



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Description: An examination of the structure, organization, policies and practices of the Canadian correctional system. This includes the historical development of this enterprise and discussion of the correctional mandate, programs, outcomes, and contemporary issues facing the system.

1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: KARIN KAERCHER
- (b) Office hours: Tues/Thurs. 10:30-11:30; Wed/Fri 12:30 – 2:00
- (c) Location: Young 210 A
- (d) Phone: 370-3333
- (e) E-mail: Kaercher@camosun.bc.ca
- (f) Credits transferable to: Simon Fraser University, University of Regina, University of Ottawa and UCFV and others- see BC Transfer Guide online.
- (g) Prerequisite: CRIM 154
- (h) Class Time: Wed/Fri Sec. 01- 9-10:20; Sec. 02- 11:00-12:30

2. Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify, describe and demonstrate an understanding of the various agencies that comprise corrections.
2. Identify and describe the various legislative mandates of the correctional services provided in Canada.
3. Identify, describe and discuss the major strategies utilized in Canadian corrections.
4. Analyze and discuss various critical issues challenging the correctional system.
5. Understand the problems associated with fulfilling the correctional mandate.

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.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

Griffiths, C. (2004) **Canadian Corrections.** (Second edition) Scarborough, Ontario: Nelson Canada.

Andersen, E. (1993) **Hard Place to do Time.** New Westminster, B. C.: Willpointe Publishing.

(b) Other

Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program

Recommended:

Corrections Act of BC
Corrections and Conditional Release Act
Basic Facts about Corrections available at:
http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/text/pblct/basicfacts/BasicFacts_e.shtml

4. Course Format

The primary objective of this course is to engage students in a critical examination of the correction services that exist at the federal, provincial, community and private levels in Canada. In order to do this, the text, ***Canadian Corrections***, will play a significant role in helping you to master the subject matter of this course. It is important the each chapter be read prior to the scheduled class. This will be the assumption under which I will be working. Furthermore, there are many classes in which you will be required to bring the text for use in group work. Please take careful note of these days, as completing the group work assignments without the text will be difficult and sometimes impossible.

To maximize your learning, I recommend that you pay careful attention to the objectives listed at the beginning of each chapter and the review questions listed at the end of each chapter. You should be able to answer each of these. Questions about the text readings should be raised in class or during office hours. Class time will be used to review, clarify and apply the concepts discussed in the readings and will consist of group work and class discussion. Your readiness to engage in these opportunities will significantly improve your understanding of the corrections enterprise.

The text, ***Hard Place to do Time***, is to be read by Oct. 17th on your own time and the Fact Hunt can be completed as you read through the book.

5. Basis of Student Assessment

The total marks for this course are distributed as follows:

Research Paper	20%
Fact Hunt (Hard place to do time)	10%
Midterm	25%
Final Examination	35%
Web Challenges/Participation	10%
Total	100%

a) Research Paper 20%

Due Date: Nov. 9, 2007

Each student is required to write an 8-10 page research paper on a correctional topic of his or her choice. Guidelines for this assignment will be distributed separately in class.

b) Fact Hunt – Hard place to do time 10%

Due date: Oct. 17, 2007

Students will be given a handout that requires the identification of certain facts that are related to the reading of our text ***A hard place to do time***. These will be due and marked in class on October 17th. The class will be dedicated to a discussion of the facts contained within this book. **No late assignments will be accepted** without prior consultation with the instructor.

c) Examinations (total value -60%)

Mid-Term (25%)	Oct. 26, 2007
Final Examination (35%)	Final Examination Period

Each exam will consist of a number of multiple choice, true or false, and short answer/essay questions. The mid-term exam 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 10-18, 2007 inclusive).

d) Web Challenges/Participation

10%

Students will be required to contribute to and participate in a number of small group, class based activities scheduled throughout the semester. There will also be a number of out of class activities that students will be asked to participate in, including tours of facilities and challenges to find corrections related information on the Internet. Participation in these activities can contribute up to 10 marks towards the final grade. Your mark will be dependent on the number of times you participate in these activities.

6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B = 73 - 76%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89%	B- = 70 - 72%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 80 - 84%	C+ = 65 - 69%	
B+ = 77 - 79%	C = 60 - 64%	

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.

7. 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. 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.

3. Late Penalty

Students having a legitimate concern about meeting the due dates should consult with the instructor well in advance. All assignments must be completed and submitted by the date assigned. All late written assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day. Students may negotiate the late submission of **one assignment** in the semester; please come see me if you think you need to make use of this permission.

4. 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 as 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.

5. Course Completion Requirements

Students must complete all evaluative requirements (Research Paper, Fact Hunt, and Exams) to receive a passing grade for the course. Students failing to complete all the requirements will receive an F grade. The paper you complete for this course must be original and may not have been submitted for another course.

6. Plagiarism

If you are concerned about your ability to properly credit and cite references, please come see me asap. I am here to help you!!!

What is 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 is documented by your instructor, the penalty will be an automatic "0" for that assignment.

7. 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.

8. Course Withdrawal

The last day to withdraw from this and other Fall 2007 term courses without receiving a failing grade is November 6, 2007.

9. 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 34 of the 2007/2008 Camosun College Calendar.

10. 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.

8. Semester Outline - Topics and Reading List

1. Course Introduction - **Sept 5/7**

Read Ch. 1 - Systems of Corrections: An Overview for Sept 12.

2. What is Corrections? – **Sept 12**

Definition

Schematic of Correctional Services

Challenges and Trends

An Inmate's Perspective: Ryan Love – The fences we build (Handout)

3. History of Punishment and Corrections in Canada – **Sept 14**

Video: History of Punishment (53 mins) – Discussion questions

Read Ch. 2 The evolution of Punishment and Corrections for Sept 19 * bring your text*******

4. Historical Overview of Correctional philosophy and Practice in Canada- **Sept 19**

5. Putting penology into perspective: Class group work - **Sept 21 ***** bring your text******

- public versus private punishment
- social, political, economic, and philosophical variables and their impact on corrections
- personal ideology

Read Ch. 3 Crime, Criminal Justice and Corrections for Sept. 26

6. Sentencing Options and Objectives – **Sept. 26 - 28 ****bring your text******

Class group work: Sentencing articles

- identifying the purpose/objectives of sentencing
- sentencing disparities?
- effectiveness of incarceration (Box. 3.1)

An Inmate's Perspective: Ryan Love - What are we doing? (handout)

Applying the concept of risk management to the use of sanctions

7. Correctional Institutions: Incarceration in Canada

Inside Canada's Prisons: video Vol. 1– Oct 3

Inside Canada's Prisons: video Vol. 2– Oct 5

Read Ch. 5 Correctional Institutions **bring text to Oct. 10 and 12th class******

The evolution of Prison Architecture –**Oct 10th ***Bring Text******

- Compare and contrast William Head Institution with Maplehurst

The concept of "Total Institution"

An Inmate's Perspective: Ryan Love – Good, bad, whatever (handout)

Issue: Drugs in Prison -Harm Reduction in the Prison Milieu – You decide –**Oct 12th**

*****Bring text****** (for this session, please review At Issue – reducing the risks on p. 196 and come prepared to discuss your viewpoint in small group/class format)

8. **Hard Place To do Time** – Fact Hunt – **Oct. 17th**

- the fact hunt will be marked and reviewed in class

9. The Kept – Who are the inmates in Canada's prisons? –**Oct. 19th**

- inmate profile, offences and categories of offenders (p.184-191)
- Sentenced to life: video**

10. Correctional Workers – guest speaker – **Oct. 24th**

Read Ch. 6 Correctional Officers

MID-TERM – Oct. 26 (based on Ch. 1,2,3,5,6,and 7)

11. Doing time – Oct. 31th

Read Ch. 7 *Doing time* ***Bring text*******

Group Work – Considering the pains of imprisonment
Suicide in Prison – Box 7.10 and 7.11

12. Classification and Case Management –Nov. 2

Read Ch. 8 *Classification, case management and treatment*

The classification process, purpose and outcomes; case management
Employing the Risk/Needs Model to SCOTT FRASER -****Bring text*** Nov. 7
Group Work: Evaluation of interventions – Nov. 9 –*****Bring text*****

13. Community corrections

Read Ch 9 *Release From Prison* **Bring text*******

Getting out: Conditional Release –Nov. 14th
Managing Risk – tools and strategies – Nov. 16th
Role of Halfway Houses – guest speaker – Nov. 21

Read Ch. 10 *Re-entry and life after prison*

Reintegration challenges: Video On a String – Nov. 23

14. Probation Services

Read Ch. 4 *Alternatives to Confinement*

Probation Services – guest speaker – Nov. 28
Group Work: Applying risk/needs to a probationer *****Bring text**** - Nov. 30th

15. Restorative Justice

Retributive versus restorative justice – Dec 5th

Video : Restorative Justice: For victims, communities and offenders (25 mins)

Restorative justice –guest speaker - Dec. 7th

9. Corrections Related Journals

Canadian Journal of Criminology
Forum on Corrections Research
International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice
Criminology
Crime and Delinquency
Criminal Justice and Behaviour

Trade Journals:

Let's Talk
Corrections Today
Federal Probation

10. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html