

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-154 The Criminal Justice System

CLASS SECTION: RH07

TERM: Winter 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Classes will be lecture format with discussions. Students will be expected to read the assigned chapter(s) and participate.

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

<HOLD FOR 2021F COVID-19 LANGUAGE>

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: Raymond Lonsdale MA (CRIM)

EMAIL: LonsdaleR@Camosun.bc.ca

OFFICE: 210A Young

HOURS: Mon 10:00 – 10:30; Tues 10:00 – 10:30; Thurs 10:00 – 10:30 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.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable.

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

Textbook: Griffiths, C.T. (2011) Canadian Criminal Justice, A Primer. 6th Ed., Nelson.

Recommended: Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program
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.

Topics and Dates

WEEK #1		
Fri	Feb - 3	Intro and Chapter 1 Foundations of Criminal Justice
WEEK #2		
Mon	Feb -6	Intro and Chapter 1 Foundations of Criminal Justice
Tues	Feb -7	Chapter 2 - Understanding the CJS
Thurs	Feb -9	Chapter 2 - Understanding the CJS
WEEK #3		

Mon	Feb-13	Chapter 3 – Considerations in the Study of Criminal Justice
Tues	Feb-14	Chapter 3 – Considerations in the Study of Criminal Justice
Thurs	Feb-16	Chapter 4 – The Structure and Roles of the Police Criminal Profile Due for Synthesis Project
WEEK #4		
Mon	Feb 20	Family Day – No Class
Tues	Feb-21	Chapter 4 - The Structure and Roles of the Police
Thurs	Feb-23	Chapter 5 – Police Powers and Decision Making
WEEK #5		
Mon	Feb-27	Chapter 5 – Police Powers and Decision Making
Tues	Feb-28	Chapter 5 - Police Powers and Decision Making
Thurs	Mar-02	Chapter 6 - Police Strategies
WEEK #6		
Mon	Mar-6	Chapter 6 - Police Strategies
Tues	Mar-7	Chapter 6 - Police Strategies
Thurs	Mar-9	Chapter 7 - Structure and Operation of the Criminal Courts Police Report Due for Synthesis Project
WEEK #7		
Mon	Mar-13	Exam – Part 1
Tues	Mar-14	Exam – Part 2
Thurs	Mar-16	Chapter 7 - Structure and Operation of the Criminal Courts
	Mar-20-24	SPRING BREAK
	Mar-27-31	SPRING BREAK
Mon		No Class
Tues	Apr-4	Chapter 8 - The Prosecution of Criminal Cases
Thurs	Apr-6	Chapter 8 - The Prosecution of Criminal Cases Thought Discussion Paper Due
WEEK #9		
Tues	Apr-11	Chapter 9 - Sentencing
Thurs	Apr-13	Chapter 9 - Sentencing
Week #10		
Mon	Apr-17	Chapter 9 - Sentencing
Tues	Apr-18	Chapter 10 - Corrections in the Community
Thurs	Apr-20	Chapter 10 - Corrections in the Community Court/Presentence Report Due for Synthesis Project

Week # 11		
Mon	Apr-24	Chapter 11 - Correctional Institutions
Tues	Apr-25	Chapter 11 - Correctional Institutions
Thurs	Apr-27	Chapter 12 – Release, re-entry and Reintegration
Week		
Mon	May-1	Chapter 12 – Release, re-entry and Reintegration
Tues	May-2	Chapter 13 - The Youth Justice System
Thurs	May-4	Chapter 13 - The Youth Justice System
Week		
Mon	May-8	Final Exam – Part 1
Tues	May-9	Final Exam – Part 2

Individuals 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>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Mid Term - in class on Mar-13 (M/C Definitions) and Mar 14 (Short Answer and Essay) and will cover lectures and Chapters 1 through 6 inclusive. Midterm to be done in class and will cover lectures and Chapters 1 through 6 inclusive.	25%
Final Exam – in class May 8 (MC and Definitions), May 9 (Short Answer and Essay) and will cover Chapter 7 -14 inclusive.	30%
Discussion Paper 1: You will be required to choose 1 discussion topics from the selections below – Due on Apr - 6	10%
Synthesis Project: 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. See above for Due Dates	25%
Participation	10%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
	100%
TOTAL	

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

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 once 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.

Private vs Public Police: Discuss whether or not you agree with the following statement: “As the cost of Public police continues to rise there is an argument for an increase in the role and numbers of Private Security Officers”.

Wrongful convictions: Wrongful convictions are a problem that continues to plague our criminal justice system. Although each case is different, identifying the commonalities among the cases is important for preventing future cases. Identify to persons who have been wrongfully convicted (go to www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canada-s-wrongful-convictions-1.783998 and discuss the similarities and differences that led to the wrongful convictions and identify no more than three recommendations that could be made from the case studies that might reduce the likelihood of wrongful convictions in the future.

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 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 with all of information required to assist the court with sentencing. (20%).

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

Thought Paper and Synthesis Project will be marked based on the following:

- 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 / Discussion paper only - Minimum 3 pages and Maximum 5 pages in length.** To be typed, one or two sided, double spaced, unbound, stapled in the top left corner, title page, cover page, number pages, 1” margin, Times New Roman font, 12 pitch.
- 6) It is to be handed to me at the beginning of class. Do not mail it to me, email it to me, drop it off in my office, slide it under my door or ask someone else to deliver it to class. 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.

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](http://camosun.ca/services/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.