

Criminology 312: Criminological Perspectives on Social Problems

Instructor: Neil Boyd

Summer, 2004

Final Examination

1. Please double space your responses.
2. You must answer two of the following three questions.
3. There is a word limit of no more than 1,500 words for each of your two responses.
4. This is a take-home final examination. All papers are due no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday August 3rd. Papers must be placed in the Security Deposit Box, School of Criminology, West Mall Complex.

1. "Canadian obscenity law serves to protect the equality interests of Canadian men and women, particularly Canadian women". Discuss the strengths, weaknesses and ultimate accuracy of this statement, with reference to your knowledge gained from classroom discussions, and course materials. (15 marks).
2. The text, The Pursuit of Oblivion, argues that prohibition has changed the problem of drug abuse from a minor public health irritant to a major social difficulty, one that historically been linked to violence and political corruption. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the major arguments made in this text (15 marks).
3. Many media analysts and academic commentators have argued that Canada of 2004 is a more violent place in which to live than Canada of the early 1970s. Discuss the validity of this assertion, and the rationale for your answer, with reference to your text, classroom discussions, *Violence in Canada* and the materials in your course reader. (15 marks).