



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

TE KURA MAHINGA TANGATA

CRIMINOLOGY

CRIM 417

SPECIAL TOPIC: CRIMES AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENT

30 POINTS

TRIMESTERS 1 & 2, 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 16 October 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Mid-year break: 30 June to 8 July 2016

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday 14:10 - 16:00 Von Zedlitz VZ101

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Sarah Wright
Tel: (04) 463 5874
Level 11, Murphy Building, MY 1115
Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Thursday 10:00am -12:00pm

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in class sessions and on Blackboard. 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.

Prescription

This course explores the nature of environmental harm from a criminological perspective. The course examines the conceptual foundations and approaches of Green Criminology, investigates the causes and contexts of environmental crime, and considers how environmental harms are responded to by regulatory agencies. Students will have the opportunity to explore these issues by way of case study analysis. 100% internal assessment.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Define the nature of crimes against the environment;
2. Explain the principles of a range of green criminological perspectives;
3. Evaluate responses to crimes against the environment;
4. Use a green criminological perspective in the analysis of harm against the environment.

Teaching format

This course combines informal interactive seminars, class discussion, workshop activities and film screenings to engage students with the various topic areas. Students are expected to have read assigned readings prior to class and to contribute in discussions.

	Week Commencing	Tuesday 2:10 – 4:00pm
1	29 February	Green criminology and environmental crime
2	7 March	Eco-global criminology and transnational crime

3	14 March	Eco-justice and ecocide
4	21 March	Dimensions of environmental crime
<i>Easter break</i>		
5	4 April	Representations of environmental crime
6	11 April	Researching environmental crime
7	18 April	Climate change
<i>Mid Term Break</i>		
8	2 May	Harm to animals (Film)
9	9 May	Threats to biodiversity
10	16 May	Pollution, water and air
11	23 May	Waste (Essay Due 24 May)
12	30 May	Food justice (Film)

	Week Commencing	Tuesday 2:10 – 4:00pm
13	11 July	Environmental victims
14	18 July	Regulation
15	25 July	Policing and enforcement
16	1 August	Forensic studies
17	8 August	Courts
18	15 August	Prevention (Reflective journal evaluation Due 18 August)
<i>Mid Term Break</i>		
19	5 September	Case study workshop
20	12 September	Case study preparation
21	19 September	Case study preparation
22	26 September	Case study preparation
23	3 October	Case study preparation
24	10 October	(Case study Due 13 October)

Mandatory course requirement

To pass the course, students **must** make a credible attempt at all pieces of assessment to illustrate they have achieved all of the CLOs of the course.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet the MCR because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point. Therefore a 30-point course equates to 300 hours over the two trimesters. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study and work on assessment tasks.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		Due	%	CLO(s)
1	Essay (3500 words)	24 May, 4pm	40%	1, 2, 3
2	Reflective journal evaluation (1000-1500 words)	18 August, 4pm	10%	1,2,3,4
3	Case study (4500 words)	13 October, 4pm	50%	1,2,3,4

The course is internally assessed through three written assignments. Students should discuss their assignments with the course co-ordinator, begin work on them as early as possible and make steady and sustained progress throughout the year.

Essay: (3500 words)

Due: 24 May, 4pm

White and Heckenberg (2014) describe Green Criminology (GC) as having a 'broad canopy'. Choose a specific perspective or area of study that sits under this canopy. Describe its focus and approach to the study of environmental harm, identifying key thinkers and drawing on key studies. Illustrate similarities and differences to other areas of GC as well as to more mainstream areas of criminology. Lastly, consider the value of this GC perspective or area of study for developing understandings of environmental harm.

Reflective journal evaluation: (1000-1500 words)

Due: 18 August, 4pm

This piece of assessment requires students to make regular (weekly or fortnightly) entries into a journal about their thoughts, understandings and observations relating to the material in the course. Students are encouraged to freely write about topics of their own interest or issues that are pressing. Questions or discussion points will be uploaded onto Blackboard each week to assist in this task, however. Students are then required to write and submit a reflective evaluation of their entries from across the course to date. Further information about this task will be given during class sessions.

Case study: (4500 words)

Due: 13 October, 4pm

This piece of assessment requires students to examine an environmental harm issue or topic in depth, using a green criminological perspective. Students are to choose an issue or topic that interests them, draw on established studies or secondary methods to gather material about the

topic and explore the intersections pertaining to harm, including: victimisation, location, site, scale and time.

Please make sure that your written work:

- Addresses the question set. You should show that you have thought about the topic and reached your own conclusions on it. It is therefore important that your assignments present a logically developed flow of argument, which follows an analysis of the topic, and that this argument can be supported by the accurate presentation of supporting evidence.
- Acknowledges accurately the sources used, and that you have chosen representative evidence.
- Flows coherently, is succinct, legible and well set out, is of reasonable length and shows a good knowledge of grammar, correct spelling and correct usage of terms.

Please see Blackboard for a more detailed breakdown of what is expected at each grade.

Please note: Marks for Honours level assignments and final course grades are not finalised until the completion of honours moderation. Honours grades gained in individual courses remain provisional until the overall final classification made at the Honours moderation meeting.

Submission and return of work

Submit a paper copy to the Assignment Box at the SACS Administration Office, Level 9, Murphy Building (to the side of the lifts), by 4pm on the due date. Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers.

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11:00am and 3:00pm only from Monday to Friday**.

Students can expect their marked work to be available within approximately 3 weeks of their submission date.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

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 co-ordinator **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”.

Penalties

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.

Please see the Marking Guidelines for information on exceeding the word limit.

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

Set text

The set text for this course is:

White, R. & Heckenberg, D. (2014). *Green criminology: An introduction to the study of environmental harm*. London and New York: Routledge.

Copies of this text can be purchased from Vic Books. Additional readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator.

Recommended reading

A list of recommended readings for each topic will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator.

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.

Student feedback

CRIM417 is a new course in 2016. Therefore, there is no student feedback yet available.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at 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/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter

- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

Head of School:	Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, MY1019 Phone: 463 6528, Email: brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz
International Student Liaison:	Dr Hal Levine, MY1023 Phone: 463 6132, Email: hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz
Māori and Pacific Student Liaison:	Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101 Phone: 463 5432, Email: trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz
Students with Disabilities Liaison:	Dr Sarah Wright, MY1115 Phone: 463 5874, Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz
School Manager:	La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918 Phone: 463 6546, Email: lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz
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School of Social and Cultural Studies:	www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs