

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: L. Salter
Chair, SCAP

Subject: School of Criminology -
Curriculum revisions
Reference: SCUS 89-30
SCAP 89-39(b)

Date: November 9, 1989

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning/Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies gives rise to the following motion:

Motion:

"That Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors as set forth in S.89-46 the proposed

New course CRIM 213 - 3 The Female Offender"

For Information:

Revisions to course descriptions and prerequisites.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

JUL 13 1989

MEMORANDUM

FACULTY OF ARTS

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY

89-34

TO: Ellen Gee, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts
FROM: Brian Burtch, Undergraduate Director (Criminology)
RE: Proposed Calendar Changes in Criminology
DATE: July 12, 1989

The following proposals for Calendar changes to CRIM 104, 313, 333 were passed at our Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting on June 21, 1989. The addition of a new, second-year course - **The Female Offender** - was also approved by our U.C.C. These proposals have been circulated to our faculty for comments.

The attached recommendations for calendar changes are now being brought forward for consideration by the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Faculty of Arts Curriculum Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

PROPOSED CALENDAR CHANGES

1. CRIM 104 COURSE DESCRIPTION

CURRENT: CRIM 104, Sociological Explanations of Crime
An introduction to sociological and social psychological explanations of nonconformist conduct. This goal is accomplished through the critical examination of several distinct sociological perspectives of crime and deviance. These perspectives include: anomie theory, neutralization theory, control theory, group conflict theory, sub-cultural theory, ecological theory and functionalist theory. Also examines the assumptions upon which each of these theories is based. (Lecture/tutorial)
Prerequisite: SA 150 is recommended.

PROPOSED: CRIM 104, Sociological Explanations of Crime

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An introduction to sociological and social psychological explanations of nonconformist conduct. This goal is accomplished through the critical examination of several distinct sociological perspectives on crime and deviance. These perspectives include: anomie theory, neutralization theory, control theory, group conflict theory, sub-cultural theory, ecological theory, functionalist theory, and critical theory. Also examines the assumptions upon which each of these theories is based. (Lecture/tutorial)
Prerequisite: SA 150 is recommended.

RATIONALE: The current description of CRIM 104 is dated, and does not reflect the continuing interest in critical theories of deviance (e.g., Marxist, neo-Marxist, feminist theories). The proposed change would more accurately reflect the course content and approach.

2. CRIM 313 COURSE DESCRIPTION

CURRENT: SPECIFIC TYPES OF CRIMES

Critical analysis of specific types of crimes with particular emphasis on the nature, the incidence, correlates, control and prevention. Special attention will be given to white collar crime, computer crime, organized crime, violent crime, political crimes, sexual offenders, professional crimes, etc. (Seminar)
Prerequisite: CRIM 101.

PROPOSED: SPECIFIC TYPES OF CRIMES

Critical analysis of a specific type of crime with particular emphasis on the nature, the incidence, correlates, control and prevention. Special attention may be given to white collar crime, computer crime, organized crime, violent crime, political crimes, sexual offence, professional crime, morality crime, etc. (Seminar)
Prerequisite: CRIM 101.

RATIONALE: For approximately 10 years, this seminar has served as an in-depth presentation of research and theory in a particular area; e.g., robbery, illicit drug use, homicide, and prostitution. The proposed change more accurately reflects this focus on a particular crime, rather than the wide-ranging set of crimes in the current Calendar description.

3. CRIM 333 COURSE DESCRIPTION

CURRENT: CRIM 333 Women, Law and the State

This course will provide an in-depth consideration of the relationship of women to the state and the law. The nature of the contribution of criminal and family law to the reproduction of gender relations will be analyzed. The implications of legal intervention and non-intervention in family relations, sex-specific and sex-related legislation will be examined. Theoretical concepts and issues such as patriarchal relations, sexuality and reproduction, and formal and informal control will be addressed.

(Seminar)

Prerequisites: CRIM 101 and CRIM 135 or CRIM 230

PROPOSED: "This course will provide an in-depth consideration of feminist perspectives on the relationship of women to the state and the law..."

RATIONALE: The feminist orientation in this seminar is made explicit by the instructors, but there has been a problem with students entering the seminar on the basis of the calendar description. The inclusion of "feminist perspectives" thus provides a more accurate reflection of the content of this course.

4. CRIM 338 PREREQUISITE

CRIMINOLOGY 338: PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

CURRENT: Prerequisites: Students with credit for CRIM 130-3 may not take CRIM 338 for further credit.

PROPOSED: Prerequisites: CRIM 101. Students with credit for CRIM 130-3 may not take CRIM 338 for further credit.

RATIONALE: CRIM 338 is the only upper-level, Criminology course that does not list CRIM 101 (Introduction to Criminology) as an automatic prerequisite. This is an oversight, as the Calendar description for CRIM 101 (p. 155) includes the following: "NOTE: CRIM 101 is a prerequisite for all upper division Criminology courses unless waiver is granted with the special permission of the school." The proposed change would thus correct an oversight in the Calendar description for CRIM 338.

NOTE: CRIM 130 (Philosophy of Law) has not been offered for several years.

5. CRIMINOLOGY 343: CHANGE OF CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

CURRENT:

Criminology 343: Correctional Practice I

A consideration of the range of techniques in current correctional practice employed to manage and reform the offender; characteristics of the correctional client and receptivity toward rehabilitation; explanations for failure; the non-treatment effects of imprisonment; trends toward privatization and deinstitution of techniques. (Seminar)
Prerequisites: CRIM 101. CRIM 241 is strongly recommended.
Students with credit for CRIM 340-3 may not take CRIM 343-3 for further credit.

PROPOSED:

Criminology 343: Correctional Practice I

A consideration of the range of techniques in current correctional practice employed to manage and reform the offender; characteristics of the correctional client and receptivity toward rehabilitation; explanations for failure; the non-treatment effects of imprisonment; trends toward privatization and deinstitutionalization. (Seminar)
Prerequisites: CRIM 101. CRIM 241 is strongly recommended.
Students with credit for CRIM 340-3 may not take CRIM 343-3 for further credit.

RATIONALE: The final sentence has been amended to remove a superfluous reference ("of techniques), and to replace "deinstitution" with "deinstitutionalization", the preferred neologism.

NEW COURSE OFFERING: THE FEMALE OFFENDER

Briefly, this proposed course will provide a foundation for students interested in criminal justice and the female offender. This course will also increase our relatively small number of second-year Criminology course offerings (five, in the current Calendar) at S.F.U., and provide an important teaching avenue for faculty who are currently contributing to research on female offenders. As Undergraduate Director, I am very supportive of this initiative, and look forward to your comments and suggestions.

Thank you for your consideration of these proposed course changes.

c.c S. Verdun-Jones
D. Palliser

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL FORM

1. Calendar Information

Department: CRIMINOLOGY

Abbreviation Code: CRIM Course Number: 213

Credit Hours: 3 Vector: 2-1-0

Title of Course: The Female Offender.

Calendar Description of Course: This course offers an historical and analytical overview of the female offender, taking into account the function of gender in both criminality and social responses to crime. Specific emphasis will be given to feminist theories. Attention will focus on the specific crimes for which girls and women are most often convicted, and patterns of control and punishment.

Nature of Course (Lecture/Tutorial)

Prerequisites (or special instructions): None.

What course (courses), if any, is being dropped from the calendar if this course is approved: None.

2. Scheduling

How frequently will the course be offered? Once a year.

Semester in which the course will first be offered? Fall 1990.

Which of your present faculty would be available to make the proposed offering possible? Dr. Karlene Faith, Dr. Melody Hessing, Ms. Joan Brockman.

3. Objectives of the Course

It is primarily intended that this course will provide a needed foundation for students majoring in Criminology who wish to either (a) acquire a basic understanding of the female offender vis-a-vis both the criminal justice system and criminological theory, or (b) establish a knowledge base for more advanced research in this area. Secondly, it is expected that this course would be of interest to non-Majors who have a particular or general interest

4. Budgetary and Space Requirements (for information only) in gender issues.

What additional resources will be required in the following areas:

Faculty	<u>None</u>
Staff	<u>None</u>
Library	<u>None</u>
Audio Visual	<u>None</u>
Space	<u>None</u>
Equipment	<u>None</u>

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

JUL 1 1990

CLERK

5. Approval

Date: 26th Aug 89. 11/1/90

X Samuel RCB am BR JS
Department Chairman Dean Chairman, SCUS

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Brian Burtch, Director
Criminology Undergraduate Program

FROM: Karlene Faith

SUBJECT: Calendar Addition

DATE: June 26, 1989

It is hereby requested that a new course, to be titled "The Female Offender," be approved as a regular calendar-listed offering at the 200 level.

The following includes:

- I. Proposed Calendar Description;
- II. Rationale and Discussion;
- III. Course Outline;
- IV. Selected Bibliography.

I. Proposed Calendar Description

TITLE: CRIM 213-3: The Female Offender

This course offers an historical and analytical overview of the female offender, taking into account the function of gender in both criminality and social responses to crime. Specific emphasis will be given to feminist theories. Attention will focus on the specific crimes for which girls and women are most often convicted, and patterns of control and punishment. (No prerequisite) (Lecture/Tutorial)

II. Rationale and Discussion

- 1. It is primarily intended that this course will provide a needed foundation for students majoring in Criminology who wish to either (a) acquire a basic understanding of the female offender vis-a-vis both the criminal justice system and criminological theory, or (b) establish a knowledge base for more advanced research in this area. Secondly, it is expected that this course would be of interest to non-majors who have a particular or general interest in gender issues.

2. Literature on the female offender has proliferated during the past two decades (see bibliography) and the trend promises to continue.
3. Given the general overview nature of the proposed course, it is expected that the course could be offered on a regular basis. Qualified instructors would be available from within the School of Criminology, including Karlene Faith, Joan Brockman and Melody Hessing.
4. The proposed course does not replicate any existing course at SFU, and is to be distinguished from four female-related criminology courses which have been taught previously. The following is a brief discussion of those four courses, with perspective on curriculum development in the area of feminist criminology.

a) CRIM 333-3 - Women, Law and the State

This course has been offered on a regular basis since 1984, when it was initiated by Shelley Gavigan. In the past several years it has been taught primarily by Dorothy Chunn, Adjunct Professor of the School of Criminology, and also by Karlene Faith. This course includes (minimal) attention to the female offender but is more generally concerned with family law, female victimization, protective legislation and criminal law, reproduction and medicalization, and so on, with an emphasis on the function of the state in maintenance of and/or change in gender relations.

b) CRIM 416/7/8-3 - The Female as Political Offender

This Special Topics course was offered, for the first time, at SFU in the spring, 1989. Student response suggests that it may be appropriate to offer this course on a regular basis. However, the scholarly research is still in the nascent stages, and the course should remain as a "special" topic until such time as the literature justifies a curriculum commitment. The proposed course on "the female offender" would be an appropriate prerequisite for this Special Topics course, which draws on political theory for advanced study of female offenders convicted of political crime.

c) Women and the Criminal Justice System

Since 1972 to recently, Dr. Faith has taught variations of this course under numerous titles (e.g. "Women in Prison."). Given that this course has almost invariably provided students with their only or introductory contact with material inclusive of the female, it has been imperative to present a broad survey of i) female as victim; ii) female as criminal defendant; iii) female incarceration; iv) women

working in criminal justice. The theme of "female as victim" is now covered substantially in CRIM 333-3, and has been a component of numerous special topics courses and other regular criminology offerings. It would be similarly useful to offer an occasional special topics course on women in policing, corrections, etc. The proposed course on "the female offender" will allow for more focused attention on the female as criminal defendant and female incarceration.

d) CRIM 311-3 - Minorities and the Criminal Justice System

The female offender constitutes just one unit of this course as it is offered on campus. The distance education version, which Dr. Faith co-authored with Dr. Yerbury, has a major section on the female offender, which follows an abbreviated outline of "women and the criminal justice system" as discussed above. Currently CRIM 311-3 is the only course with material on the female offender (et al) which is available to distance education students. If another course (e.g. CRIM 333 or the proposed "female offender" course) were to be developed for distance learners, the section on women in CRIM 311-3 would be significantly reduced.

III. Proposed Course Outline

Title: CRIM 213-3 - The Female Offender

Texts: Frances Heidensohn, Women & Crime. London: MacMillan, 1985.
 Ellen Adelberg and Claudia Currie, (Eds.) Too Few to Count: Canadian Women in Conflict with the Law.
 Vancouver: Press Gang, 1987.

Course Description

This course offers an historical and analytical overview of the female offender, taking into account the function of gender in both criminality and social responses to crime. Specific emphasis will be given to feminist theories. Attention will focus on the specific crimes for which girls and women are most often convicted, and patterns of control and punishment (No prerequisite) (Lecture/Tutorial).

Evaluation

Tutorial Participation	15%
Mid-Term Exam	25%
Essay	30%
Final Exam	30%

Weekly Topic Schedule

1. Introduction and Statistical Overview.
2. Traditional Theoretical Perspectives on Gender, Crime and Social Control.
3. Contemporary Theoretical Perspectives on Gender Construction, Crime and Social Control.
4. Prostitution and the Sexualization of Female Offenders.
5. Property Crime and Gender Division
6. Crimes of Violence by Women.
7. Special Categories: Native Women and the Young Offender.
8. Mid-Term Exam.
9. Female Incarceration in Canada: Provincial/Federal Overview.
10. Sexual Politics of Prison Social Organization.
11. Media Images of Women in Prison.

12. Alternative Responses to Female Criminality (to include discussions with women incarcerated in B.C. correctional facilities).
13. Summary and Conclusions.