
SOC 4460 / Advanced Seminar in Criminology / Winter 2024

Instructor: Dr. Steph Howells**Email:** showells@uoguelph.ca**Course Overview:**

This course explores school shootings from a sociological perspective. We will examine different types of school shootings (e.g., rampage shootings versus mass murders) and different locations of school shootings (primary, secondary and post-secondary schools) along with international differences among school shootings, and historical changes in the types of shootings. We will explore notions of gender and masculinity, the mediatization of violence, the widespread impact of public policies and procedures aimed at reducing school shootings, and numerous theoretical frameworks that can help us understand this type of violence and its causes and consequences.

This course connects to the following departmental Learning Outcomes:

- Apply sociological theories to address contemporary, social, and global issues.
- Analyze and evaluate quantitative and qualitative research.
- Critically reflect on culture, social relations and social structures in order to develop a broader and deeper understanding of social problems as they relate to schools.
- Communicate effectively, accurately and professionally, in traditional and innovative written and oral forms, including visual and technological.
- Develop and practice intellectual curiosity, problem-solving, goal setting, decision-making and listening skills.
- Apply sociological theories and methods to develop and evaluate policy.
- Demonstrate personal, professional, and academic integrity and ethical reasoning.
- Demonstrate leadership, teamwork, accountability, personal organization and time management.

Evaluation:

Class Engagement & Participation	15%	Ongoing
Perusall Readings	10%	Due by noon on class days
Knowledge Integration Assignment	20%	Partner presentation /class facilitation
Essay Proposal	20%	
Research Essay Presentation	5%	Individual presentation
Final Research Essay	30%	

Readings:

All readings will be available through ARES, through the library e-journals, or on CourseLink.

I reserve the right to make changes to modify elements of this outline; a complete outline will be provided on the first day of class.