



**School of Arts & Science
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT**

**CRIM 188-002
Issues in Criminal Justice
2008F**

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web

Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Scott Deschamps		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-8:45am		
(c)	Location:	Young 200		
(d)	Phone:	370-3431	Alternative Phone:	889-6082
(e)	Email:	DeschampsS@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the concepts of human rights, social justice, and harm reduction.
2. Explain the role of the media in the creation and maintenance of moral panics (sex offenders, serial killers, missing children) and in the spread of misinformation about criminal justice.
3. Research and present findings on the political, legal, social, and economic effects of Canada's colonization of aboriginal people.
4. Describe the various roles associated with effective team work.
5. Use effective group work skills to complete a group project.
6. Explain how policy is developed within criminal justice and its implications for practice.

3. Required Materials

Texts: Course Readings

4. Course Content and Schedule

This course focuses on a number of major issues currently affecting the applied and theoretical aspects of the Canadian criminal justice system. Students will identify, describe and analyze specific contemporary issues.

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, video presentations, student presentations, class discussions and small group exercises. An emphasis will be placed on group/team work and presentation experiences. It is recommended that students read the assigned reading selections prior to coming to class.

PROPOSED COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is intended to provide you with a guide to the date on which particular topics will be dealt with in class. Additionally, it specifies dates when projects and assignments are due. Topics, dates and assignment due dates may vary slightly due to the flow of the course. The instructor will advise you of any changes to this schedule as the course progresses.

- WEEK 1. - Introduction to course, course organization, and course requirements
- WEEK 2. - Introduction to effective team/group work
(Readings #1 and #2)
- WEEK 3. - Media Literacy
- Presentations Skills
- WEEK 4. - Crime Myths/Moral Panic
(missing children, violent girl gangs, serial murderers, sexual offenders)
(Readings #3 and #4)

Reflection #1 due: September 23
(group work experience relating to media evaluation)

- WEEK 5. - Crime Myths/Moral Panic (continued)
- WEEK 6. - Experiences of Aboriginal People in Canada
(Readings #5 & #6)

Reflection #2 due: October 9
(group work experience relating to crime myths/moral panic)

- WEEK 7. - Introduction to Policy Analysis
(Readings #7 and #8)

Group Written Report #1 due: October 16
(crime myths/moral panic)

- WEEK 8. - Policy Analysis (continued)
- WEEK 9. - Human Rights, Social Justice and Harm Reduction
(Readings #9, #10, #11 and #12)

Individual Presentations and Discussion

Individual Written Report due: October 30
(Aboriginal Experiences)

- WEEK 10. - Group Presentation & Discussion
- WEEK 11. - Group Presentation & Discussion

**Reflection #3 due: November 13
(group work experience relating to policy analysis assignment)**

WEEK 12. - Group Presentation & Discussion

**Group Written Report #2 due: November 18
(policy analysis)**

WEEK 13. - Group Presentation & Discussion

**Reflection #4 due: November 25
(compare and contrast various group experiences)**

WEEK 14. - Course Review: topics, presentations and group experiences

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) REFLECTIONS	20%
(b) INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN REPORT	20%
(c) GROUP WRITTEN REPORT #1	15%
(d) INDIVIDUAL ORAL PRESENTATION	10%
(e) GROUP ORAL PRESENTATION	15%
(f) GROUP WRITTEN REPORT #2	20%

There is no examination requirement in this course.

(a) REFLECTIONS

Four reflections at 5% each for a total of 20% of final grade.

Reflections 1-3 are on three group work experiences throughout the semester. Each reflection will describe the group experience in terms of what worked, what did not work and why, what could have been done differently, more effectively, and what strategies the learner themselves could use in the next group to improve the group work experience.

Reflection 4 is based on the student comparing and contrasting the different group work experiences and what they learned from them, what worked and what did not, and what they would do differently to improve group work experiences.

(b) INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN REPORT 20%

Each student is required to research and prepare a formal written paper on the experiences of Aboriginal people in Canada. This assignment requires each student to review a video, articles and websites and report their findings in a 5-10 page paper.

(c) GROUP WRITTEN REPORT #1 15%

Students are required to work within a group and prepare a formal written report on a crime myth/moral panic issue. Students will chose one issue and discuss issues such as: what the crime myth or issue is, what reality is, how and when it was created and by whom.

(d) INDIVIDUAL ORAL PRESENTATION 10%

Each student is required to make a short individual presentation to the class on an assigned topic of either Human Rights, Social justice, or Harm Reduction. Each presentation will be 3 minutes in length and involve a variety of presentation strategies as discussed in class.

(e) GROUP ORAL PRESENTATION 15%

This assignment consists of a group presentation (everyone is expected to speak) to the class on their policy analysis findings. The presentation should be between 40-60 minutes in length and should include a variety of presentation strategies as discussed in class. Potential topics include:

Sex Offending: treatment of sexual offenders; conditional release of sexual offenders; community notification of sexual offenders; sexual offenders label/stigma; sentencing or judicial responses; burden of proof (consent, perpetrator, crime of sexual assault); victims' experience of justice; victim-offender mediation/reconciliation.

Mental Health and Justice: deinstitutionalization; homelessness; community resources; Criminal Justice System response; treatment; stigma.

Addiction: Criminal Justice responses; drug policy; harm reduction; treatment resources; special drug courts; mandatory minimums.

(f) GROUP WRITTEN REPORT #2 20%

This assignment consists of a group prepared formal written paper upon which the oral presentation is based. This paper should be between 8-12 pages in length.

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.

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Grade 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 providing well thought out and clearly expressed ideas on exams and assignments. The student must demonstrate outstanding organizational, analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as added resourcefulness in meeting course requirements.

Grade 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 must demonstrate analytical thinking skills and clearly performs above average in meeting course requirements.

Grade C: Designates a satisfactory of “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.

Grade 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 and writing skills.

Grade F: Designates “below minimum level of achievement”, a letter 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 completed the readings or some other correctable problem.

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. 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, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student 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, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

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 other. Students are encouraged to identify current events that directly relate to course content.

2. Class Preparation

It is expected that students will come to class prepared. Students are expected to read the assigned readings prior to coming to class, and to participate in class activities and discussions.

3. Examinations

No examination is required for this course.

4. Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed and submitted at the beginning of class on the due date assigned. All late assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day. The starting point for penalty assessment is immediately after assignments are received by the instructor at the beginning of class. Students having a legitimate concern about meeting due date should consult with the instructor well in advance.

Arrangements for the submission/delivery of late assignments must be made with the instructor on an individual basis. Do not drop them off at the instructor's office, the admission staff, library or any other place or with any other person. Assignments which are submitted contrary to these directions will not be graded.

5. Written Assignment Requirements

Assignments must be completed in formal academic format following the style described in the Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program. All work must be properly referenced using the APA format. All written assignments for this course must be type written, double spaced, on one side of 8 ½" by 11" white paper. All assignments must only be stapled in the upper left corner (one staple only) and without any plastic or Duotang type covers. Assignments which are submitted contrary to these directions will not be graded.

All assignments submitted for evaluation must be the original work of the student and produced for the purpose for this course only. The submission of assignments completed for other courses may be construed as academic dishonesty.

6. Course Completion Requirements

Students must complete all evaluative requirements 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 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 the proper reference citation to the original author. Plagiarism also includes failing to document the source(s) of paraphrases information/ideas.

8. Cheating/Academic Dishonesty/Student Conduct

The Criminal Justice Department has a clearly articulated policy regarding 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.

9. Course Withdrawal

Please refer to a current College Calendar for the last day to withdraw from this course without penalty.

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 elements 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 in the College Calendar.

11. Student Responsibility

It is each student's responsibility to familiarize her/himself with the course/program and College policies. Students experiencing difficulties throughout the semester are encouraged to talk with the course instructor at the earliest opportunity.

