

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY CRIM 166-01

Instructor: Kelli Moorhouse,
M.S.W., B.Soc.Sc. (Honours Criminology), V.I.C.

Office: TBA
Office Hours: By appointment
I will be in my office ½ hour before class starts

E-mail: moorhouse@camosun.bc.ca
Email me anytime – this is the best way to contact me

Class: Young 217
Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 to 9:20 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines Criminology as a social science. It involves an analysis of its theories, categories, and relevant research, and its necessity and relation to the social science discipline. This includes the study of crime, criminal behavior and its causation, crime victims and consequences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After successfully completing this course you, the learner should be able to:

- Communicate understanding of the origins, development and evolution of past, current, and future criminological thought and discourse;
- Describe, classify, evaluate and analyze the problem of crime, criminological theory and its contemporary application ;
- Use conceptual frameworks and paradigms to make independent interpretations and applications using criminal case studies;
- Consider, interpret and evaluate the perspectives of other students with sensitivity to the values underpinning those perspectives.

TEXTBOOKS

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

Kaercher, K. (1998). *Criminal Justice Writing Reference Manual*. Victoria: Camosun College.

Criminology 166 Course Pack *Required Readings*

CLASS FORMAT

Lots of discussion! I will lecture on the theoretical material and use videos/scenarios to provide an applied component to the course. Bring your text to every class (and the reader when required).

METHODS OF EVALUATION

1. Examinations (worth 60% of your final grade – 20% each)

- A. Your first exam will be May 18th. It will take place during the first half of the class. It will cover material addressed in class, the textbook, the reader, and any video presentations up to and including May 13th. The format will be short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and true/false.
- B. Your second exam will be June 3rd. It will take place during the first half of the class and will cover material addressed in class, the textbook, the reader, and any video presentations up to and including June 1st. The format will be the same as for the first exam.
- C. Your final exam will be during the Final examination week (date TBA). It will cover material addressed in class, the textbook, the reader, and any video presentations up to and including June 17th. The format will be the same as for the first exam.

For each exam, I will post review questions on-line.

2. Library Assignment (worth 5% of your final grade)

The library assignment is conducted by the college librarian and will consist of exercises designed to familiarize you with the Camosun College Library/Media Centre.

The date is scheduled for May 11th during class time. The completed assignment is due to me June 18th at the start of class so that I can forward it to the librarian for marking. NO LATE assignment will be forwarded to the librarian.

3. Homework Assignments from the Reader (25% of your final grade)

There are 7 articles in the Reader that we will be examining during this course. You will be given some questions to answer on each article. These questions will be given out in the class before the assignment is due.

Assignments MUST be typed and handed in during class time. I will not accept emailed assignments. No late assignment will be accepted.

Marking: To receive a “good” mark means you have provided detailed and thorough answers (not brevity); responses are in your own words and not taken directly from the reading; and there is a clear indication of your reflection and personal thoughts of the article;

“GOOD”	– 5 marks
“OK plus”	– 4 marks
“OK”	– 3 marks
“Brief”	– 1 mark
Not submitted on time /emailed – 0 marks	

Requirements:

- typed; question and answer; no cover page; title of the assignment and assignment #;

4. Journal Article Summary (10% of your final grade)

Due June 1st in class; no late summaries will be accepted;

Purpose: to familiarize you with contemporary criminological research. This includes the methods used to conduct and report research, and the terminology attached to our discipline.

Procedure: choose and summarize the findings of a journal article that relates to the explanation of criminal behaviour; the perspective must be either psychological or sociological. You might find it easiest to select a specific kind of criminal activity (e.g. robbery; assault) first.

Requirements: no more than 2 pages, typed (12 font) and double spaced (referred to as space and a half on most writing software). Do not summarize the journal abstract! Proper referencing is required. Do not include:

- Tables, graphs or other illustrations
- Footnotes or endnotes
- References from other sources

Evaluation:

1. **Clear identification of the research problem – 1 mark**
2. **Clear identification of the criminological theory or purpose of the study – 1 mark**
3. **Correct identification of the relationship between the variables - 1 mark**
4. **Identification of the methodology, sample size, and subjects – 2 marks**
5. **Clear identification of the results / findings – 1 mark**
6. **Results of the study were related back to the theory tested – 1 mark**
7. **Provide a clear statement of whether or not the findings supported the theory tested – 1 mark**
8. **Spelling and grammar – 2 marks**

COURSE GRADING SYSTEM:

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used in this course:

A+ = 95 – 100%	B = 75 - 79%	D = 50-59%
A = 90 – 94%	B- = 70 - 74%	F = 0.00-49%
A- = 85 – 89%	C+ = 65 – 69%	
B+ = 80-84%	C = 60 – 64%	

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY:

It is your responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy!

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to revision)

PART I – THE SUBJECT MATTER OF CRIMINOLOGY

May 4th

- a) Syllabus/Course introduction
- b) What Is Criminology?

Homework: Read Chapter 1 pp. 1 – 23; Chapter 2 pp. 41-62;

May 6th

- a) What is Criminology? / Counting Crime
- b) Counting Crime

Homework: Read Chapter 2 pp. 62 – 72; Assignment on “School Shootings”

May 11th

- a) Library Orientation
- b) Social Dimensions of Crime / Discussion on “School Shootings”

Homework: Read Chapter 10;

May 13th

- a) Social Dimensions
- b) Patterns of Crime

Homework: Prepare for Exam #1; Read Chapter 4;

May 18th

- a) EXAM #1
- b) Classical School of Thought

Homework: Read Chapter 5; Assignment on “3 Strikes Laws”;

PART II – CRIME CAUSATION

May 20th

- a) Classical School of Thought / Discussion on 3 Strikes Laws”
- b) Biological Explanations

Homework: Assignment on “Behaviour Genetics and Criminality”

May 25th

- a) Biological Explanations
- b) Discussion on “Behaviour Genetics and Criminality”

Homework: Read Chapter 6;

- May 27th
- a) Biological / Psychological Explanations
 - b) Psychological Explanations

Homework: Complete your Journal Article Summary

- June 1st
- a) Criminal Profiling
 - b) Crime and the Role of the Social Environment

Homework: Prepare for Exam #2; Assignment on “Girls in Trouble”;

- June 3rd
- a) EXAM #2
 - b) Discussion on “Girls in Trouble”

Homework: Read Chapter 7;

- June 8th
- a) Crime and the Role of the Social Environment
 - b) “ “ “ “ “ “

Homework: Read Chapter 8; Assignment on “A Social Learning Perspective...”

- June 10th
- a) Social Process Theories
 - b) Discussion on “A Social Learning Perspective...”

Homework: Read Chapter 9; Assignment on “Control Theory and Delinquency”;

- June 15th
- a) Social Process Theories / Discussion on “Control Theory...”
 - b) Social Conflict Theories

Homework: Assignment on “Feminism for the Mainstream Criminologist”

- June 17th
- a) Social Conflict Theories
 - b) Discussion on “Feminism for the Mainstream Criminologist”

Homework: Prepare for your final Examination!