# University of Guelph Department of Sociology and Anthropology

# Sociology 3750 - Police in Society

# Winter 2024

# DETAILS[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Time & Location:** T/Th 4:00 PM - 5:20 PM – Guelph, MCLN 102

**Format:** Face-to-face lecture.

**Instructor:** Aidan Lockhart

**Email:** [**lockhara@uoguelph.ca**](mailto:lockhara@uoguelph.ca)

**Office Hours**: TBA

**TAs:** TBA

**TA Office Hours**: TBA

# REQUIRED MATERIALS

Readings on electronic reserve (ARES)

# ASSESSMENT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Weight** | **Due date** |
| Quizzes | 20% | After 1 class each week |
| Video Assignment | 20% | Tuesday Feb 27 |
| Essay Proposal | 20% | Tuesday March 12 |
| Final Essay | 40% | Thursday April 4 |

# COURSE OVERVIEW

This course takes a uniquely cultural approach to the issue of police in society. That is, we’ll deepen our understanding of policing and police policy by taking seriously the cultural milieu in which they operate. We will be discussing issues including: the impact of police recruitment and training on police subcultures; the mythologies and war stories that circulate in police canteens; police civilian dynamics; police deviance and use of force; and police (social)media presences. Lastly, we’ll consider what the future of police could – or should – look like.

## Learning Outcomes

* Identify and understand key concepts, theories, and debates within the sociology of policing.
* Critically examine the relationship between police on the one hand, and culture, social relations, and social structure on the other.
* Use specific sociological frameworks to evaluate official police discourses and police policy.
* Formulate research questions, collect appropriate sources, and use scholarly research to develop and support written arguments.

1. Disclaimer: Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.  This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)