



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

TE KURA MAHINGA TANGATA

Criminology

CRIM 219

Special Topic: Youth and Crime

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 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: Monday and Thursday 10:00 – 10:50 am New Kirk KKLT301

Tutorials: Please sign up using myAllocator

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 and Friday 12.00-1.00 pm.

Communication of additional information

Additional material, new information and notifications of course changes will be posted on Blackboard. Blackboard is an important virtual learning environment for this course. Students doing CRIM 219 will be expected to engage and participate 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 is focused on the deviant and criminal behaviour of young people. The course explores the social construction of youth and the 'youth problem', looks at patterns of offending among young people, and considers key concepts and theories that can assist in understanding youth criminality. The course also examines responses to young offenders both in New Zealand and overseas.

Course content

	Week/Commencing	Monday 10:00 – 11:00am	Thursday 10:00 – 11:00am
		Discourses of Youth Offending	
1	11 July	Introduction/What is Youth?	The Problem of Youth
		Understandings of Youth Offending	
2	18 July	Patterns of Criminality	Evolutionary Understandings
3	25 July	Individual and Situational Understandings	Social and Structural Understandings
		Contexts of Offending and Criminalisation	
4	1 August	Youth, Public Space and Disorder	Ethnicity, Youth and the Law
5	8 August	Bad Boys and Unruly Girls	Sex, Drugs and Social Media
6	15 August	Riots and Resistance	Subcultures

22 August to 4 September 2016

	Week/Commencing	Monday 10:00 – 11:00am	Thursday 10:00 – 11:00am
		Responses to Youth Offending	
7	5 September	Historical Responses to Youth Crime	Contemporary Responses to Youth Crime
8	12 September	Policing Youth Crime	Preventing Youth Crime
9	19 September	Youth as Victims	Youth Responses to Crime
		Future Horizons for a Youth Criminology	
10	26 September	Transgression and Pleasure	Digital Cultures
11	3 October	Youth Crime in Fiction	Implications of Climate Change
12	10 October	Summary and Exam Prep 1	Summary and Exam Prep 2

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Describe and explain youth and deviance as socially constructed categories;
2. Use key concepts and theories to analyse patterns of offending by youth;
3. Explain the impact of key social variables upon the offending and criminalisation of young people;
4. Compare and contrast a range of practices of youth justice.

Teaching format

The course combines lectures and tutorial activities in a format that aims to guide students through the major topic areas. There will be opportunity and encouragement for you to express your views and to engage in active learning with practical exercises.

Mandatory course requirements

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

1. Make a credible attempt at each assessment in order to demonstrate they have achieved the CLOs of the course.
2. Attend at least seven of nine tutorials.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs 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 this 20-point course equates to 200 hours study over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Journal Article Review (1000 words)	15%	1, 2, 3	4pm, August 4
2 Essay (2250-2500 words)	35%	2, 3,	4pm, September 8
3 Final Examination (2 hours)	50%	2, 3, 4	TBA

Journal Article Review (1000 words)

Date: 4pm, August 4

(Weighting 15%)

The journal article review requires you to engage with an empirical study into an area of youth and crime that you are interested in and to evaluate how that study has contributed to your understanding about that area.

You are to choose one of the journal articles below to review. In your review, you will need to: 1) provide a brief summary of the article; 2) provide a critical discussion of arguments raised in the article, and; 3) provide an evaluation of the contribution the article has made to your understanding of the topic.

Further information about how to go about this task will be given in tutorials.

1. O'Neal, E. N., Decker, S. H., Moule, R. K. (Jr.), & Pyrooz, D. C. (2016). Girls, gangs, and getting out: Gender differences and similarities in leaving the gang. *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, 14(1), 43-60.
2. Rafferty, R. & Vander Ven, T. (2014). 'I hate everything about you': A qualitative examination of cyberbullying and on-line aggression in a college sample. *Deviant Behavior*, 35(5), 364-377.
3. Ravulo, J. (2016). Pacific youth offending within an Australian context. *Youth Justice*, 16(1), 34-48.
4. Rowe, M. & Hutton, F. (2012). 'Is your city pretty anyway?' Perspectives on graffiti and the urban landscape. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 45(1), 66-86.

Essay 2500 words

Due: 4pm, September 8

(Weighting 35%)

This essay allows you to examine a key issue or idea related to the subject of youth and crime. You are encouraged to draw upon criminological theory where relevant to your discussion and to use empirical examples to illustrate your arguments.

1. Critically discuss the significance of the age/crime curve.
2. Critically evaluate the importance of peer relationships in youth offending.
3. Critically examine the relationship between youth, crime and urban space.
4. Critically discuss the role of 'risk factors' in youth offending profiles.
5. Critically examine the links between social media and offending by young people.
6. Maori youth are more likely to be prosecuted, convicted and sentenced than are any other ethnic group. Critically discuss this fact.
7. Critically discuss the differences in offending by female and male youth.

Final Examination

Date: TBC

(Weighting 50%)

In the examination you will be expected to demonstrate your knowledge of youth offending patterns, explain the impact of key social variables on young people's engagement with crime and compare and contrast practices of youth justice.

Assessment criteria

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 assignments must address and be relevant to the question or task set. Secondly, 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. Thirdly, you should acknowledge accurately the sources used, and should choose representative evidence. Fourthly, it is expected that your assignments will flow coherently, be succinct, be legible and well set out, be of reasonable length and show 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.

Submission and return of work

All written work should be placed in the essay box on the 9th floor of the Murphy building or sent to the course coordinator, Criminology Programme, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington 6140 by courier or registered mail postmarked **no later than 4pm on the due date**. Essays will be returned within tutorial times. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11:00 and 3:00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

All assessed work must be submitted by the specified date. You are expected to keep to these deadlines otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will only be granted in **unforeseen exceptional** circumstances, and must be sought from Sarah Wright sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz **prior** to the deadline.

Penalties

The word limit for each assessment can only be exceeded by a maximum of up to 10%. Any words submitted beyond the 10% limit will not be assessed.

Late submission of work **without an authorised extension** 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.

FAIL = All work handed in later than 72 hours (3 days)

Set texts

There is no set text for this course. Readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator

Recommended reading

Suggestions for further readings as well as links to relevant internet sites will be posted on Blackboard.

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

Students in 2015 agreed that the way the course was organised had helped them to learn. They were stimulated to learn more about the subject and were encouraged to think critically and creatively. Students also valued what they had learned from the course and they rated the quality of the course overall as very good to excellent. The course will be offered in a similar way for 2016.

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
School Administrators:	Suzanne Weaver, Debbie Evans, Gill Blomgren, MY921, Phone: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677, Email: sacs@vuw.ac.nz
School of Social and Cultural Studies:	www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs