

**WOODSWORTH COLLEGE – UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAM – TOURS, FRANCE
JUNE-JULY 2026**

**SOC393Y0 (Special Topics): *Crime, Migration and Social Control
(Tours)***

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PRELIMINARY COURSE OUTLINE

This interdisciplinary course offers a unique lens through which to examine the intricate dynamics of crime, migration, and social control on a global scale. The program is designed to provide students with a deep understanding of the complex interrelations between migration patterns, the burgeoning sphere of transnational organized crime, and the varied mechanisms of social control employed both in Europe and around the world. By situating the course in a region renowned for its historical significance and cultural heritage, students will engage with these global issues within a local context, offering a rich comparative perspective. The course will explore the following nine topics: 1) Historical Perspectives on Migration and Social Control; 2) Global Migration Trends and Security Implications; 3) Transnational Organized Crime and Migration; 4) Policing Migration and Border Control; 5) Legal Frameworks and International Agreements on Migration; 6) Social Control Mechanisms in Different Jurisdictions; 7) Integration and Community Relations; 8) The Ethics of Migration Control and Human Rights; and 9) Role of NGOs and Civil Society in Migration Management. The teaching format will consist of formal lectures, seminar discussions, organized debates, films, and field trips.

Required Readings

This course is designed in the format of a graduate seminar, encouraging active participation and thoughtful discussion. Each class will include two required readings, which will be available on the course website (Quercus) by May 16, 2026. To avoid any potential challenges with internet access, we recommend downloading the materials before leaving for Tours. Please take the time to complete the readings before each class so you can fully engage in our conversations, exploring key findings, debates, and their implications. I look forward to lively and insightful discussions together!

Classes

Classes are held Monday to Thursday from 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.

Field Trips

Students will learn through a mix of class-based and experiential learning. The course will include several field trips to provide a closer look at the major themes explored in the course. The following are a tentative list of these visits.

1. Day trip in Tours to examine cultural insights and community integration (including visits to the Château de Tours and a migrant and asylum settlement agency).
2. Day trip to Paris to explore the French immigration landscape and national policing apparatus (including guided tours of the National Museum of Immigration History and the National Gendarmerie Museum).
3. Day trip to Nantes to explore French involvement in the transatlantic slave trade and its modern implications (including tours of the Nantes History Museum, the Memorial to the Abolition of Slavery and an Urban Itinerary Tour).
4. Day trip in Tours to visit the Municipal Police to learn about local crime and law enforcement issues, and about municipal level policing in France.

Method of Evaluation

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| 1. Book Report Assignment: | 35% |
| 2. Test One: | 25% |
| 3. Test Two: | 25% |
| 4. Participation: | 15% |

Book Report: Students will have the option to choose from three books for this assignment. A 10-15-page book report based on the selected book will be required. The report should include a clear and concise summary or description of the book, a critical analysis of its strengths and weaknesses, and a thoughtful discussion of its policy implications. The book titles and publication details will be posted on the course website by May 1, 2025, giving students the opportunity to begin—or even complete—the assignment before the course begins. It is highly recommended that students purchase or otherwise acquire their chosen book prior to traveling to France.

Tests: This course includes two tests. The first test will take place midway through the course, and the second will be held at the end. Both tests will feature short-answer questions and will assess material covered in the lectures and readings. The second test is non-cumulative, focusing exclusively on content introduced after the first test.

Participation: Attendance in class and on field trips is a fundamental expectation of this program. However, simply being present is not sufficient to earn high participation marks. Participation grades are awarded based on active engagement and meaningful contributions to class discussions and debates, clear evidence of having completed the assigned readings, and attentive, cooperative involvement during 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.”

Instructor

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