

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

CRIM 166 - 01

Instructor:	Kelli Moorhouse, M.S.W., B.Soc.Sc. (Honours Criminology), V.I.C.	
Office:	Fisher 128 E (co-op; down the hallway next to the bookstore) 370-3431	
Office Hours:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10:30 to 12:00 Monday and Wednesday from 1:30 to 3:00pm Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 to 2:20pm Friday by appointment	
E-mail:	moorhouse@camosun.bc.ca Email me anytime – this is the best way to contact me	
Class:	Section 01 - Young 211	Monday and Wednesday 9:00 to 10:20 am

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

Williams and McShane (2004) *Criminological Theory*(4th Ed)

Criminology 166 Course Pack *Required Readings for 2004 / 2005*

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

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 65% of your final grade)

- A. Your first exam will be October 13th. It will cover material addressed in class, the textbook, the reader and corresponding assignment questions, and any video presentations. The format will be short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and true/false.
- B. Your second exam will be November 15th. The format and content will be the same as for the first exam. It will address material **not** covered in your first exam.
- C. Your final exam will be during the Final examination week (date TBA). The format and content will be similar to that found in examinations #1 and 2. It will address all material covered since examination #2.
 - a. You may be given an ‘application question’ where you will be given a scenario and asked to apply criminological theories to explain the criminal behaviour in question.
 - b. You may be tested on theories addressed in the second examination.

Note: For each exam, I will post review questions on-line. Go to the Camosun College Home page, then click “Departments”, scroll up to “Criminal Justice”, then click on “Faculty”, scroll down to my name, click on “Crim 166”, and finally click on the review questions.

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 TBA and will take place during class time.

3. Homework Questions from the Reader (worth 10% of your final grade)

During the class before we discuss an article from the Reader, I will be giving you two or three questions for you to answer once you have taken notes on the article. Write out your responses so you have something to reflect on when participating in the small group discussions.

I believe that adult learners, such as yourselves, have (should have) an intrinsic motivation in preparing for class discussions and do not need to be rewarded with a ‘grade’ for learning. However, I will be collecting homework periodically and giving you a grade.

Your grade on each submission will be either excellent (3 marks), good (2 marks), or okay (1 mark). This is a subjective evaluation so use the feedback to better your mark for your next submission. I am looking for detailed, reflective, and personal responses to the questions.

You **MUST** be in class and hand in your homework personally for me to give you a grade. There are no exceptions unless discussed with me in advance and approved by me. Sorry.

4. Research Report (20% of your final grade)

Due November 8th in class; no late summaries will be accepted (unless approved by me in advance);

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.

1. Locate 3 different journals (not popular magazines such as Newsweek) that have content pertaining to the field of criminology. For example in the American Sociological Review you may find articles relating to some topic within criminology. Do not use different volumes of the same journal. This is the most difficult component of this assignment as you will need to take a few hours in the library/online to find appropriate 'journals'.
2. For each journal identify **one** specific article that relates to some content of our course. At this stage you will have 3 different articles that have come from 3 different journals. **Attach the first page of each article to your written report.**
3. Write up:
 - a. Use a different page for each article. Using the format found in the writing reference manual, at the top of the page put the reference information for the article.
 - b. In a sentence or two, clearly outline the purpose of the article.
 - c. In a sentence or two, describe the findings or conclusions drawn by the authors.
 - d. In a few paragraphs, discuss how the research relates to some specific content covered in our course. Be very specific and make a clear connection.
 - e. In a page, discuss the implications of the content of the article for practice in the field. In other words, what value does the content of this article have in helping you work in the criminal justice field?
4. Evaluation
 - a. Used correct referencing - 1 mark
 - b. Clearly presented the purpose of the article - 1 mark
 - c. Clearly presented the conclusions drawn by the author(s) - 1 mark
 - d. Made a very clear connection between the article and the course content - 3 marks
 - e. Insightful and reflective discussion of the implications for practice - 3 marks
 - f. Spelling /grammar - 2 marks (for every 3 errors loose 1 mark)
 - g. Excellent organization and overall presentation – 1 mark
 - h. Appropriate choice of article – if inappropriate then you will not receive any mark. Check with me if you need confirmation of the appropriateness of your choice of articles.

COURSE GRADING SYSTEM:

The following percentage conversions to letter grade are 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!

CLASS SCHEDULE – Fall 2004 (subject to revision)

Sept. 8 th	Introduction to the Course
Sept. 13 th	Overview of the Discipline of Criminology Homework: Assignment on “The Meaning of Crime Statistics”
Sept. 15 th	Counting Crime Discussion on “The Meaning of Crime Statistics” (article) Homework: Assignment on “Girls in Trouble”
Sept. 20 th /22 nd	Social Dimensions of Crime / Patterns of crime Discussion on “Girls in Trouble” (article) Crime Won’t Increase in the Future (video) Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter two; Assignment on “Three Strikes Law”
Sept. 27 th /29 th	Classical School Discussion on “Three Strikes Law” (article) Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter three; Assignment on “Biological Factors in Criminal Behaviour”

Oct 4th / 6th Biological explanations for Criminal Behaviour
Discussion on “Biological Factors in Criminal Behaviour” (article)

Homework: Prepare for Examination #1

Oct.13th **Examination #1**

Homework: Assignment on “DNA Testing”

Oct. 18th Genetics – Controlling and Predicting Criminality
Discussion on “DNA Testing” (article)
Gene squad (video)

Oct. 20th /25th Psychological Explanations for Criminal Behaviour
Psychopaths: Natural Born Killers (video)

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter four

Oct. 27th The Chicago School

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter five

Nov. 1st Differential Association

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter six

Nov. 3rd Anomie Theory

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter seven

Nov. 8th /10th Subcultural Theories

Homework: Prepare for Examination #2

Nov. 15th **Examination #2**

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter eight
Assignment on “School Shootings”

Nov. 17th /22nd

Labelling Theories

Discussion on “School Shootings” (article)

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter nine
Assignment on “They’re Not Real Criminals...”

Nov. 24th /29th

Conflict Theories

Discussion on “They’re Not Real Criminals...” (article)

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter ten

Dec. 1st

Control Theories

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter eleven

Dec. 6th

Rational theories

Homework: Read Textbook, Chapter thirteen
Assignment on “Feminism for the mainstream...”

Dec. 8th

Gender based theories

Discussion on “Feminism for the mainstream criminologist” (article)

Final examination
