings:

Thornycroft, Ryan and Nicole L. Asquith. 2021. "Crippling criminology." *Theoretical Criminology* 25(2): 187-208.

Walby, Kevin and Nicolas Carrier. 2010. "The rise of biocriminology: Capturing observable bodily economies of 'criminal man'." *Criminology & Criminal Justice* 10(3): 261-285.

Week 4 – Sept 30

NO CLASS – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Week 5 – Oct 7

NOTE: Research Statement DUE

Conservative Criminology

Wilson, James Q. 1983. "Thinking About Crime: The Debate Over Deterrence." *The Atlantic*.

Available at: <https://www.theatlantic.com/past/politics/crime/wilson.htm>

Wright, John Paul and Matt DeLisi. 2016. *Conservative Criminology: A call to restore balance to the social sciences*. New York: Routledge. [via instructor]

Week 6 – Oct 14

NO CLASS – Fall Reading Week

Week 7 – Oct 21

Decolonizing Criminology – Indigenous, Southern, and Rural Perspectives

Required Readings:

Carrington, Kerry, Russell Hogg, and Maximo Sozzo. 2016. "Southern Criminology." *British Journal of Criminology* 56: 1-20.

Carrington, Kerry, Joseph F. Donnermeyer, and Walter S. DeKeseredy. 2014. "Intersectionality, Rural Criminology, and Re-imaging the Boundaries of Critical Criminology." *Critical Criminology* 22: 463-477.

Tauri, Juan and Chris Cunneen. 2024. "Critical Indigenous Criminology in Practice and Praxis." *Journal of Global Indigeneity* 8(1): 1-25.

Week 8 – Oct 28

Feminist and Queer Perspectives

Required Readings:

Chesney-Lind, Meda. 2020. "Feminist Criminology in an Era of Misogyny." *Criminology* 58: 407-422.

Quinan, CQ. 2025. "From Criminalization to Erasure: Project 2025 and Anti-Trans Legislation in the US." *Crime, Media, Culture* 21(4): 529-547.

Week 9 – Nov 4

Convict Criminology, Crimmigration, and Theorizing the Carceral State

Required Readings:

Antojado, Dwayne and Tina McPhee. 2024. "Move Over and Make Space for Lived Experience Criminology: Why We Do "Lived Experience"." *Journal of Criminology* 1-17.

Ceciliano-Navarro, Yajaira. 2024. "Crimmigration Practices and Narratives Resisting and Justifying Mass Deportation in the Central Valley of California." *Critical Criminology* 32: 313-331.

Gilmore, Ruth Wilson. 2022. *Abolition Geography: Essays Towards Liberation*. New York, Verso Books. [via instructor]

Week 10 – Nov 11

Green Criminology, Environmental Justice, and Speciesism

Required Readings:

Lynch, Michael J. and Michael A. Long. 2022. "Green Criminology: Capitalism, Green Crime and Justice, and Environmental Destruction." *Annual Review of Criminology* 5: 255-276.

Week 11 – Nov 18

Cultural Criminology, Visual Criminology, and Digital Criminology

Required Readings:

Brown, Michelle. 2014. "Visual Criminology and Carceral Studies: Counter-images in the Carceral Age." *Theoretical Criminology* 18(2): 176-197.

Smith, Gavin, J. D., Moses, Lyria B., and Chan, Janet. 2017. "The Challenges of Doing Criminology in the Big Data Era: Towards a Digital and Data-Driven Approach." *British Journal of Criminology* 57: 259-274.

Week 11 – Nov 25

NOTE: Final Paper – Written Submission DUE

NO Readings - Oral Presentation

Week 13 – Dec 2

NO Readings - Oral Presentation

Week 14 – Dec 9

NO Readings – Oral Presentation

**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.