

Fall 2002  
Camosun College  
Criminal Justice Department

## **Crim 150**

# **ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor:** Brian D. Young  
Office: Y205  
Phone: 370-3109

Office hours will be posted in a timetable beside my office door. The best time to see me is before or after class. You can make an appointment to see me if you get really desperate. Consultation during office hours is included in the course fee. House calls are extra.

**Credit:** 3 - The credits are redeemable at other fine learning establishments. No cash value. Please ask for further details, consult the Camosun Calendar, or call the college President at home at 555-4317.

**Format:** Two classes per week of about 1 hour and 21 minutes of scintillating discussion and engrossing lectures per week. Classes are scheduled (as of the time of writing) for Tuesday's and Thursday's at 10:30 am. The class lectures are the primary source of learning. That means, in other words, you should not skip class. While most people think a class or two here or there is not bad...  
**BE WARNED:** if I thought you could learn everything from a textbook why would I bother coming to class and robbing the college of the small amount of petty cash the college has left after the Dean chops the really crucial programs.

### **1. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course will closely follow the description in the calendar (that is why we have a calendar).

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.

The objective of this course is to develop a broad understanding of the political and administrative systems which provide the environment within which the criminal justice

system in Canada operates. Students will also increase their awareness of the interaction between politics and the criminal justice system in Canada, learn about the key players in the criminal justice system, and learn critical analysis of important issues in Canadian government and politics that have an impact on the Criminal Justice System.

Attendance in class is expected. Memorizing the material is not as important as becoming familiar with the principles and the concepts (but still kinda impressive).

**2. THE FOLLOWING IS COLLEGE POLICY. READING THIS HEREOFRE MENTIONED SAID POLICY WILL HEREAFTER ENSURE YOU SHALL HAVE HENCEFORTH A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THINGS THAT HERETOFORE BEFORE WERE UNDERSTANDABLY NOT AS UNDERSTOOD AS THEY SHOULD HAVE HEREUNTOFORE BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED.**

**TEACHING OBJECTIVES**

- A. To ensure students understand the basic principles, procedures and substantive areas of criminal law.
- B. To foster a class time of open discussions and participation between students and the instructor that is educational and enlightening.
- C. To show the students the various sources of criminal law and provide students with the tools to understand and critique the criminal justice system, its offences and defences.
- D. To allow students to explore areas of criminal law that are of interest to them through papers and other activities.
- E. To allow students to participate in a mock trial that as closely as possible replicates a true criminal trial.
- F. To allow students a reason not to pay back their student loans.

**STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Pick one or more of the following:

- A. To get through the course with as little effort as possible.
- B. To be able to critically analyze the criminal law and its main components and theories.
- C. To be able to articulate ideas in class and foster discussion with the instructor and other class participants.
- D. To be able to prepare a critical opinion and analysis on a set of facts.
- E. To gain a greater understanding of the criminal law and the defences available.
- F. To get a date.

**3. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

There are two texts that are required. Both of these are available for a small ransom in the bookstore.

1. Charlton: Cross Currents – Contemporary Political Issues (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Edition)
2. White: Introduction to Canadian Politics and Government (7<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**4. ADDITIONAL SOURCES**

Students are expected to read (your kidding) all the handouts, including this one. That means articles, the textbook, and even watching the daily news or reading a newspaper. For this course in particular, keeping up to date on topical political/criminal justice issues is required. The handouts and text are part of the course and students will be responsible for these at exam time.

The library at the College has an excellent selection of criminal law related texts, books and periodicals. Students should familiarize themselves with the library's holdings. Library tours are available (remember to take a buddy). A detailed list of criminal law related material is available just for asking.

The law library at Uvic is also open to students from Camosun. It is located in the Faculty of Law building across from the stadium.

During term students should keep up to date on the latest news that deals with criminal law issues. Local trashy newspapers are great for crime stuff. Students may also attend at any of the courthouses in Greater Victoria. All trials are open to the public - admission is free. Any student wishing to perpetrate a crime during term could earn extra credits and the rest of us could follow your progress (Liability note: just kidding).

## **5. GRADING SYSTEM**

Unlike other years where I have let students chose their own marks, this year you will be graded by me.

A+	95-100	A	90-94	A-	85-89	B+	80-84
B	75-79	B-	70-74	C+	65-69	C	60-64
D	50-59	F	0 -49				

A standing of INC means incomplete and is only given after consultation with me. This normally applies if you complete all but one of the assignments. Please note that all of the assignments are required. You can not selectively choose to omit one and still pass the course. Let me put this another way: if you miss one assignment, give up – you will fail.

Exams are marked only for answers given - there is no deduction for unanswered questions. Papers are marked as a percentage of the term grade. The mark is also given as a letter grade for students. All students are marked independently of each other.

Spelling and grammar are very important. While this may not be an English course, I get paid the big bucks to teach you a number of things: just one of which is criminal law. Be sure to proof read your paper very carefully. Spill cheques often myth sum whirreds spilled connectivity yet our owed off contacts.

Sadly, I have seen many “A” papers end up as a “B” due to poor spelling and grammar. Please do not let this happen to you. If you use a computer and still hand in a paper with spelling errors, you will have your diodes rearranged! Spelling on exams is not as critical, but at least give it a try.

At any time I am available to discuss the marking system, your individual marks, the course... or life in general. Please do not hesitate to come and see me.

## **6. STUFF YOU HAVE TO DO TO PASS THE COURSE:**

Each course I teach takes countless hours of development by our Research and Development arm of the Crim Justice Department. Consultation with thousands of

former students allows me to decide just how students in each term should be graded. Throughout each summer I test-run assignments on laboratory mice to see how the assignments work and if they are fair. This is not an easy task. Finding mice who work the way students do, is tougher than it looks. In the end, it is hard to pick assignments that please everyone. The bottom line, therefore, is just to make sure that I, and the Research and Development mice, am happy.

First Exam	20%
Second Exam	40%
Media Assignment	40%
	100%

**A. First Exam – value 20%**

Unlike the other exam, this is the first one. It will occur in class on October 17, 2002. It will be a true false, are you awake, sort of thing. More on this as we get closer.

**B. Second Exam - value 40%**

Unlike the first exam, this is the second one. It will be the final exam. As such it is scheduled by the College and is held during final exam week at the end of term. The date is not changeable. Do not plan trips to Sooke or other exotic points of interest and expect the date to be changed. While I might like you, I am not here to do you little favours. The format for the Final will be discussed in class. The Final covers the **whole course** and all the handouts (which is to say, it is comprehensive). You are allowed three hours to complete the final but experience, and results from the mice, dictates that the average time needed is under two hours. If you are not licensed to operate a writing device you will need considerably longer.

**C. Media Assignment – value 40%**

This assignment is due in class on November 14, 2002. This assignment will not be accepted if it is handed in late. The purpose of this assignment is to get you, the student, to read the newspapers (other than the personals) and do an analysis of relevant stories. Relevant means stories that relate to issues we cover in this class. A handout will be provided that explains this assignment in detail. The following guidelines apply to this assignment:

- a. Due November 14, 2002. There will be (note this) no late assignments;
- b. Length will vary. The key component is that your assignment must cover at least five separate articles. Each articles must be accompanied by written comments of 100 to 150 words.
- c. Must be typed.
- d. Must follow guidelines handed out.

This assignment is out of 40 and will be graded as follows:

Presentation		5
Content:	Choice of articles	10
	Analysis	20
Grammar/spelling/punctuation		5
		<hr/>
		40

## 7. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE

	TOPIC	READING
First Class	Introduction Discussion of outline and course requirements	
Second Class	Justice and Law	
Third Class	Justice and Ideology	
Some other class	The Role of Government	
Some other class....	Parliamentary Democracy Constitutional Monarchy	
	The Senate The House of Commons The Prime Minister Cabinet	
	Political Parties Elections Interest Groups The 5 <sup>th</sup> Estate	
	Criminal Justice Courts and Corrections Policing	

Dates are not provided for the specific topics. It is impossible to gauge the speed at which we will travel through this minefield. You will, however, always know where we just were and where we are about to go. If you are ever feeling lost either come and see me or call the SPCA.

If there is a particular area you wish to know about, just ask! Not all of the areas covered are in the textbook. **WARNING:** if you miss a class you better get someone's notes.

## **8. SOME GENERAL CLASS POLICIES**

1. Regular attendance and participation are expected. There is an old saying that even if you come to class and take no notes, you leave with some new knowledge. The other old saying is that if it was said in class, it can be on an exam. This also implies that you should learn to take good, clear, class notes (which is probably a saying from somewhere).
2. Please arrive in class on time. It is disruptive for other students and I will not repeat what was said if you are late.
3. Please do not bring food to class unless you intend to share it (which does not mean talking with your mouth full). Beverages are okay - burgers and fries, for example, are not.
4. Prepare for class. This means do the readings and reading the cases. You will get a lot more out of class if you are at least up to date on what we are doing. If you stay up to date, exams are a lot easier.
5. Ask questions. The worst question is the one not asked.
6. Cheaters do not prosper (unless of course you are never caught). The Criminal Justice Department and the College have very strict policies on cheaters. I have zero tolerance for cheaters. Cheaters will be publicly ridiculed, sent to Abu Dhabi and stoned (which is quite a bit more painful than being sent to Amsterdam and getting stoned).
7. Please provide feedback to your instructor on the course, the book, the cases or whatever. Your input is respected and valued: after all, you're payin' big bucks to be here.
8. Students who receive a B+ grade or higher on any assignment are not permitted to whine for more marks. Students who receive less, are free to whine.

If you have any questions about this outline, please see me in class or in my office.

Have a great term.