

# CRIM 166

## Introduction to Criminology



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.....or by appointment

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines criminology as a social science, surveying its terminology, concepts, theories, relevant research and its relation to other social science disciplines. The course embraces the study of crime, criminal behavior 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.

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Communicate an understanding of the origins, development, current status and future directions of criminological thought and discourse.
2. Describe, classify and analyze the problem of crime, criminological theory and its contemporary application.
3. Use conceptual frameworks and paradigms to make independent interpretations and applications of contemporary criminological issues.
4. Critically assess crime statistics and the problems associated with their interpretation.

### REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

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

*CRIM 166 Introduction to criminology: Required readings*. Compiled by M. Young & K. Kaercher. Camosun College Custom Courseware, 2004-2005.

### RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Kaercher, K. (2004). *Writing reference manual for the criminal justice program*. Victoria, BC: Camosun College.

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD

This class will characteristically follow a lecture/class discussion format. Students are expected to contribute to the learning format through readings and class participation.

Students are expected to attend all lectures and actively participate in class discussions. The lectures given are NOT intended to review all the material upon which you will be examined. Therefore, independent reading is **crucial** for success in this course.

If circumstances arise that require a student to miss a scheduled lecture, it is not necessary to inform that instructor of the reasons for their absence however, if the absence does not meet the instructor policy statement (see page 4) the student will lose their attendance/participation grade, receive a grade of zero on an exam or a reduction of grades on their term paper. Students should be aware that a significant portion of the material covered in this course will be found **exclusively** in the lectures. Students are responsible for obtaining any missed *lecture notes* from their *colleagues*. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missed *handouts* from the *instructor*.

## **STUDENT ASSESSMENT - COURSE COMPONENTS**

### **1. Attendance/Participation = 9%**

Students are expected to arrive to class ON TIME and sign the attendance sheet at the start of class. If a student is late for a class, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor that they were in fact present. Students who wish to receive credit for a missed class MUST have a legitimate reason for non-attendance and provide supporting documentation.

It is expected that students will be attentive, non-disruptive, open-minded, constructive, and respectful of others during class. Students are encouraged to identify current issues and events that directly relate to course content.

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

### **2. Quiz 1 = 20%**

Quiz 1 will be held in-class on May 25, 2005. The in-class examination will consist of material covered via the textbook, on notes taken during class, videos as well as any additional readings assigned. Should you fail to attend the midterm exam you will receive a grade of zero for this component.

Students will not be permitted to write an exam/quiz if arriving 30 plus minutes late, or after a person has finished the exam and has left the classroom.

### **3. Quiz 2 = 25%**

Quiz 2 will be held in-class on June 8, 2005. The in-class examination will consist of material covered via the textbook, on notes taken during class, videos as well as any additional readings assigned. Should you fail to attend the midterm exam you will receive a grade of zero for this component.

Students will not be permitted to write an exam/quiz if arriving 30 plus minutes late, or after a person has finished the exam and has left the classroom.

### **4. Research Paper = 21%**

See the attached research paper assignment with a due date of June 15, 2005.

### **5. Final Exam = 25%**

The final exam occurs will be announced This exam will consist of material covered via the textbook, on notes taken during class, videos as well as any additional readings assigned. Should you fail to attend the final exam you will receive a grade of zero for this component. Do not make holiday plans until the final exam is announced.

Students will not be permitted to write an exam/quiz if arriving 30 plus minutes late, or after a person has finished the exam and has left the classroom.

**Note:** Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to contact the Camosun College Disability Resources Centre at Lansdowne Campus, Dawson 202 Ph: 250-370-3311

### REVIEW OF COURSE COMPONENTS

Attendance/Participation	9%	As indicated by an asterisk on the tentative course schedule, page 5.
Quiz 1	20%	May 25
Quiz 2	25%	June 8
Research Paper	21%	June 15
Final Exam	25%	TBA

### CRIMINOLOGY GRADING POLICY

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

### LETTER GRADE TRANSLATION

**A** Designates 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** Designates 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** Designates 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** Designates 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** Designates "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.

## **INSTUCTOR POLICY STATEMENT EXEPTIONAL AND UNANTICIPATED CIRCUMSTANCES**

I have given you all of the relevant due dates and exam times on day 1 this May 9, 2005. Therefore, sufficient warning has been given to meet all the requirements on those dates and times. I expect you to meet all the requirements as set out above. Yet, with exception there are at times **unanticipated and exceptional** circumstances that preclude a student's ability to meet the requirements. This does not include for example, a family wedding in June, too many things due at the same time, sleeping in, attending a concert, forgetfulness, holidays, work obligations, computer and printer problems etc. If you are ill, get someone to drop off your paper for you.

Unanticipated and exceptional circumstances I am prepared to make exceptions for, provided that they meet the criteria as being **unanticipated and exceptional**. In the unfortunate event that this happens to you, my expectation is that: **(1)** you will inform me at the earliest opportunity possible what has happened and, **(2)** provide appropriate and detailed documentation that would make it clear that the criteria for unanticipated and exceptional circumstances are met **(3)** take steps to correct the omission as soon as possible.

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## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Students are expected to read the assigned readings before coming to class and to participate in class discussions and exercises based on these readings.

\* represents the dates attendance will count towards the attendance/participation component.

### PART I: The Subject Matter of Criminology

Week 1 – May 9 Monday	Introductions, overview of the course, discussion of course outline Theme: What is Criminology?
Week 1 – May 11 Wednesday	Theme: Counting Crime CCW #1 The Meaning of Crime Statistics

### PART II: Theory Development in Criminology

*Week 2 – May 16 Monday	Theme: Counting Crime cont..., Media influences on crime, and what is theory? Required Readings W/McShane Chapter 1 CCW #2 Girls in Trouble
*Week 2 – May 18 Wednesday	Theme: The Classical School W/McShane Chapter 2 CCW #3 Three Strikes Laws
Week 3 – May 23 Monday	Theme: Study Day?! No class - Victoria Day Holiday
Week 3 – May 25 Wednesday	<b>Quiz 1: 1 ½ hours in class exam</b> Video
*Week 4 – May 30 Monday	Theme: The Positive School W/McShane Chapter 3 CCW #4 Biological Factors
*Week 4 - June 1 Wednesday	Theme: Psychological Theories W/McShane Chapter 11 and Social Structure Theories W/McShane Chapter 4
*Week 5 - June 6 Monday	Theme: Social Structure Theories Continued - W/McShane Chapters 6 and 7
*Week 5 - June 8 Wednesday	<b>Quiz 2: 1 ½ hours in class exam</b> Theme: Social Process Theories W/McShane Chapters 5 and 8
*Week 6 - June 13 Monday	Theme: Social Process Theories Cont...W/McShane Chapter 10 CCW #5 School Shootings Conflict Theories Chapter 9
*Week 6 - June 15 Wednesday	Theme: Feminist Theories W/McShane Chapter 13 CCW #7 Feminism for the mainstream criminologist <b>Research Paper Due</b>

### PART III: Contemporary Theories

*Week 7 - June 20 Monday	Theme: Contemporary Theories W/McShane Chapters 12, 14, 15, 16 CCW #8 Alcohol and Other Drugs
Week 7 - June 22 Wednesday	Theme: Contemporary Theories continued.....
FINAL EXAM	<b>Final Exam Period June 27-29</b>

# RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT

**Due Date: June 15, 2005**

Collect **3** relatively recent (within the last 5 months and up till June 10th, 2005) criminology related newspaper articles from a local or national newspaper. Using three different paradigms (1 paradigm per article) explain the media article by integrating your theory. For each article you collect, prepare a 4-5 page analysis linking the article to a paradigm discussed in your textbook. It is recommended that the paper contain one table of contents and one list of references. In addition, you must provide a photocopy of your selected media articles.

Your goal is to analyze and explain each article by integrating theory, do not reiterate the article.

## ORGANIZATION AND LAYOUT

The body of your paper per article must contain a minimum of **4 full pages and a maximum of 5 full pages for each article** (the title, table of contents and reference pages are extra as well as an appendix), double spaced in printed format (handwritten assignments will not be accepted). Exceeding these parameters is not recommended.

### Title Page

Your type written title page should contain the following information:

- (1) A creative title of your own choosing
- (2) Your name and student ID number
- (3) The course and section number (Crim 166, Section 001)
- (4) The semester and year (Summer, 2005)
- (5) My name

### References

You must utilize a minimum (maximum endless) of **2** sources beyond our required texts. That is, **2 sources per article** (the article as well the texts used in class are **NOT** included as meeting the references requirement. However, you should make use of these resources and they therefore should be referenced in your paper and list of references. These sources may be other textbooks, scientific journals, and/or legitimate websites.

### ORIGINAL RESEARCH

**DO NOT** conduct original research – this means no research should be done with human subjects. For example, no interviews should be or need to be completed with inmates, family, and/or a psychopathic ex, as you would be violating Camosun's policies for research with human subjects.

Students are expected to reference **ALL** material taken from other sources. Plagiarism will be severely penalized and may result in suspension or expulsion from the College.

### APA REFERENCING

Your references must be properly cited within your paper and at the end of your paper by using APA format.

- (1) You can also get the full Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association referencing guide at BF 76.7 P83 2001 in the Camosun Lansdowne campus on a 2 to 24 hour reserve.

NOTE: you **must** use the **fifth** edition – any editions prior to this will give you incorrect/outdated information, as there have been several important changes since the fourth edition.

- (2) The writing reference manual provided by the criminal justice department. In addition to this resource, there are additional resources on my personal website at [www.members.shaw.ca/lpatenaude](http://www.members.shaw.ca/lpatenaude)
- (3) You can always ask your instructor once you have made a concerted effort to utilize the above, for additional guidance.

## **Grading Procedure**

This research paper comprises 21% of your final grade. Seven percent will be devoted to each article. Your masterpiece will be graded on the following criteria:

**(1) Content and Scholarly Writing** – evidence that the student has thoroughly read the extant literature and has provided thoughtful analysis of the issue(s) at hand. Understanding of the material, evidence of independent thought, depth of analysis/application, use of concepts, theory and/or data, introduction and conclusion, syntax (sentence structure), spelling, clarity of thought, coherence of the total paper.

**(2) APA Formatting** – proper use of APA formatting in the body of the paper and in the references section. Footnotes and endnotes are only used for clarification/explanation; they are NOT used to cite authors. Proper use of paraphrasing and proper use of quotations, (due to the length of this assignment quotations of 40 words or more should be used a maximum of 1 time per article).

**(3) Adherence to Guidelines:** Assignment length - minimum/maximum length of the paper is met (the title page, reference page and appendices are not included in the minimum/maximum length). An endnotes page is also not included in the assignment length. In other words, the total body of your paper is your page 1 and your paper should be a minimum of **12 full** pages but should NOT exceed a maximum of **15 full** pages. Minimum and mandatory sources are met (minimum 6 sources maximum endless), layout - i.e. margins – 1 inch (2.5 cm) top, bottom and sides, page numbering, font size – Times New Roman 12, double spaced.

**Note:** if one of the elements is seriously lacking another element is also likely to be deficient. For instance, if you fail meet the minimum requirements of sources, the content of your paper will also suffer.

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments will be handed in at the **beginning** of each class on the day of their due date. Although not encouraged, in the event that you do not hand in your assignment at the beginning of class on the due date, late assignments will be deducted 10% each day (including the date of hand-in and including the weekend – Saturdays and Sundays) to a maximum of 50%. After such time assignments will **NOT** be accepted.

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 the late penalty provision above.

As you are likely aware from the previous semester(s), research papers amidst exams and additional assignments have a tendency to “sneak up” on you and overload your schedule. Additionally with the limited time in the summer semester things can get chaotic fast. You have all the necessary tools to complete this assignment so it is to your benefit to start this assignment immediately.