

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-150-Administration of Justice

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-Person classes on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am – 11:20am in Young 325

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Blair Fisher

EMAIL: fisherb@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 205

HOURS: Office Hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays 11:30-12:30; Please come by any time you see my door open. I am here to help 😊

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

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

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.

Articulate awareness of the interaction between politics and the criminal justice system in Canada.

Identify the key players in the criminal justice system.

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

Readings will all be accessible on the D2L Course Page under the Content tab

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 3rd & 5th

- Introduction to the course
 - Textbook
 - Course assignments
 - Website for course
 - Course and classroom expectations
- Class exercise

- Read **Julien Roberts- Criminal Justice in Canada**

Week #2 September 10th & 12th

- 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 17th & 20th

- 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 **Michael Ma- Race and Crime**

Week #4 September 24th & 26th

- The mass media
- Public opinion polls
- Examining the history and debate of capital punishment
- **MP & MLA identification assignment due on D2L. September 26th by 6pm.**

- Read **Chantal Faucher- Media and Crime**

Week #5 October 1st & 3rd

- **October 1st Examination #1**
- The election organization
- The national parties and local candidate campaigns
- Examining justice issues as election issues
- The proportionality of the electoral system
- Party organization and leadership

- Read **Rand Dyck & Christopher Cochrane- Elections & the Electoral System**

Week #6 October 8th & 10th

- The functions and types of political parties
- Social Movements and Lobbying
- Justice related advocacy groups

- No reading this week

Week #7 October 15th & 17th

- MP/MLA Research Assignment preparation
- The Charter of Rights & Freedoms
- Video “Fundamental Freedoms”
- Provinces and the federal system
- Provincial & Federal powers
- Municipal, Provincial Federal Justice powers
- Video clip “Who Does What?”

- Read **Marie Manikis- Criminal Justice & the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms**

Week #8 October 22nd & 24th

- The Executive branch of government
- The Crown
- Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Parliament & House of Commons
- Composition of House of Commons
- The Senate
- Exam #2 review

- Read **Hugh Mellon & Paul Barker- Is the Prime Minister too Powerful?**

Week #9 October 29th & October 31st

- **Examination #2- October 29th**
- Stages & kinds of legislation
- Policymaking
- The committee system
- Opposition party roles

- No reading this week

Week #10 November 5th & 7th

- How a bill becomes a law
- How to make a law: Should keeping Christmas lights up year round be illegal?
- Courts and the administration of justice
- Functions and powers of the courts
- Structure of the courts
- Federal Court of Canada
- Supreme Court of Canada

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

Week #11 November 12th & 14th

- Justice Ideologies
- The appointment of Judges
- Crown prosecutor and Defence Counsel roles
- Group Organization Presentations

- No reading this week

Week #12 November 19th & 21st

- Group Organization Presentations
- Policing Policy and Evolution of Policing Practice
- **MP / MLA In-Class Assignment- This class will be done in a computer lab.**

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

Week #13 November 27th & 29th

- Policing Accountability and Management
 - Corrections Accountability
 - Corrections Management
 - Victims and the Criminal Justice system
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- Read **Michelle Grossman, Susan McDonald & Catherine Kane- Crime Victims & the Justice System**

Week #14 December 3rd & 5th

- 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](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Examinations (3) 15%, 15%, 20%	50%
Organization Research Group Presentation	20%
MP & MLA Identification Assignment	5%
MP & MLA Research Assignment (In-Class)	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](#) policy for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1-14.pdf>

Exams (50%)

Three exams are scheduled for this course.

October 1st (15%)

October 29th (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 October 29th 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 21st (In the Computer Lab - TBA)

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 26th, 2024. 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: November 14th and 19th 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.

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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 camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

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.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines:

<https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

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 (see

[Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

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 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 Policy:

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

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.

