**University of Guelph**

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**SOC\*3750**

**Police in Society**

Fall 2023

**Dr. Tarah Hodgkinson**

Contact information: hodgkint@uoguelph.ca

Weekly Office Hours: By appointment.

**Course information:**

Fridays 11:30am-2:20pm

Online and synchronous

**Required materials:**

All materials are available through University of Guelph’s library. Please see weekly schedule for readings and check the course website for additional links and resources.

**Course outline:**

This course examines the state of policing in Canada and internationally in the 21st century and the relationship between the police and society. We will explore major issues including the defunding and refunding, police abuse of power, police militarization, police oversight, policing alternatives, recruitment and retention, and the future of policing. This course will enable you to think critically about the major discussions and debates in policing research and practice and explore potential solutions to real world policing problems.

**Learning outcomes:**

* Identify and critically discuss key issues in policing and society.
* Engage with, and critically reflect upon, the importance of these issues to police organizations, communities, governments, and society.
* Identify and recommend evidence-based strategies to begin to address these key issues.
* Feel confident presenting research, collaborating with peers, and managing group-work.

**Course assessment:**

Critical analysis worksheets: 20%

Quiz: 25%

Group presentation: 15%

Group white paper: 30%

Weekly participation and discussion: 10%