



School of Arts & Science
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

CRIM 166-02
Introduction to Criminology
WINTER 2009

COURSE OUTLINE

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 behaviour and its causation, crime victims and consequences.

1. Instructor Information

| | | |
|-----|---------------|--|
| (a) | Instructor: | Susie Girling |
| (b) | Office Hours: | Tues/Thurs 10:30 -11:30 and by appointment |
| (c) | Location: | Young 210 |
| (d) | Phone: | 370-3334 |
| (e) | Email: | GirlingS@camosun.bc.ca |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Communicate understanding of the origins, development and evolution 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. Consider, interpret and evaluate the perspectives of other students with sensitivity to the values underpinning those perspectives.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

Siegel, L.J., Brown, G.P. & Hoffman, R. (2006) *Criminology: The Core*. Toronto: Nelson.

(b) Other

Other assigned handouts and readings.

4. Course Format

The course objectives will be met through traditional lectures, in-class discussion, videos, homework assignments and the text. Bring your text to class!

5. Course Content and Schedule*

Week 1 Jan. 6 & 8 – **Introductions and Course Overview**



Read Ch. 1 for next week

Week 2 Jan. 13 & 15 – **Crime and Criminology**



Read Ch. 2 for next week

Week 3 Jan. 20 & 22 – **The Nature and Extent of Crime in Canada**



Read Ch. 3 for next week

Week 4 Jan. 27 & 29 – **Victims and Victimization**



Review notes and prepare for your first quiz

Week 5 Feb. 3 – **Quiz #1**

Feb. 5 – **Library Orientation for CJ students** (in the Library classroom)



Read Ch. 4 for next week

Week 6 Feb. 10 & 12 – **Choice Theory**



Read Ch. 5 for next week

Week 7 Feb. 17 – **Trait Theory**
Feb. 19 – *Reading Break (no class)*



Complete Assignment #1 for next week/ Review Ch. 5

Week 8 Feb. 24 – **Assignment #1 Due** (at the beginning of class)

Video: Anger

Feb. 26 – **Trait Theory**



Review Ch. 5 for next week

Week 9

March 3 – **Video – Psychopath**

March 5 – **Library Workshop: Evaluating Web Sites** (in Library classroom)



Read Ch. 6 for next week

Week 10

March 10 & 12 – **Social Structure Theories**



Review notes and prepare for second examination

Week 11

March 17 – **Video: A Deathly Silence**

March 19 – **Quiz #2**



Complete Assignment #2 for next week/ Read Ch. 7

Week 12

March 24 & 26 – **Social Process Theories**

March 26 – **Assignment #2 Due** (at the beginning of class)



Read Ch.8 for next week

Week 13

March 31 & April 2 – **Social Conflict Theory**



Read Ch. 9 for next week

Week 14

April 7 & 9 – **Integrated Theories**



Prepare for the Final Exam!

***Schedule is subject to change**

6. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Exams – 3 X 20 % | 60 % |
| Assignments 2 X 15% | 30% |
| Library Skills Exercises 2X 2.5% | 5% |
| Participation | 5% |

Examinations

There are three quizzes within this course: each quiz is worth 20 % of your final grade and may consist of True/False statements, Multiple Choice, Short Answer questions, or Fill in the Blanks.

Quiz 1 – Feb. 3, 2009 in class

Quiz 2 – March 19 , 2009 in class

Quiz 3 – TBA – during final exam weeks (April 14-22)

Assignments

1. Evaluation of Criminological Study – 15%

This assignment requires you to evaluate and summarize an original criminological research study. Separate guidelines for this assignment will be distributed in class.

Due Date – Feb.24, 2009

2. Internet Resource Booklet - 15%

This assignment requires you to identify and evaluate two criminological web resources. Separate guidelines for this assignment will be distributed in class.

Due Date – March 26, 2009

Library Skills Exercises

1. General Library Orientation Exercise – 2.5%

This assignment is conducted by the College Librarian and will consist of a set of questions and activities designed to familiarize you with the Camosun College Library/Media Centre.

Attendance and completion of this assignment is mandatory.

Due date: To be determined

2. Evaluating Web Resources – 2.5%

This exercise will be conducted by the College Librarian and will consist of exercises and activities designed to help you analyze and evaluate web resources. **Attendance and completion of this assignment is mandatory.**

Due date: to be determined

Participation

The framework and evaluation of participation in this course will be determined in class by agreement of the instructor and students. Students can earn up to 5% of their final grade by participating regularly.

7. 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 |

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.

8. Instructional Policies

a. 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.

b. Exam/Quiz Date Changes

No provision will be made to write an exam/quiz earlier or later than originally scheduled. The exams must be written at the times and on the dates assigned. A student will only be allowed to write a missed exam/quiz 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 exam. In addition, the student who misses an exam due to illness must inform the instructor **on or before the date** of the exam 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 it.

c. 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.

d. 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 C.J 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.

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.

e. Course Completion Requirements

Students must complete all evaluative requirements (Quizzes, Criminological Study Evaluation, Internet Resources Evaluation, Library Skills Sessions and related assignments) 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.

f. Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonest will not be tolerated. Forms of academic dishonest include (but are not limited to) cheating on exams, turning in papers that have not been written by the student claiming to have written them; submitting the same paper twice and plagiarizing the work of others.

If you are concerned about your ability to properly credit and cite references, please come and see me.

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.

g. 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.

h. Course Withdrawal

The last day to withdraw from this and other Winter 2009 term courses without receiving a failing grade is March 9, 2009.

i. 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 39 of the 2008/2009 Camosun College Calendar.

j. Student Responsibility

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

k. Cell Phones: NO CELL PHONES may be used in class. This means they should not ring and should not be used for text messaging or accessing other information during class time. If I see or hear your cell phone during a quiz or an exam I will assume you are using it for academically dishonest purposes, and will give you a zero on the test. Please alert me ahead of time for any emergencies that require your phone be kept on vibrate.

9. 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.

