

SOC*4010 Violence and Society

Winter 2024

Section: 01

Department of Sociology and Anthropology Credit Weight: 0.50

a) **Course code and title:** SOC 4010 Violence and Society

b) **Date of offering:** W24

c) **Department:** Department of Sociology and Anthropology

d) **Course Instructor:** John R. Ferguson

e) **Course Description:**

This course will focus on violence in our society by critically evaluating definitions, types, data, representation, media portrayals, stereotypes, theory, research, public policy, and action related to the incidence, causes, impacts and responses to violence.

While focusing primarily on scholarship within the discipline of sociology, participants will examine other disciplines and interdisciplinary contributions to understanding violence & society. We will investigate different forms, sites and spaces of violence but spend the majority of our time reading about and discussing criminal violence.

We will examine who perpetrates violence, who is victimized by violence and how violence is represented using an intersectional analysis (i.e. age, gender, race, class, ideology, etc). We will use our sociological imaginations to critically reflect on how violence is defined and conceptualized and discuss the implications for research, social and criminal justice policy and action.

Note: This course takes a distinctive approach to learning and assessment with a rhythmic weekly pace of skill and confidence-building. Course requirements include actively and regularly participating in readings in-class and on-line discussions, student presentations and a research paper (rather than large mid-term and final exam). Conscientious time-management and successful maintenance of the weekly pace will yield high rewards in both learning and grades.

f) **Course Format**

In-class seminar

g) **Assessment/Evaluation (subject to revision)**

Weight:	Assessment:
10%	Seminar Attendance, Participation and Engagement (SAPE)
30%	Perusal Reading, Annotations, Interactions (PRAIs)
25%	Seminar Leadership Presentations (10% + 15%)

5%	Peer Seminar Evaluations
30%	Research Paper (apply course materials to your topic using data and theory.
= 100%	

h) Course Materials

Available On-Line