

**WOODSWORTH COLLEGE – UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAM – SIENA, ITALY
AUGUST 2024**

CRI389Y0: *Current Issues in International Criminology*

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PRELIMINARY COURSE OUTLINE

This course is designed to introduce students to current issues in international criminology. Students will be exposed to recent research and policy debates that are relevant in both Europe and North America. The course will explore the following nine topics: 1) Cross-national patterns of crime and violence; 2) The mafia and the growth of international organized crime; 3) Immigration, crime, and crime control; 4) Hate crime; 5) Street gangs and youth violence; 6) Radicalization and “homegrown” terrorism; 7) International patterns of gendered violence; 8) Corporate crime within the international economy; and 9) International trends in crime prevention and punishment. The teaching format will consist of formal lectures, seminar discussions, organized debates, films, and field trips.

II. Required Readings

This course is designed like a graduate seminar. Students will be responsible for two required readings for each class. All required readings will be posted on the formal course website (Quercus) by June 15th, 2024. It is strongly advised that students download all required readings before departing for Italy to avoid potential problems with internet access. The readings will also be available from Professor Owusu-Bempah in Siena. Students are advised to complete the required readings *before* each class and come ready to discuss findings, controversies, and policy implications during seminar discussions.

III. Classes

Classes are held Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to Noon. The first class will run from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm following the academic orientation session. The classroom location will be announced at the On-Site Orientation.

IV. Field Trips

All dates are tentative or yet to be determined. All trip dates will be posted on the Course Website by June 15th, 2024.

1. Sienna Police Headquarters, Forensics Unit and Immigration Processing Centre – followed by lunch at an inmate rehabilitation restaurant: **Date:** TBA;
2. Tour and Dinner at Volterra Maximum Security Prison: **Date:** TBA;
3. Three Day/Two Night Trip to Rome (includes Tour of the Colosseum and ancient Rome; Tour of the Vatican; Visit to the Italian Museum of Criminology; Night tour of Rome to explore the city's long history of crime and violence): **Date:** TBA;
4. Tour of Tuscan Wineries (to discuss relationship between alcohol, drugs and crime): **Date:** TBA;
5. Day Trip to Florence (includes visit to the Uffizi Gallery to explore themes of justice within Renaissance art; the Dark Heart of Florence night walking tour, etc.): **Date:** TBA;

V. Method of Evaluation

- One (3 page) Reaction Paper 10%
- Book Report Assignment: 30%
- Test # One: 20%
- Test # Two: 25%
- Participation: 15%

REACTION PAPERS -- (approximately 3 pages in length) are to be based on the required readings for a particular topic. These papers are due in class the same day that topics are reviewed. Students have to write one reaction paper – on the topic of their choice. Students can focus their discussion on a particular reading or compare the content of several readings. Further details about the reaction papers will be posted on the course website by May 1st, 2024.

BOOK REPORT: Students will be given a choice of three books to read. A 10-15-page book report will be required on the student's selection. Book reports should consist of a concise book summary or description, a critical analysis of the book's strengths and weaknesses and a discussion of its policy implications. Book titles and publication information will be posted on the course website by May 1st, 2024. Thus, students will be given the opportunity to begin – or even complete -- this assignment in advance of the course start date. It is strongly advised that students purchase or otherwise acquire the book of their choice before leaving for Italy.

TESTS: There will be two tests in this course. The first test will be held at the mid-point of the course. The second test will be held at the end of the course. These tests will consist of

short answer questions, and cover material presented in the lectures and readings. The second test is non-cumulative (covering only the material taught after the first test). Multiple-choice questions will not be used.

PARTICIPATION: Attendance in class and on field trips is a basic requirement of this program. However, being present does not in itself earn high marks for participation. Rather, participation marks are also awarded for active attention and constructive participation in class discussions and debates, for clear evidence of having completed the assigned readings, and for focused attention and cooperative participation on the field trips.

Note on Plagiarism from the University of Toronto Academic Integrity Handbook

Plagiarism is the most common academic offence. Plagiarism includes failing to cite sources AND/OR failing to place within quotation marks material taken verbatim from a source, regardless of whether the material is acknowledged with a citation. **Failure to use quotation marks is an academic offence.** The inclusion of false, misleading, or concocted references is an offence which often occurs in conjunction with plagiarism. This can be a product of sloppy research or a deliberate attempt to mislead the reader into thinking that the paper has been properly researched and cited. Both are inappropriate, the latter much more so. “If you do not tell your reader where you found the material or idea by providing an accurate reference to the source from which you borrowed it or if you don’t place within quotation marks material taken word for word, this is plagiarism.”

VII. Instructor

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