



COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/crim.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
 It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
 You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Karin Kaercher		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues/Wed/Thurs 11:30-12:30; Tues 2:30-3:30; Fri 12:30-1:20		
(c)	Location:	Young 210A		
(d)	Phone:	370-3333		
(e)	Email:	Kaercher@camosun.bc.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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

Kaercher, K. (2006) *Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program*.

4. Course Format

The primary objective of this course is to engage students in a critical examination of criminology as a discipline. In order to do this, the text, **Criminology: The Core**, will play a significant role in helping you to master the subject matter of this course. It is important that 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, so please consider making it a habit to bring your text.

To maximize your learning, I recommend that you pay careful attention to the key terms and the review questions listed at the end of each chapter. You should be able to answer each of these. The text also has a number of student resources at their website www.crimthecore.nelson.com and I urge you to make use of these resources for study purposes. 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 criminological enterprise.

5. Course Content and Schedule - Topics and Reading list

Week 1 (Sept. 11) – Course Introduction, class format, class norms



Read Ch. 1 for next week

Week 2 (Sept.18) - Crime and Criminology



Read Ch. 2 for next week

Week 3 – (Sept 25) - The Nature and Extent of Crime in Canada

- Sources of Data
- Crime Patterns



Read Ch. 3 for next week

Week 4 – (Oct. 2) – Victims and Victimization

- nature and effects of victimization
- theories of victimization



Read Ch. 4 for next class

Week 5 – Oct. 9 – Choice Theory

- Rational Choice theory
- The notion of deterrence



Read Ch. 5 for next class

Week 6 – Oct. 16 – Trait Theory
-Biological origins of criminal behaviour
-Psychological explanations



Read Ch. 6 for next class

Week 7 – Oct. 23 – Social Structure Theories
-Social Disorganization theory
-Strain theory
- Culture deviance

Oct. 30. – MIDTERM



Read Ch. 7 for next class

Week 9/10 – Nov. 6/13 – Social Process Theories
-Social learning approaches
-Social Control theory
-Labelling theory



Read Ch. 8 for next class

Week 11 – Nov. 20 - Social Conflict Theory



Read Ch. 9 for next class

Week 12 – Nov. 27/29 – Integrated Theories
-General Theory of Crime
- Recent approaches



Read Ch. 10 for next class

Week 13 – (Dec. 4) - Putting it together by examining Violent Crime

Week 14 – Wrap up – Special Topics

6. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Exams -Midterm and Final

60%

Summary of Criminological Study	10%
Analysis of a Criminological Problem	20%
Participation	10%

Exams

There are two exams within this course: each is worth 30 % of your final grade and may consist of True/False statements, Multiple Choice, Short Answer or short essay questions, and application of theory to case studies.

Midterm Exam – Oct. 30, 2009 in class
Final Exam – during final exam week

Assignments

1. Evaluation of Criminological Study – 10%

This assignment requires you to evaluate and summarize an original criminological research study. Separate guidelines for this assignment will be distributed via D2L.

Due Date- Oct. 16, 2009

2. Analysis of a Criminological Problem - 20%

This assignment requires you to research and further examine the issue/topic of your first written assignment. Your final report will consist of 5-8 pages reporting on the information found. Only scholarly work may be used for this assignment. Separate guidelines for this assignment will be distributed via D2L.

Due date: Nov. 20, 2009

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 in class activities. As part of the participation grade, students will complete:

Library Orientation to Criminal Justice Resources Exercise – 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

7. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point
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			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

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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
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.

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 Date Changes

No provision will be made to write an exam earlier or later than originally scheduled. All exams must be written at the times and on the dates assigned. A student will only be allowed to write a missed 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 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. 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 as this must be agreed to at least 48 hours before due dates.

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 CJ Writing Reference Manual. Written assignments must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of class.

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 (Exams, Criminological Study Evaluation, Analysis of Criminological Problem etc) to receive a passing

grade for the course. Students failing to complete all the requirements will receive an F grade.

f. 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.

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 Fall 2009 term courses without receiving a failing grade is November 10, 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 37 of the 2009/2010 Camosun College Calendar.

j. 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.

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED