

FALL 2004
CRIM 166 (004) - INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY
COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Hayli Millar
Class Time: Tuesdays 6:00 – 8:50 PM
Class Location: Young 201
Office: Young 210A
Office Phone: TBA
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4:30 – 5:45 PM and by appointment
Email: hayli_millar@yahoo.ca

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 a two hour and fifty minute lecture/seminar once weekly and assigned readings. Course delivery methods include lectures, student discussion groups, and student exercises assigned by the instructor in class. Course delivery methods may also include guest speakers and/or audio-visual presentations.

Required Texts:

Williams, F. P. and McShane M. D. (2004) Criminological Theory, (4th Ed.) New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

CRIM 166 Introduction to Criminology Required Readings (2004-2005) (collection of photocopied articles).

Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program (2004).

Recommended: Canadian Criminal Code

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines criminology as a social science, surveying its theories, categories, 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 its 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 and development 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 the instructor 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:

Attendance	05%
Readings/Group Participation	10%
Library Assignment	05%
Journal Article Summaries (2 @ 10% each)	20%
Quizzes (2 @ 15% each)	30%
Final Examination	30%
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Total	100%

1. Attendance (total value: 05%)

This course is intended to be an interactive learning experience between students and the instructor. Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in class discussions based on the assigned readings. A mark for attendance will be quantified at the end of the semester based on the number of classes a student attends. Students who wish to be credited for missed classes must have a legitimate reason for non-attendance and provide supporting documentation.

2. Readings/Group Discussion (total value: 10%)

The course materials include a set of readings that are meant to stimulate class discussion about criminological theory and its application to contemporary social issues as well as challenges faced by the justice system. There are five ‘group discussion’ readings throughout the semester. To prepare for these group discussions, students are asked to read and think about the assigned reading before coming to class. Each student is required to independently prepare two key ‘talking points’ or questions for each of the five group discussions based on the assigned reading.

The 'talking points' or questions must be prepared in advance of the class and legibly hand written on an index card provided by the instructor. The 'talking points' or questions will form the basis of discussion in class. After the group/class discussion, each student will submit her/his index card to the instructor for evaluation. The index card must be submitted on the day the reading is discussed. It may not be submitted after the class discussion has taken place. A mark will be assigned for the two talking points/questions based on their originality and relevance to the theory under discussion. Each set of talking points/questions is worth a maximum of two (2) marks. Guidelines explaining the format and evaluation criteria for this assignment will be distributed separately.

3. Library Assignment (total value: 05%)

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.

4. Journal Summaries (total value: 20%)

Journal Summary #1 (10%) Due date: 19 October 2004
Journal Summary #2 (10%) Due date: 23 November 2004

Students will summarize and analyze the findings of two criminological research studies as reported in an academic social sciences journal. Students will prepare a summary of each article based on a series of questions prepared by the instructor. Each 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.

5. Quizzes and Final Exam (total value - 60%)

Quiz #1 (15%) Date: 5 October 2004
Quiz #2 (15%) Date: 9 November 2004

There are two closed book quizzes for this course. Each quiz will consist of a number of multiple choice and true or false questions and will be held during the first half of regularly scheduled class time. The quizzes will be followed by regular class instruction.

Final Examination (30%)

There is a closed book final examination for this course. The final examination is cumulative, testing students on all materials canvassed in the course. The final examination will consist of multiple choice, true or false, short answer and/or essay questions. The final examination will be scheduled during the final examination period 13-21 December 2004.

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 13-21, 2004 inclusive). Students should familiarize themselves with the Final Examinations section of the academic policies and procedures outlined in the 2004/2005 Camosun College Calendar.

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 criminal justice events that directly relate to course content.

Electronic devices — including mobile phones — may not be used during class instruction, class discussion, quizzes or examinations unless prior approval of the course instructor has been obtained.

2. Class Preparation

Students are expected to read the assigned readings before 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 quiz or exam earlier or later than originally scheduled. The quizzes and final exam must be written at the times and on the dates assigned. A student will only be allowed to write a missed quiz or exam 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 quiz or exam due to illness must inform the instructor on or before the date of the test of the reason for her/his absence.

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

4. Late Penalty

All assignments must be submitted on the scheduled due date. Late written assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day. The starting point for late penalty assessment commences immediately after the instructor has received written assignments at the beginning of class. Students with a legitimate concern about meeting the due dates should consult with the instructor well in advance of the assignment due date.

5. Written Assignment Requirements

Written assignments for this course must be typed/word processed, double-spaced and meet the basic requirements for formal academic papers as outlined in the guidelines and the Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program. Written assignments must be submitted in person to the instructor at the beginning of class. Written assignments cannot be submitted electronically. Assignments received at the end of class or not given directly to the instructor will be penalized as per #4 above.

All assignments submitted for evaluation must be original and produced for the purposes of this course only.

6. Course Completion Requirements

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

7. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the failure to acknowledge, fully and accurately, 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 includes failing to acknowledge or improperly documenting the source(s) of paraphrased information/ideas.

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

8. Academic Dishonesty/Inappropriate Student Conduct

The Criminal Justice Department has a clearly articulated policy on academic dishonesty and inappropriate 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 2004 term courses without receiving a failing grade is 9 November 2004.

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's student appeals policy and process is outlined in the 2004/2005 Camosun College Calendar.

11. Students with Special Needs

Students with a relevant disability should contact the course instructor at the earliest opportunity to ensure that student needs are fully met. Students with special needs are encouraged to contact the Camosun College Disability Resource Centre at Lansdowne Campus, Dawson 202 (250-370-3311).

12. Student Responsibility for Academic Policies and Procedures

It is each student's responsibility to familiarize her/himself with academic policies and procedures for the Criminal Justice program and the college. Academic policies and procedures are outlined in the 2004/2005 Camosun College calendar. Students experiencing difficulties during the semester are encouraged to talk to the course instructor at the earliest opportunity.

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SEMESTER OUTLINE – TOPICS AND READING LIST

TOPIC	REQUIRED READING	DATE
PART I		
THE SUBJECT MATTER OF CRIMINOLOGY		
What is a crime? What is criminology? Crime versus deviance Criminology and social policy		7 September
Library Assignment		
Measuring crime Data on crime- UCR, victimization surveys, offender reports Common crime categories The nature and extent of crime in Canada	<i>Reading #1: The meaning of crime statistics</i>	14 September
PART II		
THEORY DEVELOPMENT IN CRIMINOLOGY		
What is theory? Hypothesis building and testing Research on crime and criminal behaviour Theory, research and practice	<i>Williams & McShane: Chapter 1</i>	21 September
Reading/Group Discussion	<i>Reading #2: Girls in trouble</i>	
PART III		
EXPLAINING CRIME AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR		
Classical School of Criminology	<i>Williams & McShane: Chapter 2</i>	28 September
Reading/Group Discussion	<i>Reading #3: Three strikes laws</i>	
Quiz #1		5 October
Positive School of Criminology: Biological approaches	<i>Williams & McShane: Chapter 3 Reading #4: Biological factors in criminal behaviour See also Reading #8: Alcohol and other drugs See also Reading #10: DNA testing</i>	
Positive School of Criminology: Biological approaches (continued)		12 October
Positive School of Criminology: Psychological/psychiatric approaches	<i>Williams & McShane: Chapter 11</i>	19 October
Journal Summary #1 Due		

Is crime the product of social environment?	<i>Williams and McShane: Chapters 4, 6, 7</i>	26 October
Reading/Group Discussion	<i>Reading # 5, School shootings</i>	
Is crime the product of social environment (continued)?		2 November
Quiz #2		9 November
Is crime the product of social interaction?	<i>Williams and McShane: Chapters 5, 8, 10</i>	
Is crime the product of social interaction (continued)?		16 November
Reading/Group Discussion	<i>Reading #6: But they're not real criminals</i>	
Is crime the product of inequitable power relations?	<i>Williams and McShane: Chapters 9, 13</i> <i>Reading #8: Feminism for the mainstream criminologist</i>	23 November
Journal Summary #2 Due		23 November
PART IV		
CONTEMPORARY THEORIES		
	<i>Williams and McShane: Chapters 12, 14, 15, 16</i>	30 November
PART V		
APPLYING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY TO CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS		
Reading/Group Discussion	<i>Reading # 8: Alcohol and other drugs</i> <i>Reading # 9: Crime and the family and the household</i> <i>Reading #10: DNA testing</i>	7 December

IMPORTANT DATES FOR COURSE EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS		
7 September – 7 December	Attendance	05%
7 September – 7 December	Readings/Group Discussion	10%
➤ 21 September	Reading #2	
➤ 28 September	Reading #3	
➤ 26 October	Reading #5	
➤ 16 November	Reading #6	
➤ 7 December	Readings #8, 9 and 10	
7 September	Library Assignment	05%
5 October	Quiz #1	15%
19 October	Journal Summary #1	10%
9 November	Quiz #2	15%
23 November	Journal Summary #2	10%
13-21 December	Final Exam Period	30%

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REFERENCE READING LIST

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

- 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). *Biobehavioral Perspectives in Criminology* Toronto: Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- Fuller, J.R. (1998). *Criminal Justice: A Peacemaking Perspective* Toronto: Allyn and Bacon.
- Hackler, J. (2000). *Canadian Criminology*. Scarborough, Ontario: Prentice Hall.
- 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
- 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.

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE-RELATED WEB RESOURCES

See the links posted at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/schools/artsci/crim/links.php#assoc>

Access to Justice Network Canada <http://www.acjnet.org/na/home/default.aspx>

British Columbia Crime Prevention Association <http://www.bccpa.org/>

British Columbia Law Institute <http://www.bcli.org/>

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies http://www.elizabethfry.ca/caefs_e.htm

Canadian Civil Liberties Association <http://www.ccla.org/>

Canadian Criminal Justice Association <http://www.ccja-acjp.ca/>

Canadian Security Intelligence Service <http://www.csis-scrs.gc.ca/>

Canadian Police College http://www.cpc.gc.ca/library/links_e.htm

Continuing Legal Education Association Society of British Columbia <http://www.cle.bc.ca/CLE/default.htm>

Correctional Service of Canada <http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/>

Criminal Justice Resources on the Web <http://vms.www.uwplatt.edu/~cj/cjrefs.htm#Policy>

Criminology Links <http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/library/links/criminology.html>

Criminology Research Council <http://www.aic.gov.au/crc/>

Department of Justice Canada <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/>

Government of Canada National Parole Board <http://www.npb-cnlc.gc.ca/>

John Howard Society of Canada <http://www.johnhoward.ca/>

International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy <http://www.icclr.law.ubc.ca/>

International Corrections and Prisons Association <http://www.icpa.ca/>

International Criminal Law Network <http://www.icln.net/>

International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law <http://www.isrcl.org/>

Justice Institute of British Columbia <http://www.jibc.bc.ca/>

Law Commission of Canada <http://www.lcc.gc.ca/>

National Crime Prevention Strategy <http://www.prevention.gc.ca/en/>

National Criminal Justice Reference Service <http://www.ncjrs.org/>

Office of International Criminal Justice <http://www.oicj.org/>

Solicitor General of Canada <http://www.psepc-sppcc.gc.ca/>

Statistics Canada, Canadian Crime Statistics <http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/justic.htm>

United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network <http://www.uncjin.org/Statistics/statistics.html>

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute <http://www.unicri.it/>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime http://www.unodc.org/unodc/crime_cicp_sitemap.html

Vera Institute of Justice <http://www.vera.org/>

World Justice Information Network <http://www.wjin.net/index.php>