

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-154 The Criminal Justice System

CLASS SECTION: 002

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In person. Monday 10:00 AM to 11:20 AM Fisher 306

Thursday 10:00 AM to 11:20 AM Ewing 201

Lecture format with discussions/exercises.

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](#).

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Michel Legault

EMAIL: [Legaultm2@camosun.ca](mailto:Legaultm2@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Young 210A

HOURS: Thursday 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM or by appointment

*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.*

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## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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This course examines the Canadian criminal justice system, its components, process, objectives, and functionaries. It includes an analysis of discretion, diversion, decision-making processes and the operational practices of the system.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EQUIVALENCIES:

Not Applicable.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

1. Outline the legislative basis, structure and functions of the various components of the Canadian criminal justice system.
2. Identify how each component of the criminal justice system interrelates with other components and with the larger society within which it operates.
3. Track the process of an accused person through the critical decision-making points of the Canadian criminal justice system.
4. Identify and critically discuss contemporary issues affecting the structure and operations of the Canadian criminal justice (e.g. youth justice, female offenders and Aboriginal justice).

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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O'Regan, K. & Reid, S. (2022). *Thinking About Criminal Justice in Canada* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.) Emond  
**(Required)**

*Criminal Code of Canada* **(Recommended)**

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

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

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1 Th	Introduction & Review of Syllabus	
Week 2 M/Th	You be the Judge Case study Chapter #1 Criminal Justice vs Criminology <b>Criminal Profile Assignment- Synthesis Project</b>	
Week 3 M/Th	Nova Scotia Mass Shooting Case study Chapter #2 Policing History	
Week 4 M/Th	Chapter #2 Policing History Chapter #3 Crime Prevention <b>Police Report Assignment – Synthesis Project</b>	<b>Criminal Profile Assignment due</b>
Week 5 Th	Chapter #3 Crime Prevention	
Week 6 M/Th	Chapter #4 Policing & The Law	
Week 7 Th	<b>Mid-Term in Class</b>	
Week 8 M/Th	R vs Raymond- Case Study Chapter #5 Criminal Law <b>Thought Paper Assignment</b>	<b>Police Report Assignment Due</b>

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 9 M/Th	Chapter #6 Criminal Procedure & Evidence <b>Court &amp; Pre-sentence Report Assignment – Synthesis Project</b>	
Week 10 M/Th	Chapter #7 Sentencing <b>Parole Report Assignment – Synthesis Project</b> Court Visit /Trial observation (TBD)	
Week 11 M/Th	Chapter #8 Corrections Chapter #9 Prison Populations	<b>Court &amp; Pre-sentence Report Assignment Due</b>
Week 12 M/Th	Chapter #10 Conditional Release Restorative Justice – <b>Reading TBD</b>	<b>Thought Paper Assignment Due</b>
Week 13 M/Th	Colton Boushie Commission – Case Study Chapter #11 Youth Criminal Justice	<b>Parole Report Assignment Due</b>
Week 14 M/Th	Chapter #12 Indigenous People & Criminal Justice System You be the Judge revisited & Exam Review	<b>Participation paper Due</b>
Week 15	Final Exam	

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
<b>Participation:</b> You will be required to submit a one-page summary of what you feel your mark should be out of 10 the last day of class for 10% of your participation grade. This is to include attendance, participation in class, group participation and keeping current and up to date on all readings and assignments. <b>Due December 5th, 2024</b>	10%
<b>Mid Term:</b> The format for the midterm may consist of definition, short answer, multiple choice, matching and essay questions. Midterm to be done in class on <b>Thursday October 17th, 2024</b> , and will cover lectures and Chapters 1 through 4 inclusive.	20%
<b>Final Exam:</b> The format for the final exam may consist of definition, short answer, multiple choice, matching and essay questions. Final exam will be done during <b>exam week</b> and will cover Chapter 5 - 12 inclusive.	30%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<b>Thought/Discussion Paper:</b> You will be required to choose 1 discussion topics from the selections below – <b>Due on Thursday November 21st, 2024</b>	10%
<b>Synthesis Project:</b> You are required to apply the knowledge gained in the course by guiding a criminally accused person through the criminal justice process from the point of arrest to release from the correctional system and reintegration back into society.	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	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>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Regular attendance and active participation are required. It is expected that you will join the class on time, be attentive, non-disruptive, constructive and respectful. You are expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class, except when advised otherwise. 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 daybook where you can keep track of each week's reading, exams and other expectations being placed on you

### Thought and Discussion Topics

**Canadian Criminal Justice and Mental Illness:** Studies indicate that one in three Canadian's will experience mental illness in their life time ("Mental Awareness week", 2017). Many will suffer in silence and many others will be unable to receive/access adequate care. Pick one area within the CJS and discuss how individuals with mental illness are treated.

**The Youth Justice System:** The YJS deals with 12–17-year-olds in trouble with the law. It uses a rehabilitative method to deal with youth. It makes sure the youth are provided with meaningful consequences for their actions and then reintegrates them back into society. Discuss whether the Youth Justice System is too lenient or fair and equitable.

**Criminal Justice and Indigenous Persons:** Discuss why it would be important for persons who work in the criminal justice system to have a historical and contemporary understanding of Indigenous Persons.

**Release Procedures for Offenders:** Discuss whether or not you agree with the following statement: "The release of offenders and Bail hearing processes are designed to ensure Canadian Public Safety expectations are satisfied".

## Your paper will be marked on:

- 1) Content. This includes how well you articulate your thesis statement or your central idea or position; knowledge of the subject and how well you support your statement with facts by referring to the literature.
- 2) Organization: I am looking for an introduction, body and a conclusion. I am looking for a logical presentation of the more important parts with fully developed paragraphs with proper sentence flow
- 3) Mechanics: That is, the quality of your writing including grammar and punctuation. Please avoid using described as slang (e.g. cop vs. police officer), colloquial (e.g. referring to taking drugs as a ‘fix’) or cliché (e.g. time heals all wounds)
- 4) Referencing: references are cited using the APA format in a separate reference page. Only those resources within the body of the paper are to be listed in the reference page. References are to come from a variety of sources (e.g. journals, reports, agency data, books, etc.) and should reflect Canadian content.
- 5) **Format for Thought Paper: Minimum 3 pages and Maximum 5 pages in length.** Please follow the APA style as you will be marked on it.
- 6) Papers will be uploaded to D2L unless advised otherwise. Penalty for a late paper will be assessed at 20% per week. Students having a legitimate (as defined by the instructor) concern about meeting due date should consult with the instructor well in advance.

## Criminal Justice Process Synthesis

You are required to apply the knowledge gained in the course by guiding a criminally accused person through the criminal justice process from the point of arrest to release from the correctional system and reintegration back into society. This assignment consists of four (4) parts.

**Part 1: Criminal Profile** – create a fictional profile of your offender, including photo, family background, criminal history, employment and education information, and other relevant background information **(10%)**.

**Part 2: Police Report** – write a police report on your offender(s) for the offence (indictable but not murder) they have committed. This will include all information that police generally provide in the report to forward to Crown Counsel. The offence you have chosen must have taken place in British Columbia **(20%)**.

**Part 3: Court/Pre-Sentence Report** – write a pre-sentence report on your offender(s) with all of information required to assist the court with sentencing. **(20%)**.

**Part 4: Parole Report** – write a parole summary submission for your offender(s). **(10%)**.

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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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

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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](https://camosun.ca/services).

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

Support Service	Website
Registration	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/registration">camosun.ca/registration-records/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/its">camosun.ca/services/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

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.

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## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### 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](https://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education).

To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto: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.