

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA**

**SOC333H5S LEC9101
Criminal Groups & Organizations
Course Outline - Winter 2022**



Course Information

Meeting Day & Time	Tuesdays 5:10 PM – 7:00 PM
Online Location	Zoom Room: [REDACTED]
In-person Location	Maanjiwe nendamowinan 3100
Course Web Site	[REDACTED]
Instructor	Professor Smith (she/her)
Online Office Location	Zoom Room: [REDACTED]
In-person Office Location	Maanjiwe nendamowinan 6202
Office Hours	Tuesdays 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM or by appointment
E-mail Address	via Quercus Messaging
Teaching Assistant	TBA
Office Hours	by appointment
E-mail Address	via Quercus Messaging

Course Description

An analysis of the intersection between criminal groups and crime and organizations. This course introduces students to various organizational theories and examines how criminal groups and organizations form, crime by organizations, and crime that is “organized.” [24L]

Prerequisite: (SOC205H5 or SOC231H5) and SOC221H5 and SOC222H5 (SSc)

Exclusion: SOC208H5 W2020 with Professor Smith (SSc)

Distribution Requirement: SSc

It is your responsibility to ensure that the prerequisites for this course have been met. Students without the prerequisites can be removed at any time. No waivers will be granted.

Learning Outcomes

1. Critical thinking about criminal groups and criminal organizations in society
2. Distinguish between research, news, opinion, and stereotypes on the topic of criminal groups and organizations
3. Develop analytic connections between theories and examples
4. Practice clear, precise, and effective communication through writing and speaking
5. Practice collaboration and leadership through weekly group-based assignments
6. Recognize, evaluate, and write evidence-based arguments

Textbooks and Other Materials

All readings are available through the library or through Quercus.

Students will be completing weekly templates prepared in Microsoft Word. UTM provides students a Microsoft Office license. Download information is available here:

<https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/iits/services/office-365-and-onedrive>

Evaluation Components

Type	Description	Due Date	Weight
Assignment	Weekly Reading Notes (the lowest scoring reading note is dropped)	On-going	20%
Assignment	Weekly In-class Assignments (the lowest scoring in-class assignment is dropped)	On-going	20%
Assignment	Beginning of Term Check-in Survey & Readings Quiz	2022-01-11	1.5%
Assignment	Midterm Check-in Survey	2022-03-01	0.5%
Assignment	Case Research & Annotated Bibliography	2022-03-01	20%
Assignment	Final Paper	2022-04-05	38%

You should receive at least one significant mark (15%) before the last day you can drop a course without academic penalty.

Please note that Grades in Quercus gives early access to preliminary grades; it does not represent your official final marks. For final grades logon to [ACORN](#).

Grading

Reading Notes

Due: Weekly, before class, 5:00 PM

Details: Reading notes are designed to check completion and comprehension of the assigned materials. The lowest scoring reading note will be automatically dropped from the final grade. Exemplary reading notes should prepare students to answer questions during lecture, be prepared for in-class assignments, and provide a useful guide for the final paper. Instructions and templates will be posted on Quercus. Reading notes work toward learning outcome 1 by preparing students to think critically about readings on crime in society; learning outcome 2 by delineating research from news, opinions and stereotypes; learning outcome 3 by practicing writing connections between theories and examples; learning outcome 4 by writing precise summaries with appropriate citation of readings; and learning outcome 6 by identifying and evaluating evidence.

In-class Assignments

Due: Weekly, in class, 7:00 PM

Details: Students will work with the same small group each week to apply and connect course material. Some in-class assignments will provide small, scaffolded assignments that work toward the final paper. The lowest scoring in-class assignment will be automatically dropped from the final grade. In-class assignments work toward all six course learning outcomes.

Beginning of Term Check-in Survey & Readings Quiz

Due: 11 January 2022, 11:59 PM

Details: This survey is an organizational tool to prepare students and instructors for the course. The syllabus quiz is a tool to review the contents of the syllabus. The survey component will be marked for completion, and the readings quiz component will be marked for accuracy.

Midterm Check-in Survey

Due: 01 March 2022, 5:00 PM

Details: This survey is an organizational tool to check in on student's learning and access of the course material. It will be marked for completion.

Case Research & Annotated Bibliography

Due: 01 March 2022, 5:00 PM

Details: Students will begin researching their case for their final paper and complete an annotated bibliography in preparation for their final papers. More details will be posted on Quercus.

Final Paper

Due: 05 April 2022, 11:59 PM

Details: Students will write an 6-8 page research paper analyzing a criminal group or organization as it relates to the theories and concepts from the course as well as outside research. More details will be posted on Quercus.

Class/Seminar Format

Soc 333 is a reading and writing intensive course. Each week focuses on a different topic, but we will be working toward the same learning objectives every week. Students are expected to attend the entire class meeting. Generally, the first part of class will be lecture and large group discussion, and the second part of class will be working in your small groups to complete in-class group assignments. In-class attendance and participation are required for the in-class group assignments. To prepare for class and to contribute meaningfully to your group, students will submit reading note assignments before class begins. Professor Smith will help you establish groups for in-class assignments at the beginning of the term, and you will be working with the same group all term unless any issues arise. If you are having any issues with your group or group members, please contact Professor Smith and she will work with you to make changes.

Professor Smith has drop-in office hours on in from 3:30-4:30 PM on Tuesdays (before class). The TA and Professor Smith will hold individual (or private group) office hours by appointment. Office hours are a great time to check in about progress, content questions, or even a question about a reading note before the deadline.

To the best of her ability, Professor Smith will keep everything related to the course in Quercus to minimize our need for external tools and software. She will use Quercus calendar, announcements, and messages (aka Quercus email) to help you stay organized. Be sure to login to Quercus regularly and check your notification settings so you don't miss anything.

Professor Smith's Quercus Tips

- I love Quercus! I have used several different online course management systems in my years of teaching, and Quercus (a.k.a. Canvas) is the best. I have years of experience using this system (which means I understand its limitations well). If you are struggling to find what you need, please drop in to my office hours and I can help you navigate the system and become more confident with its tools.
- You will need to log in to Quercus regularly for this class. All course materials, assignments, instructions, and announcements will be posted there. I try to minimize the use of external applications whenever possible—even email.
- If you find that you are missing information and notifications on Quercus, you can update your notification settings for all your classes. Here are the [instructions](#) on how to do this under your Quercus Account.
- The messaging system in Quercus is very effective at keeping all our communications in one place. Your name and course enrolment (and optional profile photos) always accompany your Quercus messages, which helps me know who you are right away, which class of mine you are in, and keeps our communication organized. Please use the messaging system for all course-related communication with the TA and me. You can set up Quercus to forward all messages to your email, but please reply to all messages using Quercus.
- For some assignments, you will be directly submitting text to the assignment (rather than uploading a file). For these assignments, I recommend that you write your assignments or responses in a document outside of Quercus. Then copy, paste, and fix the formatting in Quercus and then submit. I have had so many students lose their work when clicking submit because of a lost or weak internet connection. Their brilliant writing disappeared into the internet void. Writing your assignment in an external document creates a backup copy and will save you from having to rewrite your work.
- When we mark your work, we actually have three ways to provide you feedback: through the [rubric](#), through the [assignment comment feature](#), and for assignments that require uploading a document through [mark up on a pdf version](#) of your paper. (I have provided three links with instructions on how to locate the different kinds of feedback.)
- Please upload a photo or avatar to your Quercus and Zoom accounts. These will appear in your Quercus messages and help the TA and me learn who is who in our class.
- The word “quercus” is Latin for oak. Our learning management system was named this after [UofT's crest](#) that features an oak tree.



Course Schedule

Date of class meeting	Topic
Week 1: Introduction	
2022-01-11	Reading Soc 333 Syllabus
	Gilroy, Susan. 2021. "Interrogating Texts: Six Reading Habits to Develop in Your First Year at Harvard." Harvard Library. https://guides.library.harvard.edu/sixreadinghabits .
	Assignments In-class Assignment 1 (due 7:00 PM) Beginning of term Check-in Survey & Syllabus Quiz (due 11:59 PM)
Week 2: Peers & Crime	
2022-01-18	Reading Sutherland, Edwin H. [1947] 1970. "A Theory of Crime: Differential Association." Pp. 74-7 in <i>Criminology</i> , 8th ed., edited by E.H. Sutherland, and D.R. Cressey. Philadelphia, PA: J. B. Lippincott Company.
	Haynie, Dana L., and Derek A. Kreager. 2012. "Peer Networks and Crime." Pp. 257-73 in <i>The Oxford Handbook of Criminological Theory</i> , edited by F.T. Cullen, and P. Wilcox. New York: Oxford University Press. [Select pages]
	Assignments Week 2 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM) In-class Assignment 2 (due 7:00 PM)
Week 3: Gangs, I	
2022-01-25	Reading Venkatesh, Sudhir. 2008. <i>Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets</i> . New York: Penguin Books. [Chapter 4: "Gang Leader for a Day" pp. 113-43]
	Stuart, Forrest. 2020. <i>Ballad of the Bullet: Gangs, Drill Music, and the Power of Online Infamy</i> . Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [Chapter 1: "From the Drug Economy to the Attention Economy" pp. 16-43]
	Assignments Week 3 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM) In-class Assignment 3 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 4: Gangs, II

Reading

Decker, Scott H. and David Pyrooz. 2018. "The Real Gangbanging Is in Prison." Pp. 143-62 in *The Oxford Handbook of Prisons and Imprisonment*, edited by J. Wooldredge, and P. Smith. New York: Oxford University Press.

2022-02-01

Urbanik, Marta-Marika. 2018. "Drawing Boundaries or Drawing Weapons? Neighborhood Master Status as Suppressor of Gang Violence." *Qualitative Sociology* 41(4):497-519.

Assignments

Week 4 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 4 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 5: Gangs, III

Reading

Dziewanski, Dariusz. 2020. "Femme Fatales: Girl Gangsters and Violent Street Culture in Cape Town." *Feminist Criminology* 15(4):438-63.

2022-02-08

Panfil, Vanessa R., and Dana Peterson. 2015. "Gender, Sexuality, and Gangs: Re-envisioning Diversity." Pp. 208-34 in *The Handbook of Gangs*, edited by S. H. Decker, and D. C. Pyrooz. West Sussex, UK: Wiley Blackwell.

Assignments

Week 5 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 5 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 6: Illicit Markets, I

Reading

Young, Kathryn M. 2014. "Everyone Knows the Game: Legal Consciousness in the Hawaiian Cockfight." *Law & Society Review* 48(3):499-530.

2022-02-15

Dubner, Stephen J. 2012. "How Deep Is the Shadow Economy?" *Freakonomics*, August 30. <http://freakonomics.com/podcast/how-deep-is-the-shadow-economy-a-new-freakonomics-radio-podcast/>
[19-minute podcast]

Assignments

Week 6 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 6 (due 7:00 PM)

Reading Week

2022-02-22

Week 7: Midterm

Reading

Readings vary based on research projects

2022-03-01

Assignments

Case Research & Annotated Bibliography Assignment (due 5:00 PM)

Midterm Check-in Survey (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 7 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 8: Illicit Markets, II

Reading

Wong, Rebecca W.Y. 2016. "The Organization of the Illegal Tiger Parts Trade in China." *British Journal of Criminology* 56(5):995-1013.

2022-03-08

Zhang, Sheldon, and Ko-Lin Chin. 2002. "Enter the Dragon: Inside Chinese Human Smuggling Organizations." *Criminology* 40(4):737-68.

Assignments

Week 8 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 8 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 9: Organized Crime, I

Reading

von Lampe, Klaus. 2016. *Organized Crime: Analyzing Illegal Activities, Criminal Structures, and Extra-Legal Governance*. Los Angeles: Sage.
[Chapter 7: "Associational Structures" pp. 158-85]

2022-03-15

Paoli, Letizia. 2014. "The Italian Mafia." Pp. 121-41 in *Oxford Handbook of Organized Crime*, edited by L. Paoli. New York: Oxford University Press.

Assignments

Week 9 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 9 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 10: Organized Crime, II

Reading

Smith, Chris M. 2019. *Syndicate Women: Gender and Networks in Chicago Organized Crime*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press.
[Chapters 1, 3, and 4]

2022-03-22

Assignments

Week 10 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)

In-class Assignment 10 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 11: Organized Crime, III

Reading

2022-03-29 Smith, Chris M. 2019. *Syndicate Women: Gender and Networks in Chicago Organized Crime*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press.
[Chapters 5, 6, and 7]

Assignments

Week 11 Reading Note (due 5:00 PM)
In-class Assignment 11 (due 7:00 PM)

Week 12: Conclusion

Reading

2022-04-05 No new reading

Assignments

Final paper (due 11:59 PM)

Last Date to drop course from Academic Record and GPA is **March 13, 2022**.

Every attempt will be made to follow this schedule, but it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Student Services & Resources

Accessibility

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code, including those who have a physical, sensory, or learning disability, mental health condition, acquired brain injury, or chronic health condition, be it visible or hidden.

If you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please approach Accessibility Services as soon as possible. The Accessibility staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

To register with Accessibility, please call the Centre at 905-569-4699 or e-mail access.utm@utoronto.ca.
<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/access>

Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre

The Centre offers wide-ranging support to help students identify and develop the academic skills they need for success in their studies, including: understanding learning styles; essay and report writing; time management; lecture-listening; note-taking; and studying for tests and exams.

<http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/asc/>

UTM Library (Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre)

The UTM Library provides access to a vast collection of online and print resources to faculty, staff, and students. Various services are available to students, including borrowing, interlibrary loans, online references, research help, laptop loans and the RBC Learning Commons.

<http://library.utm.utoronto.ca>

UofT Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre helps and support students at the University of Toronto who have been affected by sexual violence or sexual harassment.

<https://www.svpscentre.utoronto.ca>

UTM Positive Space

Positive Space Committee aims to foster a sense of community at the University of Toronto and create a safer environment for LGBTQ2S+ students, staff, faculty, and librarians. They work to actively include and celebrate LGBTQ2S+ people on campus.

A variety of other student support services and resources can be found at <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/current-students>, including academics, health, wellness and student services.

Equity & Diversity

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at vpequity@utmsu.ca.