

FALL 2002
CRIM 166 - INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY
COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Karin Kaercher

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Office Hours:

TBA and By Appointment

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Credits:

3 - transferable to: Simon Fraser University, University of Regina,
University of Ottawa and University of Victoria, UCFV.

Prerequisite:

C+ in English 12 or assessment

Course Format:

Course content is conveyed through one-hour and twenty-minute lectures/seminars twice weekly and assigned readings. Course delivery methods include lectures, guest speakers, audio-visual presentations, and individual or group exercises assigned by the instructor in class.

Required Texts:

Schmallegger, F. and Volk R. (2001) **Canadian Criminology Today**, Toronto: Prentice Hall

Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program

Recommended: Canadian Criminal Code

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of Criminology as a social science; a survey of its theories, categories, and relevant research and its necessity and relation to other social science disciplines. The course embraces the study of crime, criminal behaviour and its causation, crime victims and consequences. This course is considered a foundation to the study of criminology, in particular to upper level courses, which stress the application of theory to applied programs.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce the student to criminological terminology and concepts and to assist them to make meaning of the discipline specific language.
2. To examine and explain specific theories of criminal behaviour including the social and historical context in which these theories emerged.
3. To examine and explain crime data, trends in criminal behaviour and the nature and extent of crime in Canada.
4. To introduce and differentiate for students the various approaches to the study of criminal behaviour and to distinguish each according to advantages, limitations, and practical applications.
5. To assist students in making relationships between theory, research, crime data, and criminal justice policy and practice.
6. To provide learning opportunities during which students can communicate and apply knowledge gained during this course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

During this course, you will work to develop the ability to:

1. Communicate your understanding of the origins, development and evolution of past, current, and future criminological thought and discourse.
2. Describe, classify, evaluate, and analyze the problem of crime, criminological theory and its contemporary application.
3. Use conceptual frameworks and paradigms to make independent interpretations and applications using criminal case studies.
4. Critically assess crime statistics and the problems associated with their interpretation.

In order to successfully achieve the stated learning outcomes, it is expected that students will attend all classes and that, on average, students will spend three hours of outside class preparation for each hour of in-class instruction.

Grade Distribution:

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

A standing of INC will only be awarded upon prior arrangement between teacher and student, subject to supporting documentation.

This course is considered a Criminal Justice core course and therefore a student must achieve a C grade or better to receive transfer credit.

What do the grades mean?

- A: Designating a “superior level of achievement”, a letter grade of A is awarded to the student who surpasses course expectations by doing additional reading and research, and by providing well thought-out and clearly expressed ideas on exams and assignments. The student demonstrates outstanding organizational, analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as added resourcefulness in meeting course requirements.
- B: Designating a “high level of achievement”, a letter grade of B is awarded to the student who exhibits substantial comprehension of course reading and lecture materials and is able to reflect this knowledge orally and in writing. The student demonstrates analytical thinking skills and clearly performs above average in meeting course requirements.
- C: Designating a satisfactory or “sufficient level of achievement”, a letter grade of C is awarded to the student who completes all course requirements and has a competent understanding of the course materials. Further improvement is attainable with effort and refined reading, writing, analytical, and organizational skills.
- D: Designating a “minimum level of achievement”, a letter grade of D is awarded to the student who generally performs below average, does not show signs of having read the assigned readings or is unable to present ideas in writing in sufficient clarity or detail. The student may need remedial assistance to improve reading/writing skills.
- F: Designating “below minimum level of achievement”, a letter grade of F is awarded to the student who fails to meet all or most course requirements. This may be due to poor attendance, hastily prepared assignments, not having done the readings or some other correctable problem.

COURSE EVALUATION

The total marks for this course are distributed as follows:

Library Assignment	5%
Journal Article Summaries	20%
Quizzes	45%
Final Examination	30%
Total	100%

1. **Library Assignment** (total value 5%)
TBA - September

The library assignment will be conducted by the College librarian during the first month of classes and will consist of exercises designed to familiarize the students with the Camosun College Library/Media Centre.

2. **Journal Summaries** (total value - 20%)

Journal summary #1 Due date: Oct. 15, 2002

Journal Summary #2 Due date: Nov. 26, 2002

In this assignment, students will analyze and summarize the findings of two criminological research studies as reported on in a social sciences academic journal. Students will prepare a summary of each article based on a series of questions prepared by the instructor. The Journal Summary should not exceed one to one and half-typewritten, double-spaced pages (approximately 250-400 words) in length.

Guidelines explaining the format and evaluation criteria for this assignment will be distributed separately.

3. **Quizzes and Final Exam** (total value -75%)

Quiz #1 (15%)	Oct. 1, 2002
Quiz #2 (15%)	Oct 31, 2002
Quiz #3 (15%)	Dec. 3, 2002-06-19

Final Examination (30%) Final Examination Period

Each quiz will consist of a number of multiple choice, true or false, and short answer/essay questions and will be held during the regularly scheduled class time.

Students should be aware that the completion date for this course includes the final examination period following the termination of regularly scheduled classes in December (December 9-17, 2002 inclusive).

INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES**1. Attendance and Participation**

Regular attendance and participation in class are required. It is expected that students will arrive to class on time and that, during class, students will be attentive, non-disruptive, open-minded, constructive, and respectful of others. Students are encouraged to identify current events that directly relate to course content.

2. Class Preparation

It is expected that students will come to class prepared. Students are expected to read the assigned readings prior to coming to class, and to participate in class discussions and exercises based on these readings.

3. Examination Date Changes

No provision will be made to write a test earlier or later than originally scheduled. The mid-term and final exam must be written at the times and on the dates assigned. A student will only be allowed to write a missed test by providing a valid medical certificate attesting to the fact that s/he was ill (or suffered an accident) at the time of the assigned test. In addition, the student who misses a test due to illness must inform the instructor **on or before the date** of the test of the reason for her/his absence.

Note: Students arriving thirty minutes or more after a course exam has commenced will not be permitted to write the exam.

4. Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed on the date assigned. All late written assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day. The starting point for penalty assessment is immediately after written assignments are received by the instructor at the beginning of class. Students having a legitimate concern about meeting the due dates, should consult with the instructor well in advance.

5. Written Assignment Requirements

Written Assignments for this course must be typewritten, double-spaced and meet the basic requirements for formal academic papers as outlined in the guidelines and the CJ Writing Reference Manual. Written assignments must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of class. Assignments received at the end of class or not given directly to the instructor at noted, will be penalized as per #4 above.

All assignments submitted for evaluation must be original and produced for the purposes of this course only. The submission of assignments completed for other courses may be construed as academic dishonesty.

6. Course Completion Requirements

Students must complete all evaluative requirements (library assignment, summaries, quizzes and exam) to receive a passing grade for the course. Students failing to complete all the requirements will receive an F grade.

7. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the failure to fully and accurately acknowledge the sources of all information used in your assignments, thereby giving the impression the work is your own. Plagiarism includes the use of quotes, or another author's words, without using quotation marks or giving a proper reference citation to the original author. Plagiarism also includes failing to document the source(s) of paraphrased information/ideas.

Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offense. If plagiarism can be documented by your instructor, the penalty will be an automatic "0" for that assignment.

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- 8. Cheating/Academic Dishonesty/Student Conduct**
The Criminal Justice Department has a clearly articulated policy on cheating and student conduct, as does the College. Cheating may result in suspension and the potential loss of a career in the criminal justice field. Please refer to a current College Calendar and the Criminal Justice Orientation Manual.
- 9. Course Withdrawal**
The last day to withdraw from this and other Fall 2002 term courses without receiving a failing grade is November 5, 2001.
- 10. Mark/Grade Challenges and Appeals**
A student who is seeking to question a mark and/or informally resolve a grade appeal with the course instructor must clearly articulate in writing the specific element of the test or assignment being questioned and provide written reasons/arguments supporting why the mark/grade should be changed. The College appeals process is outlined on pages 45 of the 2002/2003 Camosun College Calendar.
- 11. Student Responsibility**
It is each student's responsibility to familiarize her/himself with course/program and college policies. Students experiencing difficulties throughout the semester are encouraged to talk to the course instructor at the earliest opportunity.

Crim 166 Semester Outline - Topics and Reading List

PART I		
THE SUBJECT MATTER OF CRIMINOLOGY		Sept 5
What is a crime?		
What is Criminology?	Schmalleger & Volk Ch.1	
Crime versus deviance		
Criminology and social policy		
Measuring Crime	Schmalleger & Volk Ch 2	Sept 10
Data on Crime- UCR, victimization surveys, offender reports		-12
Common crime categories	Schmalleger & Volk Ch 10	Sept 17
The nature and extent of crime in Canada		-19
Crime Patterns		
Correlates of crime		
PART II		
THEORY DEVELOPMENT IN CRIMINOLOGY	Schmalleger & Volk Ch 3	
Sept 24		
Hypothesis building and testing		
Research on crime and criminal behaviour		
Theory, research and practice		

Quiz #1 – Oct. 1, 2002

**PART III
EXPLAINING CRIME AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR**

Classical School of criminology	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 4	Oct 1 -3
Positive School of Criminology		
Biological approaches	Schmallegger & Volk Ch.5	Oct 8
Psychological/psychiatric approaches	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 6	-22
Is Crime the product of social environment?		Oct 29 -Nov 7
Quiz #2 – Oct 31, 2002	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 7	
Is Crime a product of social interaction?		Nov 12 -19
	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 8	
Is Crime the product of inequitable power relations?		Nov 21 -28
	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 9	
Quiz #3 – Dec. 3, 2002		
PART IV APPLYING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY TO CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS		Dec 3-5
Criminology and social policy	Schmallegger & Volk Ch 11	

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If you are interested in reading further on any of the theories presented above, you might want to examine the following:

- Adler, F., Mueller G., and Laufer, W. S. (1991). *Criminology* New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Akers, R. L. (1994). *Criminological theories: Introduction and evaluation*. California: Roxbury Publishing Co.
- De Keseredy, W.S., and Schwartz, M.D. (1996). *Contemporary criminology*. Toronto: Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- Fishbein, D. (2001). *Biobehavioural perspectives in criminology* Toronto: Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- Fleming, T. (ed.) (1985). *The new criminologies in Canada* Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Fuller, J.R. (1998). *Criminal justice: A peacemaking perspective* Toronto: Allyn and Bacon.
- Hackler, J. (2000). *Canadian Criminology*. Scarborough, Ontario: Prentice Hall.
- Hagan, J. (1993). *The disreputable pleasures, crime and deviance in Canada* (Third Edition). Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.
- Heiner, R. (1996). *Criminology: A cross-cultural perspective* St. Paul, Mn.: West Publishing Co.
- Hinch R. (ed.) (1994). *Readings in critical criminology* Ontario: Prentice Hall Canada.
- Jeffery, C. R. (1990). *Criminology: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Linden, R. (ed). (2000). *Criminology, A Canadian perspective* (Second Edition). Toronto: Harcourt Brace.
- Siegel, L. & C. McCormick (1999). *Criminology in Canada: Theories, patterns and typologies* Scarborough, Ontario: ITP Nelson.
- Simon, D.R. and Eitzen, D.S. (1996). *Elite deviance* Toronto: Allyn and Bacon.
- Vold, G. B., Bernard, T.J., and Snipes, J.B. (1998). *Theoretical criminology* (Third Edition). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Walsh, A. (2002). *Biosocial criminology*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Anderson Publishing Co.
- Williams, F.P. III and McShane, M. D. (1993). *Criminology theory: Selected classic readings*. Ohio: Anderson Publishing.
- Williams, F.P. III and McShane, M. D. (1999). *Criminological Theory* New Jersey: Prentice Hall
- Winterdyk, J. (2000). *Canadian criminology*. Scarborough, Ontario: Prentice Hall Canada.