

# SOCI 436 <sup>1</sup> - Issues in Sociology and Social Justice (Spring 2025)

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**Instructor:** Dr. Eugene Emeka Dim

## **Course Description and Objectives:**

Every criminal justice policy and operation is a political decision. Our ideas and experiences of crime, punishment, and the criminal can inform our evaluation and perception of the political system. This course explores the linkages between politics and crime. This course will also explore how individuals are implicated in the interaction between the political and criminal justice systems.

Through this course, you will gain a better and deeper understanding of the linkage between the polity and criminal justice system and how this linkage influences the lives of the average individual. The course will attempt to demonstrate the interaction of politics and human rights abuses, including state-sanctioned violence, and genocide.

## **Course Prerequisites:**

Students attending this class should have a minimum fourth-year standing, have a declared honours or major in Sociology, or be given permission from the department to take this course.

It is recommended that prior to taking this class, the student should have taken SOCI 206 and SOCI 331, and any one of: SOCI 215, SOCI 312, SOCI 313, SOCI 316, or SOCI 355.

## **Topics May Include:**

Some of the topics we will cover for this course include: the state and death; the politics of punishment; the linkages between the state, crime, and the individual; corruption; the state and corporate crime; state violence; and police brutality.

## **Format of Classes:**

This course will be delivered in person. We will also have several in-class activities that are geared towards introducing you to some of the key pieces of the course objectives over the term. The lecture will be held on Mondays from 2:30 pm to 5:20 pm.

## **Required Resources:**

There are no official textbooks you need to buy. Scanned chapters from various textbooks and copies of required journal articles will be uploaded to Brightspace.

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<sup>1</sup> This outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. A detailed course outline will be made available in August before the first day of class. Only that outline is to be considered official.