*** DRAFT SYLLABUS ***

SOC 40080 – CRIME AND SOCIAL CONTROL

UCD School of Sociology
Semester One, 2010-11

Aogán Mulcahy
Office: Room F318, Newman Building
Tel: 716-8388; E-mail: aogan.mulcahy@ucd.ie

Module Description
This seminar examines the broad links between crime and social control, and focuses in particular on issues related to punishment and policing. The course draws heavily on several bodies of criminological literature to help us find our way through various theoretical perspectives and contemporary debates surrounding the nature of social control and the provision of security in modern society. Our primary concern will be to consider and debate a series of interrelated questions: (1) How have the major sociological theorists and traditions conceptualised crime, the role of law and the nature of punishment and social control, and what implications do these theories have for the operation of ‘justice’ – or even the possibility of achieving it – in contemporary society? (2) How do the contours of social control relate to wider features of contemporary society, particularly in terms of inequality, democracy, political division and social change? (3) What are the likely futures of policing and security provision?

We begin with an introductory session to orient ourselves to the broad nature of the course, and then proceed to discussion of how some of the main theoretical traditions in sociology have conceptualized social control. This will involve discussion of these various theorists as well the work of others who have adopted these perspectives and applied them in criminological settings. The module then examines a range of contemporary debates and issues in the broad field of social control, including how culture, gender and race impact on social control. The remainder of the module considers the diversification of policing and security provision, and the relationship between policing and political division, looking in detail at historical and recent developments in Northern Ireland.

Learning Outcomes
Students who successfully complete this module should be able to:
• Describe and assess various sociological theories on the nature of social control:
• Describe, assess and critique various debates surrounding the nature of social control in contemporary society;
• Outline and assess key debates on future trends in policing, and the role of the state and marketplace in the provision of security.

Reading
While there is no single text that covers the all of the exact set of issues discussed in this seminar, we will be reading Garland’s Punishment and Modern Society in its entirety and I urge you to buy it. We also will be drawing on a number of other key texts that, as well as a significant number of additional readings, available through the Library, Blackboard, or to be distributed over the semester.

Required Text:

Other Useful Texts:
**Format:**
This course will adopt a seminar format. This will involve a general review of the main dimensions of each seminar topic, and a detailed discussion of the seminar readings. A number of statements and questions are provided for each seminar topic. We will try to address these and other/better/more interesting ones that arise during the seminars. Heavy silences are acceptable from time to time, but I expect everyone to speak in every seminar. The list of readings is intended as a resource for additional reading beyond this module, as well as for your essay. You are not expected to read every reading in advance of each seminar, but all students enrolled in this module are expected to complete some of the assigned reading in advance of each seminar, and be prepared and willing to discuss this material and any issues that arise from it.

**Assessment:**
Assessment for this module is as follows:

- **70 %** of the module assessment is for an essay of 3,000-4,000 words written specifically for this module. The essay must address a theoretical/empirical issue covered in or closely related to the course material. A list of essay titles will be circulated later in the semester. Students may, if they wish, choose a different title, but if so you must do this in consultation with me. The essay is to be submitted by the end of the semester. Guidelines for this essay will be provided over the course of the semester.

- **30 %** of the module assessment is reviews of specific readings. Students must submit 6 of these assessments (worth 5% each), choosing from set readings for different seminar topics. Each should be approximately 250-350 words in length. They should aim to provide: (1) a concise summary, and (2) a critical analysis of the main arguments being presented in these readings. The reviews are to be submitted in the week following seminar discussion of the relevant topics, on an ongoing basis over the course of the semester.

**MODULE OUTLINE**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Durkheim, Social Solidarity and Censure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Marxism and Critical Criminology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Foucault, Power and Discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Culture, Sensibilities and Social Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gender and Social Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Race, Policing and Mass Imprisonment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>No seminar – reading week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Policing and Political Division I: The Northern Ireland Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Policing and Political Division II: The Patten Report &amp; Police Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Private Security and the Diversification of Policing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rethinking the Governance of Security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that the module structure may be changed over the course of the semester if appropriate.*
SEMINAR TOPICS AND READINGS

1 (Week Beginning Sept. 13) – Introduction and Orientation

Lecture Reading:

Discussion Question:
- *If you were the grand wizard of the world, you would change the criminal justice system by doing...???*

2 (Week Beginning Sept. 20) – Durkheim, Social Solidarity and Censure

Lecture Readings:
- *Criminological Perspectives* – Durkheim (7 - ‘The Normal and the Pathological’)
- *Criminological Perspectives* – Braithwaite (34 – ‘Reintegrative Shaming’).

Discussion Questions:
- *What is normal behaviour? What is deviant behaviour?*
- *If you didn’t have a scapegoat, you’d need to invent one.*
- *It may be useful to identify deviants, but is it also harmful?*
- *How easy is it to shed a deviant label?*
- *Durkheim was a relativist.*
- *But things are getting worse.*
- *How useful/appropriate/effective is shaming as a means of punishment and/or reintegration?*

3 (Week Beginning Sept. 27) – Marxism & Critical Criminology

Lecture Readings:
- *Punishment and Modern Social Theory*, Chs. 4-5
- *Criminological Perspectives* – 21 (Chambliss), 22 (Taylor et al), 23 (Box), 25 (Scraton and Chadwick), and 27 (Young).

Discussion Questions:
- *Property is theft.*
- *Of course law and social control reflects power structures in society, what did you expect????*
- *Is ‘mercy’ really an ideological tool of the powerful?*
- *Why would socially deprived individuals victimise other socially deprived individuals?*
- *Law is contradictory.*
- *It’s not the detail of law, but the categories of ‘individual’, ‘property owner,’ etc, that are important.*
- *Capitalism brutalises people, but it’s the price we have to pay for economic development.*
- *What are the core features of ‘left idealism’ and ‘left realism’? Is it valid to distinguish between them?*
4 (Week Beginning Oct. 4) – Foucault, Power and Discipline

Lecture Readings:
- Garland – *Punishment and Modern Society*, Chs. 6-7

Discussion Questions:
- What is Foucault actually saying? What is his central argument?
- Who’s watching you?
- If the panopticon was so successful, there would be more of them.
- Does social control function from the outside in, or the inside out?
- CCTV makes me feel safe
- Panopticon vs synopticon?
- Discipline may have its bad points, but at least it moves us away from torture and brutality.

5 (Week beginning Oct. 11) – Culture, Sensibilities and Social Control

Lecture Readings:
- *Punishment and Modern Society*, Chs. 9-12.
- *Criminological Perspectives* – Ch. 50 (Ferrell)

Discussion Questions:
- Sensibilities are about fashion, not about institutions of social control.
- I’ve heard that phrase before – ‘Three strikes and you’re out’.
- What kind of punishment offends you most?
- I like the police because...
- What meanings do you most associate with policing and punishment? Why?
- If crime is linked with culture, then it’s simply a matter of fixing that culture.
- Graffiti is vandalism.
- The city is mine.
- Resistance sounds romantic, but in reality it’s all crime and it’s all harmful.
- What do you ‘know’ about policing? How do you know it?

6 (Week Beginning Oct. 18) – Gender and Social Control

Lecture Readings:
- *Criminological Perspectives* – Chs. 4 (Lombroso & Ferrero), 43 (Smart), 44 (Daly)


Discussion Questions:
- Women would be okay if they weren’t so emotional.
- Do all women speak with the same voice? Do all men?
- Can there be a feminist criminology?
- What has criminology ever done for women?
- A feminist justice system would look like what exactly?
- Why do women commit so little crime?
- Why do men commit so much crime?

7 (Week Beginning Oct. 25) – No Seminar – Reading Week

8 (Week Beginning Nov. 1) – Race, Urban Inequality and Mass Imprisonment

Lecture Readings:

Discussion Questions:
- Mass imprisonment is the price we pay for keeping criminals off the streets.
- What is the right amount of imprisonment in a society? How much is enough, too much, too little?
- Market society destroys people and communities.
- Is Ireland a market society? If yes, should this be changed? If no, should this be changed?
- If you were the grand wizard of the world, you would change the prison system by doing...???
- Criminal justice policies are not racist if they don’t specifically target particular ethnic groups.
- The problem is inequality, not race or racism.

9 (Week Beginning Nov. 8) – Policing Northern Ireland I

Lecture Readings:

Additional Reading:
Discussion questions:
- What were the main features of policing and security in Northern Ireland prior to the outbreak of the Troubles?
- What were the key developments in policing during the Northern Ireland conflict?
- What were the key dynamics between the RUC’s role in terms of state security and in terms of responding to ordinary crime?
- Compare police relations with nationalists/republicans, and with unionists/loyalists.
- Through what strategies was police legitimacy sought throughout the Troubles?
- What was the dynamic between paramilitary and ‘ordinary’ crime during the conflict?

10 (Week Beginning Nov. 15) – Policing Northern Ireland II

Lecture Readings:
  <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/issues/police/patten/patten99.pdf> [Especially Chapters 1-7.]

Discussion questions:
- Is the Patten Report really a ‘model’ for policing reform internationally?
- What is meant by the ‘Northern Ireland Policing Model’?
- The Patten Report recommendations have been implemented successfully in Northern Ireland. This has improved the quality of policing in Northern Ireland. Discuss.
- Why has the Irish Republic not adopted the Patten Report?

11 (Week Beginning Nov. 22) – Private Security and the Diversification of Policing

Lecture Readings:

Discussion Questions:
• The more security the merrier.
• Private security is good security.
• What is a ‘public good’? Is security one?
• Fortress LA maybe, but Fortress Dublin?
• Is a rich society a safe one?
• What is the proper role of the state in the provision or regulation of security?
• What is the relationship between private and public space? What role do communal places play in contemporary society?
• What is a risk? Can risks be eradicated?
• Governance is for government, not for people.
• What is the new penology? How does it differ from the old one?
• What are the limits of the sovereign state?
• I feel safe.

12 (Week Beginning Nov. 29) – Rethinking the Governance of Security

Lecture Readings:

Discussion Questions:
• What is a network? What is node?
• How can states have a ‘governance deficit’?
• Who is best equipped to provide security? In terms of technical expertise, cost-effectiveness, legitimacy?
• Could the nodal governance model advocated in the Patten Report ever work in Northern Ireland? In the Irish Republic? In Nenagh?
• Is the place of the state in the production of security really a legitimate one? Explain.
• What is the likely future of security provision? Where will the state/the market/communities fit in this?