



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES  
Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

## **Institute of Criminology**

# **CRIM 322**

## **Crime, Deviance and Popular Culture**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2, 2013**

### **Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 15 July to 17 November 2013

**Teaching dates:** 15 July to 18 October 2013

**Mid-trimester break:** 26 August to 8 September 2013

**Study period:** 21–25 October 2013

**Last assessment due:** 18 October 2013

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds)

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)

## Class times and locations

**Lectures:** Friday 9.00-10.50, Hunter Lt 119

**Tutorials:**

Wednesday	11.00 -11.50 am	EA201
Wednesday	10.00 -10.50 am	MY531
Friday	12.00 -12.50 pm	MY632
Friday	2.10 - 3.00 pm	MY301

## Names and contact details

### Course Coordinator: Dr Fiona Hutton

Room 1103, Murphy Building

Tel: (04) 463 6749

E-mail: [fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz)

Office hours: Friday 12-1pm

If you are not able to see Fiona during her regular office hours please make an appointment for an alternative time.

## Communication of additional information

Additional information related to the course will be made available on BlackBoard.

Students are also encouraged to use the discussion board to post any general questions about assignments and course material. The discussion board can also be used to post any relevant newspaper articles/resources or comments on course material that others may find interesting.

You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use

There are also noticeboards on levels 9 and 11 where students may find useful information about upcoming seminars and soon.

## Prescription

This course examines the relationship between popular cultural, criminal, and deviant practices. In addition to studying examples of the criminalisation of cultural practices, students will focus on how far popular cultural representations of crime and deviance reflect the 'reality' of crime and deviance in contemporary society. Popular cultural representations of crime and deviance as a mirror reflecting societal attitudes and stereotypes of race, masculinity and femininity in relation to crime and deviance will be examined. Students will be encouraged to develop a critical analysis of research which has attempted to examine and explain the ways in which cultural, criminal and deviant practices may come together.

## Course content

	Week Commencing	Friday Lecture 9.00-10.50 HU LT 119
1	15 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Introduction: is crime 'caused' by popular culture?</b>
2	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>Theorising crime, deviance and popular culture</b>
3	29 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>A history of crime texts</b>
4	5 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Media effects: are the media really to blame?</b>
5	12 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Representations of violent crime</b>
6	19 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Fear of crime: media fuelled?</b>

**Mid-trimester break 26<sup>th</sup> August –8<sup>th</sup> September**

**Second half teaching timetable TBC**

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the key theories and concepts associated with the representation of crime and deviance in popular culture (This will be assessed in the in-class test, the book review and the essay)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the different 'realities' of crime that are presented in popular culture and the implications this has for CJS responses to crime and deviance (This will be assessed in the essay)
3. Critically assess popular cultural representations of particular behaviours and reflect on the 'truth' contained in such representations (This will be assessed in the book review and the essay)
4. Critically read and challenge criminological texts (books, journal articles) and think about the ways in which cultural, criminal and deviant practices may come together (This will be assessed in the in-class test, the book review and the essay)

## Teaching Format

This course comprises twelve 2 hour lectures and nine 1 hour tutorials.

Attendance as tutorials is mandatory. In order to meet the mandatory requirements for this course you must attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials.

## Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to receiving an overall pass mark of 50% students must:

- Attend and complete a two hour in-class test
- Submit your book review no later than 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013
- Submit your essay no later than 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013
- Attend 7 out of 9 tutorials

## Workload

University guidelines stipulate that a 20-point course should require 13 hours per week, including class time, of student work.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Book review (2000 words)	30	1,3,4	9 <sup>th</sup> August
2 In Class test (2 hours)	30	1,4	13 <sup>th</sup> September
3 Essay (3000 words)	40	1,2,3,4	18 <sup>th</sup> October

Please have a look at the extra resources around essay/academic writing that are posted on BB. The student Learning Support Services Study Hub at [http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/slss/studyhub/index.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/slss/studyhub/index.aspx) also has some useful information about academic writing, referencing and assignments.

## BOOK REVIEW

**Due 9<sup>th</sup> August, 4pm**

**Weighting 30%**

The book review builds on the theories and concepts that will have been covered in the in-class test. It is worth **30% of your final grade**. Your book review should not exceed 2000 words. *Please note that the book you choose should not be an edited volume.* If you have any doubts about the suitability of your chosen book please see Fiona for some guidance.

In completing the book review students are expected to demonstrate that they can discuss and evaluate the complex arguments and debates related to the issues raised in this course. **Fill in a cover sheet and place it in the essay box by the lifts.**

As Germov (1996, 'Get Great Marks for Your Essays') details, some basic guidelines about how to complete a book review are as follows;

1. It should have an introduction, use supporting evidence, have a conclusion and be referenced. Just like an academic essay the issues you refer to need to be properly acknowledged.
2. Avoid simply describing or repeating what the author says – you need to explain and critique what the author is saying.

*Instead of just listing what the author says,*

'Smith (2007) raises the topic of media effects and then talks about violence and its effects on young people.'

*Make sure you explain the things that the author is referring to,*

'Smith (2007) raises the topic of media effects. Media effects theory argues that.....Proponents of this theoretical perspective further argue that violent images in the media directly cause violent behaviour in those who see those images. Violent images are argued to affect young people by.....'

3. A key aspect of a review is the evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the particular work. When you are writing your review think about;
  - a) Whether you agree with the author's viewpoint – can you think of any criticisms of what they are arguing?
  - b) What links can you make to the lecture and tutorial material and readings presented in the first four weeks of this course?
  - c) How do the arguments put forward in your chosen book relate to the theoretical perspectives raised in the course so far?

## **IN-CLASS TEST**

**Date 13<sup>th</sup> September, 4pm**

**Weighting 30%**

The in-class test for CRIM 322 will be two hours long and is worth **30% of the final mark for this course**. The test will be based on three key book chapters/journal articles focussing on the theoretical debates covered in the first half of the course. These readings will be posted on BB. The aim of this piece of assessment is to ensure students are familiar with the key debates that are relevant to CRIM 322. The in-class test will also help to provide a foundation for writing the essay. In completing the test students are expected to demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of the key theories and concepts associated with representations of crime and deviance in popular culture. **The date for the test is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.**

## **ESSAY**

**Due 18<sup>th</sup> October, 4pm**

**Weighting 40%**

The essay is worth **40% of your final grade**. Your essay should not exceed 3000 words in length. In this piece of assessment students are expected to demonstrate that they can research and construct a properly referenced, critical academic argument that shows an understanding of the topic chosen for discussion. **Fill in a cover sheet and place it in the essay box by the lifts.**

When written work is marked, four areas will be considered:

1. The content of the paper
2. Structure, approach and argument
3. The way in which source material has been used
4. Style and presentation.

First, your written work must be relevant to the assignment set. Secondly, you should show that you have thought about the topic and reached your own conclusions on it. It is therefore important that the paper presents a logically developed flow of argument which appears to follow an analysis of the topic, and that this argument can be supported by the accurate presentation of supporting evidence. Thirdly, you should acknowledge accurately the sources used, and should choose representative evidence. Fourthly, it is expected that your written work will:

- flow coherently
- be succinct
- be legible and well set out
- be of reasonable length
- show a good knowledge of grammar, correct spelling and correct usage of terms.

#### Notes:

- It is most important that you **do not** exceed the word limit. Students are advised that examiners may refuse to mark that part of the assignment that is in excess of the word limit.
- Students are advised that tutors and other Institute staff members are not allowed to comment or provide feedback on draft assignments. It is possible, however, for students to discuss assignments in general terms.

## Submission And Return Of Work

All written work should be placed in the essay box on level 9 of the Murphy building by 4pm on the due date, or sent to the Institute of Criminology, (Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington 6140) by courier or registered mail postmarked no later than 4pm on the due date. An announcement will be posted on Blackboard (BB) when essays have been marked and moderated. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9<sup>th</sup> floor reception desk, between **2.00 and 4.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

## Penalties

Assignments must be handed in by the due date. You are expected to keep to this deadline, as otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances, and should be sought from the course coordinator **prior to the deadline**. An example of an exceptional circumstance would be illness supported by a letter from a medical practitioner. **Please note that lack of organisation, word-processing failures and other work demands are not “good reasons”**. Late submission of work without permission will be penalised by the following deductions:

One grade = period up to and including 24 hours past due date.

Two grades = period from 24 hours up to and including 72 hours past due date.

**Work that is handed in later than 72 hours without permission will not be accepted.**

## Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements

Not applicable to this course.

## Set texts

There is no set text for this course. Readings will be provided to students through Blackboard from the first week of trimester 2.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## Student Feedback

In response to feedback received the course will be focusing on the theoretical framework thereby encouraging critical thinking and stimulating further interest.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## School Contact Information

Head of School: Dr Allison Kirkman, MY1013

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International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine MY1023

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Maori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101

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School of Social and Cultural Studies: [www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs/)