

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-150: Administration of Justice

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Lectures on Mondays 8:30-9:50 in Young 317 & Thursdays 11:30-12:50 in Young 219

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Blair Fisher

EMAIL: fisherb@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 205

HOURS: 11:30-12:30 Mondays & 10:30-11:30am Thursdays, Available between 8:30-4:30 by e-mail

Monday through Friday. Drop by whenever you see my door open 😊

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the historical development and current operation of governing and law-making institutions in Canada, and the political, constitutional, and legal concepts of the Canadian justice system.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EXCLUSION(S):

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe the political and administrative systems which provide the environment within which the criminal justice system in Canada operates and the policy and law-making processes.
2. Articulate awareness of the interaction between politics and the criminal justice system in Canada.
3. Identify the key players in the criminal justice system.
4. Identify and assess important issues in Canadian government and politics that have an impact on the operation of the criminal justice system.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

All readings have been scanned or linked and uploaded to the course D2L site. If you prefer to have a print version please do that through Camosun Printshop located on the first floor of the Fisher Building.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Week #1 September 7th

- Introduction to the course
 - Course Readings
 - Course Assignments
 - Website for Course (D2L)
 - Course and classroom expectations
- Class exercise
- Read **Julien Roberts- Criminal Justice in Canada: An Overview**

Week #2 September 11th & 14th

- The Political System
- Foundations of Canadian Government Institutions
- The role and responsibilities of governments in criminal justice
- Electing Organization Presentation groups
- No assigned reading this week.

Week #3 September 18th & 21st

- Challenges in the politics of criminal justice:
 - History and challenges of Indigenous Peoples
 - History and challenges of ethno-cultural minorities
 - History and challenges to participation for women
 - History and challenges to participation for LGBTQ+ identities
 - Adapting the administration of justice to special groups
- Political Culture & Socialization
- Class Cleavages
- Read **Yasmin Jiwani- Mediations of Race & Crime: Racializing Crime, Criminalizing Race**

Week #4 September 25th & 28th

- The mass media
- Public opinion poll
- **MP & MLA Identification assignment due on D2L. September 28th by 6pm.**
- Read **Peter McKnight- The Funhouse Mirror: Media Representations of Crime & Justice**

Week #5 October 5th

- **October 5th Examination #1**

Week #6 October 12th

- The election organization
- The national parties and local candidates
- Examining justice issues as election issues
- Party organization and leadership
- The functions and types of political parties
- Social Movements and Lobbying
- Justice related advocacy groups
- Read **Rand Dyck & Christopher Cochrane- Elections & the Electoral Systems**

Week #7 October 16th & 19th

- The Charter of Rights & Freedoms
- Video “Fundamental Freedoms”
- Provinces and the federal system
- Provincial & Federal powers
- Municipal, Provincial, Federal powers- Who Does What?
- Read **Marie Manikis- Criminal Justice & the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms**

Week #8 October 23rd & 26th

- The Executive branch of government
- The Crown
- Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Parliament & House of Commons
- Composition of House of Commons
- The Senate
- Read **Hugh Mellon & Paul Barker- Is the Prime Minister too Powerful?**

Week #9 October 30th & November 2nd

- **Examination #2- October 30th**
- Stages & kinds of legislation
- Policymaking
- The committee system

Week #10 November 6th & 9th

- How a bill becomes a law
- How to make a law: Should keeping Christmas lights up year-round be illegal?
- MP/MLA Research Assignment preparation

Week #11 November 15th

- Justice Ideologies
- Courts and the administration of justice
- Functions and powers of the courts
- Structure of the courts

- Read **Rand Dyck- The Courts & The Administration of Justice**

Week #12 November 20th & 23rd

- **MP & MLA Research Quiz in computer lab (Ewing 115)-Nov 20**
- Group Organization presentations

- Read **Christopher Murphy- Canadian Police & Policing Policy, Post 9/11**

Week #13 November 27th and November 30th

- Group Organization presentations, cont'd
- Policing Accountability and Management
- Judges, Prosecutor & Defense Counsel roles
- Corrections Accountability
- Corrections Management
- Victims and the criminal justice system

- Read **Michelle Grossman, Susan McDonald & Catherine Kane- Crime Victims & the Justice System**

Week #14 December 4th and 7th

- Final exam review
- Course review
- Any catch-up we may need.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Examinations (3) 15%, 15% & 20%	50%
Organization Research Group Presentation	20%
MP & MLA Identification Assignment	5%
MP & MLA Research Assignment	25%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

Exams (50%)

Three exams are scheduled for this course.

October 5th (15%)

October 30th (15%)

Final Exam week (20%)

Each will sample your recollection of the content from the textbook readings as well as the material addressed in class (guest speakers, power point, video presentations, group presentations, etc). Each exam will not be comprehensive and will be based on the material covered between exam periods (ie. The final exam will be based on material covered from November 2nd to the course end date). That being said, some of the latter material covered will be based on concepts covered during earlier portions of the course. This is a content heavy course so be sure to actively read your assigned readings (3 readings per exam). The exam format may include true / false, fill in the blank, short answer and multiple choice.

MP/MLA Assignment (30%)

(5% tied to the MP/MLA Identification earlier in the semester)

Assignment Date: November 20th (In the Computer Lab in Ewing 115)

Individually, research your local MP and MLA and their positions on justice related issues. Be sure to research their backgrounds. At a minimum you should know;

1. What is their role in Parliament? Do they have a Cabinet posting or are they a backbencher? Are they with the governing party or are they in opposition?
2. What do they consider to be the most important **justice** matter faced in their constituency?

3. What is their full party affiliation? What are the party positions on a range of criminal and social justice issues?
4. What is their perspective on any of the following issues; Police/RCMP, victims, offenders, the judiciary, Crown Counsel, corrections, or aftercare/social service agencies.

You must choose the MP & MLA from the jurisdiction where you are residing on September 28th, 2023. Exceptions must be cleared with your instructor.

You will be asked a series of questions about your MP and MLA during the lab and will type your responses on the computer during this time. **You will be allowed to bring two (2) pages of research in to this assignment with you with information that you have researched about your elected representatives.**

Criminal Justice Organization Group Presentation (20%)

Due Date: Week of November 23rd and 27th on your assigned presentation day & time.

The purpose of this assignment is to use the appreciative inquiry style of learning to explore and report on what you have learned. The assignment will involve examining the role, responsibilities and key players within your assigned agency. You can examine harm reduction, crime reduction, victimization and overall community safety. This can be done creatively by using a recent crime or political happening relative to your agency.

Prepare a two (2) page report on your agency. Proper APA style and references should be used. This is **due at the start of class time on your presentation day by e-mail to Blair. This should be attached as a PDF document.**

You will want to address the following questions in your presentation. At a minimum your presentation should be able to answer the following questions about your organization:

1. What is the formal name of the organization and, if they are part of government, where do they fit in? (eg. What branch or ministry do they belong to or are answerable to?)
2. What are the functions or responsibilities of this organization? How does it relate to other parts of the justice system?
3. How large is the organization, is it local, provincial or national?
4. What are some (is a) pertinent issue that the organization is dealing with either at present or in their past? Describe how decisions made on this issue could affect other components of the justice system.

Each Group member will be assessed by the other group members to the quality and quantity of their contributions to the group effort. This will be included in the final individual assignment grade for your presentation.

1. Class Preparation

You are expected to complete the assigned readings and be aware of pertinent news items before coming to class. This often becomes increasingly more difficult as the semester moves along and as the completion of assignments and preparation for exams takes a great deal of your time. I would strongly recommend that you use some type of planner where you can keep track of each assignment, readings, exams and other expectations being placed on you.

2. Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed and submitted on the date and at the time assigned. The penalty for late assignments will be 10% per day. An extension can be granted only with at least 72 hours notice. **Group presentations will receive a zero grade if not completed on the scheduled date.** Procrastination can 'get the best of us', so be certain to manage the time you need to complete assignments.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/

Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures” (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.