

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-154 The Criminal Justice System

CLASS SECTION: 003

TERM: Winter 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S):

Lecture and classroom discussions/activities

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 explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Stephen Howell B.A., M.Phil. (Cantab)

EMAIL: howells@Camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 205

HOURS: Wednesdays 1145 to 1230 and 1530 to 1800

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 examines the Canadian criminal justice system, its components, process, objectives, and functionalities. 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

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable.

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](#).

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

a) Text: Griffiths, C.T. (2019) *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer, 6th Edition*. Nelson

b) *Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program*

c) *Criminal Code of Canada*

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 or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1, January 11	Introduction to the course, and to the CJS	Read Chapter 1
Week 2, January 18	Components and Challenges of the CJS	Read Chapters 2 and 3 First short assignment due
Week 3, January 25	Canada's Criminal Law/ Police Role	Read Chapter 4
Week 4, February 1	Police Structure and Powers	Read Chapter 5
Week 5, February 8	Police Process/ Prosecution and Defence Roles	Read Chapter 7, pp 181 to 199 and Chapter 8, pp. 201 - 206 Second short assignment due

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 6, February 15	The Courts/ Midterm Exam	Read Chapter 7, pp. 165 to 181
February 22	Reading break. No class	
Week 7, March 1	Initial Appearances/ Plea Negotiations	Read Chapter 8, pp. 207 to 217
Week 8, March 8	Elections, Trials and Verdicts	Read Chapter 8, pp. 217 - 245 Part 1 of Synthesis due
Week 9, March 15	Sentencing	Read Chapter 9 Third short assignment due
Week 10, March 22	Overview of Corrections and Alternatives to Custody	Read Chapter 10
Week 11, March 29	Correctional Institutions	Read Chapter 11 Part 2 of Synthesis due
Week 12, April 5	Release and Re-entry/ Review	Read chapter 12
Week 13, April 12	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 noticed 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>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Three short assignments , worth 5 points each (3 points content and 2 points writing). Each paper will be about 2 pages (double spaced) long. Research is not <i>required</i> but if references (other than the Text) are used they must be cited.	15%
Two exams (February 15 and April 12) Each in-class exam is worth 20 points. Format may include multiple choice, short answer, fill in the chart, definitions and short essays.	40%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Criminal Justice System Synthesis: You will "walk" a fictional offender through the criminal justice process, from the point of arrest until conclusion of sentencing, describing in detail the procedures, options and decisions made at each stage. Part 1 (Arrest to Bail Hearing) is due March 8 and Part 2 (Election to Sentencing) is due March 29. Content is valued at 30 points and writing at 10 points.	40%
Attendance and Participation: Up to 3 points are awarded for attendance in class, and up to 2 points for participation in classroom discussions.	5%
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>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty: Unless expressly designated as a “group assignment” all assignments are to be completed by the student alone. Any significant similarities in submitted assignments will prompt an investigation by the instructor, and possible disciplinary action. All direct quotes, **and paraphrased information**, must have a source cited. Information received from friends or family members must also be identified. If you are uncertain about how to cite references, consult the instructor or a librarian. See further information about academic integrity below.

Writing requirement: A high standard of English composition is expected. Remember to carefully proofread all assignments before submitting them. Assignments must employ APA format, except that weekly short assignments do not require cover pages. All assignments must be original and produced for the purposes of this course alone. Students experiencing ongoing difficulty with writing assignments are encouraged to seek help at the Writing Centre.

Test policy: Tests must be written on the day and during the time period allocated. If you are unable to write a test due to illness, a note from a medical practitioner is required.

Course Completion requirement: Regardless of the number of points earned during the course, students will receive an “F” if they do not complete ALL components of the course. They must write the two tests, complete the major assignment and complete at least eight out of ten of the short weekly assignments.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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.