



The 2023 CrimSL Graduate Student Conference

Call for Abstracts

The Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, at the University of Toronto, invites graduate students from across the country to attend the *2023 Graduate Student Conference* on **September 22 – 23, 2023**. This year's theme is *Legal Contradictions: Identifying Iterations of Us versus Them*. The purpose of the conference is to shed a unique light on the letter of the law, engage in conversations about coercive powers of exclusion, and consider the tensions and conflicting messages that exist within our adversarial criminal justice system. The conference is meant to provide attendees with new analytical insights on the contradictions inherent and implied, in both formal and informal laws and customs, as understood from criminological, legal, and sociolegal perspectives. The theme is also centered on the disparate impact that legal, pseudo-legal, and informal practices have on racial, ethnic, and political groups, and which ultimately create 'us versus them' dichotomies.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- How does 'violence,' broadly construed, both uphold and undermine a democratic society?
- How does the use of 'violence,' broadly construed, entrench the practice of othering?
- What is the relationship between othering and colonialism? How is othering informed by colonialism?
- The politics of resistance and belonging
- Consider policing, sousveillance, and surveillance strategies that are deployed in carceral and/or non-carceral settings (i.e., among private citizens in society).
- Punishment in the absence of a formal conviction: pretrial detention; the bail system; the presumption of innocence and the prevalence of guilty pleas; wrongful convictions; the treatment of inmates within the correctional system; etc.
- The reverberating effects and collective impact of incarceration. For example, consider the ways in which families are treated and (in)formally punished by the criminal justice system despite being both factually and legally innocent.
- Conceptions of risk, risk aversion, actuarial justice, and management/managerialism within the criminal justice system.
- (The functions of) race and racism in the criminal justice system.
- Political violence and repression.

Location:

Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto
Canadiana Gallery
14 Queen's Park Crescent West, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 3K9

Please note:

This year's conference will be held **in person and registration is required for all attendees via Eventbrite**. [Please register here on Eventbrite](#). While we warmly invite graduate students from across the country to attend the conference, presenters and all conference attendees are responsible for making their own travel and lodging arrangements. If you would like assistance with locating accommodation close to the conference, please contact the Committee using the contact details at the end of this document.

Submission Guidelines:

[Please submit an abstract of 200 to 250 words using this link](#).

We welcome submissions from criminology, sociolegal studies, sociology, law, psychology, history, science and technology studies, anthropology, public policy, and related disciplines.

Submission Deadline:

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

Date By Which the Committee Will Confirm the Receipt and Acceptance of Submissions:

Monday, August 28, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

Please note that guidelines, stipulating the prescribed length of the presentation and other pertinent details, will be sent in a separate email. The conference schedule will also be sent via email in late August.

Thank you for your interest in the conference.

We look forward to receiving your submission, and hope to see you in September.

Best regards,

The 2023 CrimSL Graduate Student Conference Committee,
Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies,
University of Toronto

Contact: crimslgradconference@gmail.com

Web: <https://uoft.me/9iu>