**University of Guelph**

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**SOC 1500 02 – Crime and Criminal Justice**

**Winter 2024**

SOC 1500 02 provides an introduction to the sociological study of crime and criminal justice. Throughout the semester, students will discover how crime is defined, measured, explained, and addressed in Canadian society. Students will learn how crime is understood by major sociological and criminological theoretical perspectives. Together we will examine and critically assess a variety of types of crimes and criminal activities, as well as punishment and prevention approaches. Topics include the criminal justice system in Canada, core sociological explanations of crime, police, courts, punishment, incarceration, and youth and corrections. Throughout the course, we will consider how the criminal justice system intersects with (and impacts people along lines of) race, gender, sexuality, and indigeneity.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

* Identify, describe, and critically assess key approaches to understanding crime.
* Connect and apply course concepts and sociological theories to empirical research, case studies, and the real-world.
* Reflect on the definition of crime and the impact these definitions have upon social policy, social issues, individuals, and communities.
* Contribute to thoughtful and informed dialogue regarding the Canadian criminal justice system and its relationship with social structure, culture, and social exclusion.
* Find and use academic and non-academic sources to develop and support written arguments.
* Engage in thoughtful and respectful online discussion.
* Cultivate skills for personal organization, personal responsibility, and time management.

Evaluation for this lecture-style first year course includes written work (an outline, a paper, and a reflection), three tests (open book, comprised of multiple choice, true/false, and written answer type questions), and participation (via online Kahoot-based surveys, and discussion posts).

While SOC 1500 02 is listed as an in-person course, hybrid options will be made available, where possible.