SPRING SEMESTER 1984
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
CRIMINOLOGY 416/17/18 (EV)
Current Issues: Women in Prison

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Karlene Faith
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CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
A critical analysis of certain "hot" issues in criminology and criminal justice. The topics covered change from semester to semester.

Prerequisites: CRIM 101. Reserved for Criminology Majors, Honors and Minors. Others admitted only on written permission of the Department. (CRIM 131, 311, 241, 104, 320 and 103 are strongly recommended.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
In this course we will review classical and contemporary theories on women, crime and punishment. We will also consider first-person accounts by women in prison of the events that precede imprisonment and the obstacles to overcoming recidivist patterns. There will be a particular focus on incarceration, with a secondary emphasis on the criminal justice apparatus that processes felons prior to and following from imprisonment.

Among the questions we will be answering in this course: Who are the women who are locked up? What are their crimes? What are the historical and contemporary explanations for female crime trends? How do prisons for women differ from men's institutions? What is the historical basis for these differences? Our analysis will take into account the gender and class differentials that are reflected in criminal justice systems.

This study of the female offender will include a critical examination of traditional theories (e.g. determinist, opportunity, functionalist), and will introduce perspectives from