

CRIME AND POPULAR CULTURE FINALTAKE-HOME

Choose TWO of the following alternatives and complete them according to the requirements discussed in class. In all your answers, you need to use the required readings, theories analyzed in class, class activities, class discussions, and popular culture works shown in class to develop your answers. This take-home exam tests how well you can apply what we did in class to the following questions. What we did in class must be the central aspect of your responses. Some of the popular culture works that we showed and discussed in class may not be easily available to watch again. You don't need to watch them again. You need to work with the notes you took in class. **Evaluation criteria:** Please refer to the SOLO taxonomy included in the course syllabus. **Submission:** You need to hand in this evaluation personally on March 31, 2016 at 11.30 am IN CLASS, followed –if requested- by an email. There are no other submission dates or places. The suggested maximum page limit is 5 double-spaced pages for the whole test.

- 1) What role, if any, does Criminal law play in shaping popular culture? What role, if any, plays popular culture in shaping Criminal Law?
- 2) Laura Quintana, a Freudian psychologist, argues that “some individuals who experience a feeling of guilt commit crimes so that they will be arrested. In this way, their feeling of guilt will be alleviated.” Discuss this quote and find popular culture works that exemplify this quote.
- 3) Discuss the police detectives' approach to crime investigation in Law and Order's episode “The Siren Call”. Discuss Captain Ross' comment: “Subtext: The whole Department will alibi him”. Also discuss the role of media in covering the crime.
- 4) Describe and analyze the Orson, IN town as depicted in The Middle in light of Broken Windows theory. Describe the Hecks family and their neighbour, Rita Glossner. What crimes, if any, are committed? Who commits the crimes? Why? Can the Broken Windows theory be used to explain criminality in Orson?
- 5) Read the excerpt from Sigmund Freud (Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego, 1922) posted on the course website (class activities). What is identification according to this text? What is mental infection? How could you explain the reaction of the victims that came forward in Bill Cosby's case based on Freud's theories of identification? What role, if any, do mainstream and social media play in the victims' coming forward? Why isn't there a statute of limitations for indictable offences in Canada?
- 6) Discuss the children's accusations against Lucas in the film The Hunt. Why did Klara kiss Lucas? Is it normal for children to feel this way? Why did Klara lie about Lucas? Why do all the children tell the same story? How can you explain this phenomenon?
- 7) Watch the film The Wave (2008) directed by Dennis Gansel and analyze it in light of the theories and principles discussed in class.
- 8) Discuss the notion of plea bargain and give some examples from popular culture shown or discussed in class. What are the pros and cons of plea bargains? What are the usual consequences and implications of plea bargaining?
- 9) Choose one of the following classic TV police shows: Columbo, Murder, She Wrote, Starsky and Hutch, CHiPs, Hart to Hart, or Matlock. Discuss the following questions about the selected show: (i) What is original about the show? What is the main police officer/investigator like? What is his/her approach to crime control? What is the criminology theory that predominates in the TV show? What is the model of criminal justice that predominates in the TV show?